

Vocal Music Coordinator/Choir Director Job Description
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, La Crosse, Wisconsin
August 2009

Worship at Our Savior's is welcoming, gracious and recognizably Lutheran. We enjoy a variety of musical styles - traditional and contemporary, global and folk. Liturgical settings come from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship and occasionally other resources. Worship music is accompanied by a variety of instruments including the three manual Austin/Hendrickson pipe organ with 54 ranks, and the newly refurbished 6'4" Model A Steinway Grand Piano. The music for our worship experience is enhanced and supported by the following vocal music coordinator/choir director position.

A. For the choir director/vocal music coordinator the musical responsibilities are as follows:

1. Provide vocal music directing and leadership for three Sunday morning worship services per month (September through May), and for the following seasonal worship services: Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve.
2. Work cooperatively with the choir keyboardist/church organist/accompanist.
3. Provide leadership for youth singing during the Sunday School opening and also in worship, including the goal of forming a children's choir. Sunday School group or this choir should plan to sing monthly during school year.
4. Provide cantoring for worship when available, and enlist and train other cantors/song leaders.
5. Encourage and provide youth participation in worship music by encouraging youth musicians to be involved at church, including vocal, piano and instrumental solos, duets, and combos.
6. Serve as a catalyst and leader for a "praise music" team, with a goal of ultimately of global and contemporary music leadership once a month.
7. Encourage the growth of other music programs, including but not limited to tone chime choir and brass choir.
8. Be available to sing for wedding and funeral services as personal schedule allows, recognizing that the compensation for these services will be in addition to the compensation noted below.

B. To support the above musical role the choir director will have the following additional responsibilities:

1. Participate in the monthly Board of Worship and Music meeting.
2. Communication with the pastor and other musicians in planning music for worship. The pastor has overall responsibility for the worship and liturgical planning.
3. Attend Tuesday afternoon church staff meetings as able.
4. Upon hire, there will be a 90-day mutual conversation. Thereafter, participation in annual review is expected.

C. Qualifications and Skills

1. A degree in music, music education or a related field is desirable but not required.
2. Knowledge of a variety of church music genres, Lutheran liturgical practice, and the use of music in worship.
3. Excellent communication skills with congregational staff, volunteers and members.
4. Effective as a "team player" and ability to relate to others with good interpersonal skills.
5. Has a personal theology consistent with the Lutheran heritage, and values consistent with the mission of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

D. For these efforts the vocal music coordinator/choir director will be compensated as follows:

1. Compensation is provided on a per service basis as approved by the Council Executive Committee and documented in the letter of offer for the position.
2. Work is paid hourly, at the rate of \$25/hr including Sunday time. A maximum of three hours per week would be considered prep time. Maximum paid time per week should average no more than 8 hours.
3. Maximum pay is 31 weeks x 8 hours/wk x \$25/hour = \$6,300.00/school year.
4. Office space as necessary to carry out these responsibilities.
5. Subject to the review and approval of the Council Executive Committee, the use of the church facility and instruments for teaching private music lessons may be provided when these activities do not interfere with regular church activities and the responsibilities noted above.
6. Providing \$250 annually for church musician continuing education.

Please send a letter of application and resume to Rev. Mark Jolivette, Senior Pastor, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 612 Division Street, La Crosse, WI 54601.

