

CHURCH MUSICIAN POSITION DESCRIPTION ~ ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST

*The First Presbyterian Church, 106 North Gay Street, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050 / mtvpres.org
J. Ross Slaughter, Pastor*

THE PURPOSE OF THIS POSITION

The purpose of the job is to lead the congregation in Christian worship through the playing of hymns from the Presbyterian Hymnal, and accompany the choir and other special music during worship.

KEY TIME COMMITMENT ~ SUNDAY MORNING

First Presbyterian Church is seeking to obtain the services of an Organist/Accompanist for the 11:00 AM traditional worship service. The church musician should expect to be present for Sunday morning services. Currently the choir rehearses on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM from September through June.

THE CHURCH ORGAN

The sanctuary houses a 30 rank Wilhelm tracker action organ, two manuals, full pedal board. It is desired that the organist display proficiency in playing hymns well for congregational singing, as well as preservice and post service (Prelude/Postlude). If a person is versed in classical organ pieces, all the better for service music, but not a requirement for this position.

HOW THE ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST WOULD TYPICALLY FUNCTION IN SUNDAY WORSHIP

The organist will be responsible for the prelude, playing of three hymns selected by the Choir Director, accompanying the chancel choir or other special music, and service music before and after worship.

Typically, the Organist/Accompanist will play appropriate hymns quietly on the piano during communion.

THE SANCTUARY AND PRACTICE PIANOS

The Organist/Accompanist will accompany the Chancel Choir on the 7-foot Steinway grand piano in the sanctuary. The choir in its rehearsal employs an upright (spinnet) piano.

THE CHURCH CHOIR

Chancel Choir does not sing during the months of July and August but a special music schedule is maintained during this time, consisting of soloists, instrumentalists, an SATB quartet, and other combinations.

WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, AND SPECIAL OCCASSIONS

The Organist/Accompanist may also be requested to accompany during weddings, memorial services, and other occasions requiring the services of the organist or pianist.

The Organist/Accompanist will be expected to be present during holidays, such as Christmas Eve, Easter, and other seasons of the Church Year.

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

The Organist/Accompanist will be directly responsible to the pastor, and will work together as a team with the choir director, who also leads the hymns in worship.

ACCOUNTABILITY

A yearly review will be conducted once a year in conjunction with the pastor, elder with Personnel, and the elder assigned to Worship. Also, all employees of the church are accountable to the Session (church board)

PERSONAL FAITH IN A CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT

It is desired that the Organist/Accompanist display musical proficiencies as mentioned above, but also a personal faith, heart for worship, and a desire to be part of the work of the Kingdom of God.

ABOUT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MOUNT VERNON, OH

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The First Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon, OH, is to grow in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to make Him known in our community and the world.

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The First Presbyterian Church has had a Christian presence and impact on the Mount Vernon community since the very early 1800s (earliest records show an extant congregation as early as 1805).

The current sanctuary was built in 1858 and significantly remodeled in 1911, when the facility was expanded. An educational wing was added in 1961.

The Church Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

The congregation is officially at 120 members. Our in-house attendance is approximately 76 and our on-line reach is approximately 14+, for a worship impact of 90+. People view the services after broadcast on Facebook Live or on YouTube.

WORSHIP PATTERNS

This congregation offers two services on a typical Sunday morning: Contemporary and Traditional.

Contemporary Service ~ 9 AM

The Contemporary Service begins at 10:00 AM and features a Praise Band and typically includes weekly communion (by intinction).

Traditional Service ~ 11 AM

The Traditional Service begins at 11:00 AM. Communion is usually on a once-a-month basis, although the church seasonal calendar governs when communion takes place. Communion in the Traditional service is served to parishioners in the pews.

Harmony Service (Occasional) ~ 10 AM

At various points in the church year the church conducts a "Harmony Service" which combines first and second services, not only in terms of people, but also in contemporary and traditional musical styles to minister to the wider generational spectrum.

LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

The church has a session (church board) of nine elders; a Deacons' Board of six deacons; a day staff consisting of a Solo Pastor (Head of Staff), Administrative Assistant, and Church Custodian; a music staff of Praise Band Leader, Choir Director, and an Organist/Accompanist.

DENOMINATION ~ PC(USA)

This congregation is a member church of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This church is within the bounds of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (headquartered in Columbus, OH)

ABOUT THE CURRENT PASTOR ~ ROSS SLAUGHTER

Pastor Ross Slaughter has been a part of this congregation since March 2019. He has been in the ministry since 1985 and is a graduate of Westminster College with a B.A. in Music and of Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. Ross and his wife Sheila live in Mount Vernon.

YOUR RESUMÉ

Please send your resumé to Pastor Slaughter at his email address: mtvprespastor@gmail.com. Thank you.