

PILGRIMAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST PART-TIME PIANIST/ACCOMPANIST

About Pilgrimage United Church of Christ (PUCC)

PUCC is an open and affirming congregation in Marietta, GA. Our shared beliefs:

- We believe that each person is unique and deeply loved by God
- We accept everyone, wherever they are on life's journey
- As 21st century Christians, we need to re-interpret the teachings of Jesus for our contemporary lives
- We believe that faith requires deep thought and deep feeling

PUCC is non-traditional by nature, but come expecting the familiar, as well as some service elements that might be new-to-you! Regardless of the style of worship, the service is true to the Biblical text and how it applies to 'real life.'

Position Description

The position of Pianist/Accompanist at PUCC is a very important ministry as it relates to the church's worship style. The purpose of the position is to facilitate an atmosphere in which God is worshipped and glorified. It contributes to the music ministry of the Church by providing piano accompaniment for congregational singing, choir and special music presented in worship services. This is a paid, part time, 7-12 hours per week, staff position with duties primarily on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, with some additional time during Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter seasons.

The music style of PUCC is traditional and includes gospel hymns, supplemented with some folk and jazz compositions. Congregational singing will be primarily led using the UCC Hymnal, "The New Century Hymnal"; therefore, becoming familiar with this hymnal is important. The Pianist/Accompanist reports to the Music Director, with oversight by the Worship Committee. Work is reviewed through observation, supervisory evaluation, and committee as well as congregational feedback for effectiveness.

Providing music for weddings and funerals is *not* included in the basic pianist responsibilities. The Pianist/Accompanist will be consulted regarding these and similar "additional events," and will be compensated separately for the time required (Details are handled by the event coordinator).

Primary Duties

1. Play for Sunday morning worship services (8:30 am and 10:00 am, approximately 1 hr. each), including hymns, offertory, preludes, solos and choir anthems.
2. Play for one choir rehearsal each week on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm for 1 ½ hours.
3. Must attend and accompany at special services and rehearsals including but not limited to Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and both the early and late Christmas Eve services.
4. The accompanist should arrive on Sunday mornings for work by 8:00 a.m.
5. Candidate should have expertise and a working knowledge of technology.

6. Consult with the Music Director on matters pertinent to piano maintenance
7. Perform duties requested by the Music Director, and support all areas of the Music Ministry as needed for Sunday Services
8. Work with the Pastor and the Music Director in preparing meaningful worship services
Attend regular staff meetings for planning, consultation, and to discuss hopes and objectives for worship music. Some of these meetings occur weekly on Zoom.
9. Always keep work areas neat and well organized, uncluttered and presentable
10. The accompanist must be able to work with the music director and pastor in finding substitute accompanists during absences.
11. Play for one choir retreat during the year, typically held on a Saturday

Requirements

1. Must work well with others (Music Director, Pastor, other musicians, etc.), and accept input, suggestions and constructive criticism/evaluation from PUCC church leadership
2. Prior church piano playing experience is strongly preferred (volunteer or paid)
3. Must have a good understanding of Christian Worship and how it fits into our liturgy. One should also be aware of and place emphasis on the use of Inclusive Language. (www.ucc.org)
4. Commitment to UCC principles and teachings
5. Perform music as written at all levels of difficulty
6. Proficiency in playing open score when working on choir parts during rehearsals
7. Candidate should have the ability to creatively implement and communicate music programming using music technology.
8. Candidate should have a basic knowledge of standard church music literature (choral, instrumental and congregational) Improvisational skills would also be a plus.
9. Has sufficient knowledge of the documentation regarding copyright and usage reporting for those music selections used in worship.
10. Must pass criminal and sexual misconduct background checks

Salary range is \$10,000 - \$12,000 based on experience and qualifications.

Please send your resume to the Hiring Committee at pilgrimageuccworship@gmail.com with the subject line "Part Time Pianist/Accompanist Application".

Pilgrimage United Church of Christ
3755 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, Georgia 30066

