

Organist/Choir Director

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church seeks an Organist/Choir Director to establish and maintain a robust and inspiring music program that incorporates corporate worship and invites broad participation by the choir and congregation. This person may supervise contractors and/or volunteers.

Part time: We anticipate 15-20 hrs. per week; Range: \$34000-38000; Benefits/Pension Negotiable

About St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church celebrates God's diverse creation and strives to be an inclusive community that welcomes everyone, no matter their age, gender, sexual identity, culture, ethnicity, economic status, or ability. Together, we work to honor the dignity and worth of every person; to have an open-minded and passionate commitment to truth; to acknowledge the importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. We strive to seek Christ in one another; to speak with honesty and integrity about life's challenges, to listen to one another and to the needs of our community so that we might respond with care, spreading God's love to all we encounter.

Our Music Ministry

Our adult choir is well versed in traditional Anglican music (using all episcopal hymnals) and open to engaging other forms of sacred music. Anthems have ranged from Rutter to Palestrina, contemporary to ancient. The choir sings Sundays September through June, with small groups and soloists volunteering throughout the summer. We have historically had three paid section leaders and presently have nine (9) dedicated volunteer singers.

Our beloved Dobson Opus 94 Pipe Organ, with 23 stops and 1008 pipes, was built by Dobson Pipe Organ Builders in 2015 and is our pride and joy! (Visit www.saintdunstanschurch.org/organ/ for more details!) Not only does the organ infuse our sanctuary with glorious music, it also has been featured in organ concerts and recitals, and as part of the Carmel Bach Festival. In addition to the organ, our sanctuary is home to a beautiful Kauai Grand Piano and members of the choir enjoy playing guitar in our worship services to provide a rich variety of music and styles.

Our next Organist/Choir Director will be someone who can engage the Dobson Organ fully and who is both curious and bold in their playing. A bonus would be one who could also showcase our Kauai piano from time to time.

Job Expectations

Working under the supervision of the Rector, the Organist/Choir Director will set a vision for the music program at St. Dunstan's that engages the choir and congregation in singing from the traditional Anglican musical genre, as well as a variety of other sacred musical styles. This position isn't just about playing, teaching and leading music, rather it is a leadership and pastoral role for our entire music ministry.

The Rector and the Organist/Choir Director collaborate and work as a team to plan music fitting for each liturgical season. This includes but is not limited to hymns, service music, anthems, and hiring section leaders or other outside musicians when needed. S/he/ is responsible for securing vocal and/or instrumental soloists for the summer or other designated times, as well supply organists when on vacation or away from the church on a Sunday.

The Organist/Choir Director is an active member of our staff who participates in the life of the parish, leads the music ministry, and collaborates with leaders of the Choir and the Organ Concert Committee. This person will nurture a culture of invitation to participate in our music program.

St. Dunstan's is also home to the St. Dunstan's Montessori School (ages 2-6). For the right candidate, there may be a supplemental opportunity to provide music education and engagement for our children.

Weekly duties include:

- Prepare and lead weekly 1.5-hour choir rehearsal on Saturday mornings at 9am. Sunday call time for choir warm-up and rehearsal is 8:30am. Our Choral Eucharist is at 10:00 a.m.
- Offering of an organ or piano prelude for the 8 am Sunday service, as well as playing at the 8a on major holidays (Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter). Offering of prelude & postlude, as well as all hymnody and anthems for the 10 am Sunday service.
- Attend weekly Staff Meetings, liturgical planning meetings, and assisting with the timely preparation of bulletins and newsletters by providing information and proofreading.

Ongoing duties include:

- maintain music library; order new music as needed.
- ensure compliance with copyright laws for in person and digital broadcasts - One License
- oversight of maintenance for musical instruments and equipment (organ, piano, handbells)
- participate in all appropriate mid-week, holiday, or special church services, as well as offer musical support for once monthly *Family Church* as needed. Examples include Evensong, Healing Prayer Service, Sunday Night Hymn Sing, School Christmas Pageant, etc.
- Weddings and funerals are scheduled and compensated by event.
- Ample time for practice and preparation is provided
- Collaborate with the Organ Concert Committee to plan and execute special musical programming at St. Dunstan's (such as organ, vocal or other instrumental concerts or recitals.), so to position St. Dunstan's as a center of music in Carmel Valley.

Qualifications:

The Organist/Choir Director will be someone who:

- Demonstrates strong aptitude and training as an organist, pianist, and choir director.
- Demonstrates creativity, reliability, flexibility, graciousness, patience, a good sense of humor, and the ability to work well with others and to meet folks where they are.
- Has knowledge of and is skilled with Anglican/Episcopal Liturgy, the role music plays across our liturgies, and an awareness of the many musical resources of the Episcopal Church.
- Loves music and working with people of all ages and skill levels, and who sees the offering of music as a ministry, and who will encourage choir members not just to succeed, but to enjoy and thrive in their music ministry.
- Can look beyond the walls of the church and imagine the creation and delivery of music programs that enhance community life and position St. Dunstan's as center for such programs.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this position, the employee is frequently required to stand, walk, sit; use hands and feet to grasp, handle, or feel; to reach with hands and arms, to stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl, and to talk or hear. The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 30 pounds.

Work Environment

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Parking is accessible. The church is a nonsmoking environment. Protocols and processes may be subject to the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Location

St. Dunstan's is located in Carmel Valley, about 11 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean and just 30 minutes from Big Sur. The Monterey Peninsula, just 2 hours south of San Francisco on the central California coast boasts of some of the most beautiful of landscapes, and the area offers a rich variety of culture, art, and history. Sadly, such a beautiful place also comes with a high cost of living – particularly the cost of housing. We strongly recommended that applicants who would need to relocate take the time to research these costs in advance, to ensure that a move to Carmel Valley would be doable.

We are a community who loves Jesus, who strives to follow him and to model his life in our words and actions, and who are eager to welcome our next Organist/Choir Director!

You may learn more about St. Dunstan's at **stdev.org**, or by following us on our Facebook or Instagram pages. We are an equal opportunity employer.

Please submit your cover letter and resume (including links to samples of music conducted or performed) to: The Rev. Laurel Coote. Email: revlaurelc@gmail.com