



## **Organist and Music Associate** Independent Presbyterian Church (PCA)

### **Description:**

- Full-time salary with benefits
- Work alongside of and report directly to the Director of Worship and Music Ministries.

### **Candidates:**

This is the ideal position for someone with high level organ and piano performance and accompanying skills, seeking to use those gifts creatively in worship. Candidates with excellent service playing ability who work well with people and have a deep commitment to the Reformed faith are sought for the glory of God and the benefit of his church. IPC instruments include a 4-manual, 64-rank Casavant organ (1990) and a Bösendorfer grand piano in the sanctuary.

### **About:**

IPC is a congregation of approximately 1,500 communing members who come together regularly for worship, Bible study, choirs, youth ministry and children's programs. IPC is active in missions and in the community, longing to be a New People for a New Memphis, showing God's grace and mercy to the city as the Gospel is proclaimed and shared.

The music department seeks to train worshippers from the cradle to the grave through a vibrant choral program for all ages. Special programs of the IPC Adult Choir have included an annual service of Lessons and Carols and *Messiah* Sing-Along, along with spring performances of major choral repertoire such as Brahms' *A German Requiem*, Forrest's *Jubilate Deo* (selections from), Handel's complete *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Gloria*, Ray's *Gospel Mass*, and Rutter's *Gloria*. IPC has commissioned and premiered works by Alice Parker and Dan Forrest and has participated in performances and/or recording projects in collaboration with Ligonier Ministries and the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

**To apply:** please submit the following to [jvelazquez@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:jvelazquez@ipcmemphis.org):

- Current resume and cover letter
- Personal faith statement

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- \*Master of Music degree preferred
- \*Advanced piano and organ skills, including high level performance, accompaniment, and service playing experience
- \*Ability to play a variety of styles of music with excellence
- \*Part-reading, open score, and sight-reading skills
- \*Discipline to continue to practice and hone skills
- \*Ability to rehearse and direct singers, instrumentalists, and handbells of all ages when needed
- \*Skilled use of computer programs for music notation, record keeping, communication, etc.
- \*Ability to arrange instrumental parts for service music, hymns, anthems, etc.

## **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Sunday Worship Services:** Sunday morning worship services, at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., are the high point of the life of the church body each week and should be prioritized in terms of preparation. Excellence and creativity with humility are required. The more contemporary evening service at 6:00 p.m. is accompanied by music staff and volunteers.

**Special Services:** These include choir programs such as Lessons and Carols, *Messiah* Sing-Along, Spring Adult Choir Program, and seasonal services such as Christmas Eve and Holy Week.

**Adult Choir Accompanist:** Our adult choir sings for both Sunday morning services and rehearses Wednesday evenings (plus Sunday afternoons in preparation for large programs). The Adult Choir has performed elsewhere locally, nationally, and internationally. Abilities to play parts, accompaniments of a variety of styles on piano and organ, and lead section rehearsals are essential. Preparation and excellence are expected for each rehearsal.

**Instrumental music:** Schedule players for weekly services, weddings, and funerals. Work with orchestra contractor to hire instrumentalists for major music events. Purchase music, prepare and arrange parts as needed, rehearse with instrumentalists for services and special programs.

**Youth and Children's Choir Accompanist:** Accompany youth and children's choirs in music for special programs and related rehearsals when needed. The Sr. High Choir has toured nationally and internationally.

**Weddings and Funerals:** Meet with families to select music appropriate for worship according to IPC guidelines; hire instrumentalists and prepare music; find substitutes when needed.

**Keyboard Maintenance:** Oversee maintenance of all the church's keyboard instruments: Casavant IV/64 organ in the Sanctuary (1990), small Möller in the Chapel, Bösendorfer, Baldwin, and Yamaha grand pianos, approximately 10 studio pianos in the Children's Choir and Sunday School rooms.

## **ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES\***

- Work closely with the Director of Worship and Music to plan services, special programs, and bulletins
- Plan, schedule, and rehearse with soloists and ensembles
- Organ and piano teaching
- Senior High and Junior High Choir Accompanist for rehearsals and annual trip and tour
- Recitals and/or recording projects

\*These may be adapted to fit an individual's abilities and interests.