



## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST

First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, NC

### THE POSITION

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, North Carolina is seeking to fill the position of Director of Music and Organist.

We seek a leader who believes in the power of music as worship, is energized by our long-standing tradition of musical excellence, and is inspired by the opportunity to nurture a musical community of all ages.

The vacancy in this post is due to the retirement of an outstanding musician who has been successful in building and maintaining a program of sacred music in the church and community since 2008. **The position is available on May 1, 2025.**

### CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

The Director of Music and Organist should possess a formal graduate degree with concentration in organ. Successful experience in conducting choirs and instrumental ensembles is essential, as is the ability to effectively work with all ages.

The ideal candidate is gifted in program administration, including budgeting, and enjoys working collaboratively with other program leaders. We seek an individual of the Christian faith who has a deep and sincere appreciation for Christian sacred music.

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

This position reports to the Pastor/Head of Staff and is supported by a Worship/Music Committee of church officers and members.

### COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

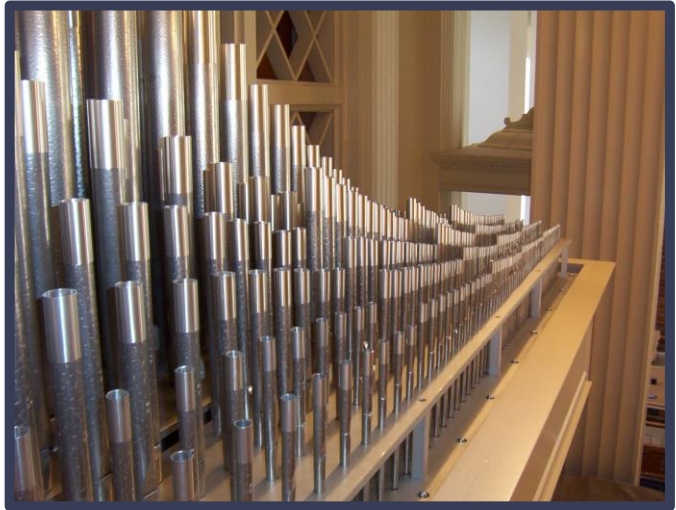
- Minimum Salary: \$75,000 Annual
- PTO: Four weeks
- Paid Holidays: Eleven days
- Study Leave: Two weeks
- Sabbatical: After six full years

First Presbyterian Church provides benefits through the Board of Pensions PCUSA which include health insurance, optional dental and vision insurance, defined pension benefit, and death, disability & life plan.

## CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

*Our Director of Music and Organist will:*

- Plan and implement a comprehensive sacred music ministry, providing quality music for regular worship services, weddings, and funerals, as well as special seasonal services.
- Develop and maintain a choral and instrumental program that provides musical and educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults.
- Collaborate with clergy in planning hymns, anthems, and liturgy that integrate with the scriptures and themes of the day.
- Recruit and encourage musicians within the congregation to share their gifts in worship and maintain relationships with area vocalists and instrumentalists to further enhance the worship experience.
- Attend weekly meetings with church staff and attend Session meetings.
- Collaborate with church staff and volunteers cross-functionally to incorporate music in church programming and education.
- Provide music for church-wide fellowship gatherings and schedule concerts by local or visiting musicians to share our church's music program with the larger community.
- Promote musical programming in the church and community using congregational publications, social media or other channels.
- Arrange for tuning and maintenance of our instruments and maintain the music library.
- Engage and supervise Chancel Choir section leaders and any additional music staff that may be employed by the Session.
- Maintain musical competence through regular practice, continued education, and professional contacts with other church musicians



## THE ORGANS

The **sanctuary organ** of [53 ranks](#), a gift to the congregation, was built by the Schantz Organ Company in 1967 and rebuilt and enlarged by Schantz in 2007.

The **Andover organ**, a tracker instrument of 15 stops, was also installed as a gift to the congregation in 1982 in the Williams Chapel.

Both organs have been played by internationally recognized artists from the United States and Europe and these instruments have received endorsements from a retinue of outstanding musicians including the late Maurice and Marie-Madeleine Duruflé.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Musical instruments used for rehearsal, concert, and worship are of high quality and have been consistently maintained since their installation. These instruments include:

- Tympani
- Sperhaake harpsichord
- Five octaves of Malmark handbells and hand chimes
- Four Steinway pianos.



## THE CHOIRS

Our **Chancel Choir** is comprised of 30+ dedicated adult singers who possess a high level of musicianship. They appreciate quality literature and welcome a challenge. Professional and student soloists/section leaders support the Chancel Choir.

Our **Children's Music Ministry** provides a well-rounded musically and spiritually nurturing program. Our children explore their musical talents as we sing, play various instruments such as drums, choir chimes, Boomwhackers, and more. The children also explore their faith through stories and activities. Children's Choir sings for Lessons and Carols as well as several times during the rest of the year for Worship Service.

Historically, our program has included a handbell choir, which may be an opportunity for future program development.

Adequate office, rehearsal, storage, robing, and library space is available to the music program

## ABOUT FPC BURLINGTON

The First Presbyterian Church of Burlington was founded in 1879 and moved to its current campus in 1953. The church is a part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is active in the work of Salem Presbytery. Services of worship follow a traditional, formal style.

Committed to local and global missions and to excellent programs of education, educational outreach, and worship, the church has a long and illustrious heritage of high-quality

music both in worship and in concert. Church membership exceeds 900 and the annual budget for church operations (including the Child Development Center) is \$2.6 million. [Further information is available at our website.](#)

## ABOUT BURLINGTON, NC

Burlington, a growing city of progress and quality, is nestled in the heart of North Carolina in an area known as the Piedmont. The metropolitan area boasts a population of some 180,000 people and is located only a few hours' drive from the picturesque Blue Ridge and Great Smokey Mountains to the west, and the scenic coastal beaches to the east.

Within an hour's drive of Burlington are four of NC's largest cities and numerous institutions of higher education. Our city is home to ample amenities including outstanding recreation facilities and a growing downtown. Shopping and dining establishments are plentiful, and wineries and breweries provide places for terrific social interaction.

## THE VISION OF FPC BURLINGTON

First Presbyterian Church recognizes that God is on the move, and our church, inspired by God's Holy Spirit, will continue to grow in God's love and the example of Jesus Christ as we minister to each other, the community, and the world. Guided by God's calling for our church and each of us as individuals, we will advance God's mission more fully by:

- Cultivating a **nurturing community**,
- Discovering new expressions of faith through **worship and music** while preserving holy traditions,
- Regularly assessing how we need to change in order to **sustain** our partnership with God's mission for years to come,
- Engaging in the spiritual, physical, and emotional work of God's **mission**.



### TO APPLY

To apply, please submit the following materials by email by March 31, 2025:

- Cover letter stating your understanding of and vision for the role as well as reason for seeking this position.
- Resumé demonstrating academic preparation.
- Links to recordings demonstrating choral and organ repertoire.

We will review applications and conduct initial interviews virtually. Onsite auditions for finalists are targeted to begin in April.

Please send application materials to:

Ami Hill, Chair  
Director of Music and Organist Search Committee  
[alh080512@gmail.com](mailto:alh080512@gmail.com)