

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

POSITION DESCRIPTION



First Congregational United Church of Christ

945 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss, Senior Minister

Website: www.firstuccdc.org | **Facebook:** First UCC DC

IG: @firstuccdc | **YouTube:** @firstuccdc2806

WHO WE ARE

First Congregational is a dynamic United Church of Christ congregation in the heart of Washington, D.C. In covenant with God and each other, we seek to respond to the call of Jesus Christ as reflected in our heritage and today's experiences. We welcome people of all ages, abilities, racial and cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities, and beliefs to share and grow in faith through worship, prayer, education, mutual support, and social action.

In so doing, by God's grace, we nourish each other, embrace spiritual transformation, challenge racism, stand for justice and peace, and strive to heal our city, nation, and the world.



WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR



Welcome To Our Church

The First Congregational UCC DC Director of Music Ministry is responsible for developing, leading, and shepherding the congregation's overall music ministry. We specifically seek a music ministry that:

- Connects with our history as a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation.
- Incorporates music from a wide variety of traditions, genres, and styles, which could include (but need not be limited to) any/all of the following: traditional hymnody, African-American spirituals, gospel, classical choral repertoire, praise music, global/world music, folk/Americana, jazz, protest music.
- Draws on the musical gifts and skills of the congregation – both singers and instrumentalists of all ages – meeting our members where they are and encouraging us to let our musical gifts sound fully in the life of the church.





- Helps the congregation bring new people into our midst and stimulates congregational growth.
- Deepens our experience of God and strengthens our work for justice and peace.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Musical/Artistic Direction

- Select music for worship, in collaboration with the Senior Minister and the Worship Commission, that amplifies inclusion, community, and faith, and that aligns with scriptural and seasonal themes.
- Lead music during worship, both instrumental (preludes, postludes, etc.) and as accompaniment for congregational singing.
- Direct a choir of adult congregants of varying abilities via biweekly rehearsals. The choir typically sings in worship twice each month.
- Work with the Associate Minister to develop musical experiences for children that nurture their experience of God and community.
- Incorporate volunteer musicians from the church membership to play in regular worship services, whether as soloists or ensembles.
- Plan and lead a special musical service during the Christmas season, highlighting the choir, where the music is the message.

Administrative

- Attend worship planning meetings with the ministers (weekly) and the congregation's Worship Commission (monthly) .
- Determine needs for guest musicians in worship; recruit and direct them.
- Oversee regular maintenance for the congregation's pianos and pipe organ.
- Maintain the choir's music library in collaboration with volunteers.
- Manage necessary copyright licenses.
- Oversee the music ministry budget.
- Note: The Director of Music Ministry has office space in the church.

Qualifications

- Minimum of 5 years experience coordinating a music program in a worship setting with participants of varying skill levels, including conducting vocal and instrumental ensembles, or equivalent.
- Strong keyboard skills required.
- Familiarity with pipe organ and its use in worship is preferred but not required.
- Skill in performing on additional musical instruments is enthusiastically desired (though not required).
- Demonstrated commitment to bringing a diverse range of musical styles and genres into worship.
- Knowledge of and experience with church music, staying current with trends and resources.

Core Competencies

- Welcoming, inclusive, and affirming; rooted in active spiritual life
- Communicates effectively (verbal and written)
- Organized with strong problem-solving skills
- Collaborative and flexible
- Core commitment to antiracism, inclusive language, and LGBTQ+ inclusion.

Hours/Schedule

- Tuesdays: meetings for all staff (in person, currently 10:30-11:30 am) and worship planning (via Zoom, currently 1:45-3:00 pm)
- Sundays: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Currently, the choir rehearses every other Saturday at 10:00 am, supplemented by additional rehearsals at key points in the church year such as Christmas and Easter
- Once-monthly evening meeting (by Zoom) with the Worship Commission to reflect on worship and plan for the season ahead.
- Attendance at annual congregational meetings in the fall, winter, and spring.
- Availability for Holidays and special services required.

Compensation and Benefits

This is a part-time, salaried position requiring 18 hours/week including staff meetings, worship planning, choir rehearsals, and worship services. Hours are flexible outside standing responsibilities and may ebb and flow with the liturgical season.

SALARY RANGE:
\$32,500-\$41,275

commensurate
with experience.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS
include health stipend,
retirement

Life/disability insurance,
and earned annual leave.



Application Process

To apply for this job, please submit the following:

- A resume
- A cover letter (including a statement of your philosophy of inclusive worship)
- A minimum of two video recordings of your work (one conducting, one performing)
- Names and contact information for two (2) references.

Send these requested materials to **firstchurchdchiring@gmail.com**.
Review will begin on **October 12, 2026**; the position will remain open until filled.

All applications must be received by email.

Inquiries:

Chair of the Search Committee
Email: firstchurchdchiring@gmail.com



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