

## Part-time / Full-time Director of Music Ministries

**TO APPLY, SEND RESUME TO PASTORKATHY@NORMALFIRST.ORG**

Normal First United Methodist Church is currently seeking a Director of Music Ministries to lead and grow a vibrant music program that encourages our congregation to experience and grow deeper in faith through sacred music.

The ideal candidate will have excellent choral conducting and vocal music skills; be eager to collaborate with our clergy, staff and volunteers to provide a broad range of musical styles (e.g., traditional, contemporary, jazz) for our worship; and encourage our congregation's musicians of all ages and musical abilities to explore new ways of using music to inspire, affirm and give voice to our love of God.

We have a variety of opportunities for musical leadership; therefore, depending upon the musical talents, interests and availability of the ideal candidate, this position may be filled by more than one person and, therefore, could be either part-time or full-time.

Responsibilities:

- **Worship music:** Selects and performs appropriate musical pieces, including choral anthems, congregational singing and special music for regular Saturday, Sunday and special worship services. Our worship services include both traditional and contemporary/informal worship. Must be planned in collaboration with clergy and other staff.
- **Chancel Choir:** Plans and conducts weekly rehearsals for the adult chancel choir, nurturing new participation and a positive, inclusive environment for choir members with varying levels of musical experiences and abilities. Directs choral contributions to regular worship services, special music during worship on church holidays, and other special occasions related to music ministries (e.g., Christmas or Easter cantata).
- Supervises and supports part-time music staff, such as organist, pianist(s), accompanist(s) and ensemble directors.
- Arranges for the care and maintenance of the church's musical instruments.
- Arranges for substitutes to cover planned absences.
- Works collaboratively with clergy, staff and lay leaders regarding music programs, including attendance at staff meetings and Worship Committee meetings.
- Attends to other administrative tasks, such as maintaining our music library and choir robes.

Additional opportunities, which may either be staffed directly by, or supervised and supported by, the Director of Music Ministries:

- Youth music ensembles: Oversees, rehearses and/or directs regular vocal and/or instrumental music opportunities for junior high and high school youth.
- Children's music: Oversees, rehearses and/or directs regular music opportunities for children in pre-K through fifth grade.

- Bell choirs for members of all ages.
- Creative arts: Incorporates opportunities for dance, theater and/or other creative elements to enrich worship services and spiritual growth, in collaboration with clergy and staff.
- Occasional music: Oversees, rehearses, and/or directs other occasional music on a periodic basis when such music supports worship activities (e.g., partial orchestra for cantata).

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in music strongly preferred.
- Excellent choral conducting and vocal music skills required.
- Strong foundation in the classical church music tradition, and skilled in a broad range of worship music genres.
- Strong interpersonal communication skills to build and maintain friendly and effective working relationships with staff, volunteers, and members of congregation.
- Experience in planning music for worship services in collaboration with clergy.
- Additional instrumental music talents and experience in creative theater a plus.

Our Instruments include:

Three manual Buzard pipe organ (1999) in good working condition.

- Kawai baby grand piano in good working condition
- 4 additional upright pianos
- Several electronic keyboards/synthesizers
- 3+ octaves of bells

**About Normal First United Methodist Church:**

At Normal First, our vision is to be transformed by God and transform the world into a just, inclusive, Christ-like community. We embrace diversity and understand everyone is on their own faith journey.

Normal First believes all are created in the image of God and we celebrate the different expressions and identities of each person. We are proud to be recognized by [gaychurch.org](http://gaychurch.org) as an LGBTQ affirming congregation.