St. John’s has an exciting opportunity for an exceptional Church musician and leader as we enter our 150th anniversary year. We are seeking an ambitious Interim Music Director who can teach, direct, and perform outstanding music in the Episcopal tradition, as well as to work with us to reinstitute our family service, following the pandemic hiatus. The Interim Music Director will also play a critical role in our year-long anniversary celebrations, which will include newly commissioned music composed specifically for St. John’s.

St. John’s anticipates that the Interim Music Director will ideally serve in this role from August 15, 2023 until April 15, 2024.

Music is an integral and highly valued part of our worship at St. John’s. Participation in music provides an important component of faith formation for all ages and talents; for our spiritual lives individually and as a congregation; and for our community life together. The Interim Music Director will work closely with the clergy, the Worship Committee, and the parish choirs to nurture and enrich an engaging and spiritually uplifting music program at St. John’s Church, reflecting the Episcopal liturgical and music traditions as well as the diversity of musical backgrounds within St. John’s.

St. John’s hosts three Sunday services with music: an 11:15 a.m. service with adult choir and paid section leaders; a contemporary 5 p.m. service with piano; and starting in September, a reimagined 9 a.m. family service. Average Sunday attendance at all services is around 300. The Interim Music Director will also lead a children’s choir, currently the year-old RSCM program, as well as a Hand Bell choir, and would perform at special services, such as weddings and funerals.

Instruments include a 2008 Berghaus 3529-pipe organ and a 2007 Mason & Hamlin BB grand piano in our main worship space, a one-manual Reuter tracker organ in the chapel, and three octaves Schulmerich handbells and chimes. St. John’s also has a Pomplitz-Rodewald (1859) chamber organ in the balcony of the nave.
Because this is the first year since the pandemic in which we reinstate a 9 a.m. family service, one primary focus for the interim director of music will be to infuse that service with the energy needed to help it thrive and to rebuild the 9 a.m. choir over the course of the program year. For this reason, the Interim Music Director position is envisioned as either a full-time salaried position (ideal), or two separate part-time positions, each focusing on one of the two main services (9 a.m. family service, and 11:15 a.m. traditional service). Compensation is competitive and commensurate with experience. St. John’s Church is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, marital status, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression.

Depending on the pace of our search process for the permanent position, we could potentially ask the Interim Director to extend their time at St. John’s beyond April 15, 2024, subject to mutual agreement. The Interim Director, if interested, could be considered for the permanent full-time Director of Music Ministries position.

To learn more about St. John’s, please visit us at https://stjohnsnorwood.org.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and sample recording to John Welch at musicdirectorsearch@stjohnsnorwood.org. Deadline for submission of materials is August 4, 2023.

July 27 2023