



St. Christopher's Anglican Church

Director of Music & the Performing Arts

Vision, Job Description, & Program Overview

Deadline for applications: April 5, 2012

Start date negotiable

For more information, visit www.stcb.ca

Please forward applications to:

The Ven. Dr. Stephen F. Hopkins, Rector

662 Guelph Line, Burlington, ON L7R 3M8

or via e-mail to:

staff@stchristophersburlington.com

Parish Vision

St. Christopher's is a dynamic, inclusive, diverse community
rooted in the life-giving, life-affirming, and life-changing love of God
reaching beyond ourselves
caring for creation
making a difference for others

Vision for Music & the Performing Arts

St. Christopher's is a dynamic, open, and affirming faith community where people of all ages are encouraged and empowered to use and develop their artistic gifts to participate in God's life-giving, life-affirming, and life-changing mission.

St. Christopher's is known within Burlington, throughout the Diocese of Niagara, and beyond as an arts-friendly place where the Gospel is proclaimed with integrity and creativity.

People are moved and changed by what they experience here – in a way that

- illuminates their world with the light of God's grace
- deepens their commitment to live in love with justice
- challenges them to change how they think, feel, or act
- stretches them in compassion for all that God has made
- motivates them to make a difference in the lives of others – at home, at work or school, in their neighbourhood, across the country, or around the world
- excites them with hope, and
- fills them with confidence in God's faithfulness, love, and goodness

Participants, volunteer leaders, and staff feel a deep sense of gratitude and joy because this work feeds their souls – and through it, they create a community where the grace of God flows freely. They feel they receive far more than they give.

Job Description

Purpose of the Position

The Director of Music and the Performing Arts is an active participant in St. Christopher's community whose musical talent and leadership skills serve to engage and grow the artistic gifts and abilities of people of all ages and facilitate their expression in worship, education, and celebration.

Responsibilities:

- providing music for all Sunday and mid-week services (except Sunday at 11:15), all special services (including Christmas and Easter, Seniors' services at Christmas and Easter, All Souls' Day, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week), funerals, and weddings
- recruiting, training, rehearsing, and supervising the choir
- recruiting, orienting, and supporting volunteer leaders in music and performing arts programs
- producing special presentations with choir, singers, dancers, and actors (such as the Christmas Tree-Lighting and Easter Vigil)
- working with the Director of Children, Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry to develop, implement, and support music and performing arts programs for children and youth (such as SHINE)
- assisting the clergy and liturgy planning teams in planning liturgies as requested
- acting as a resource to other staff and programs to identify better ways to use music and the performing arts
- building a deep sense of community among music and performing arts participants
- attending to the pastoral care needs of music and performing arts participants
- acting as liaison for the parish with outside groups using the facility for musical or performing arts events (e.g., performances, rehearsals, exams)
- making St. Christopher's a resource to the Burlington community at large (including performances in retirement residences)
- arranging for regular care and tuning of instruments
- purchasing and organizing music
- maintaining music licenses and ensuring compliance with copyright
- participating actively in weekly staff meetings and working in a team relationship with other paid staff, key volunteers, and honorary clergy
- other duties as assigned

Skills & Experience Sought

The ideal candidate will bring:

- Experience as a music leader in the church.
- Ability to communicate a conviction that they are called to this ministry.
- Ability to articulate a clear vision for the place of music and the arts in the mission of the church.
- Ability to access a wide variety of musical and artistic resources in diverse styles.
- Ability to express an appreciation for the value of both tradition and innovation in the mission of the church and its music.
- Demonstrated ability to play the piano and organ. Experience with several instruments would be an asset.
- A bachelor's degree or ARCT certification or RCCO diploma.
- Demonstrated ability to train singers and direct choirs.

- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with other leaders, including other artists.
- Demonstrated excellence in volunteer administration.
- Demonstrated skill in creating and tending an open, affirming, and supportive community.
- Demonstrated ability to use music and the performing arts as a resource to grow a church.
- Familiar with and supportive of the mission and ethos of the Anglican Church of Canada as expressed in the Diocese of Niagara and St. Christopher's Church.
- Is described by colleagues as a flexible, creative, inspiring team player and lifelong learner.

Boundaries & Limitations

Works within policies and guidelines as established by the Diocese of Niagara, the Parish of St. Christopher's, and the Rector and Wardens.

Works within the budget approved by the Annual Vestry Meeting.

Working Relationships

- hired by the Churchwardens
- accountable to and supervised by the Rector
- a member of the parish staff team
- works with the Music Leader for the 11:15 service

Working Conditions

- 22 hours per week
- salary commensurate with RCCO guidelines
- four weeks of paid vacation per year to be taken at a time agreed upon with the Rector
- Diocesan benefits package
- compensating time may be accrued after 22 hours per week with the prior authorization of the Rector and may be taken at a time agreed upon with the Rector
- parish resources (such as the organ, piano, and office) are available to earn additional income with the prior authorization of the Rector
- the position will begin with a six-month probationary period

Participation Group & Screening Requirements

In a relationship of trust, relating to parishioners of all ages both 1:1 and in group settings.

This position is deemed to be high risk and all screening requirements will apply (signed declaration, references, police check).

Program Overview

St. Christopher's Anglican Church in Burlington, Ontario is a lively, diverse faith community that gathers about 375 people each Sunday at three distinctive services. The parish is theologically liberal and liturgically progressive, seeking to create worship that is both life-giving and life-changing. We are an inclusive, open and affirming community, committed to social justice and working hard to make a difference in our local community.

Music is an important feature of all our worship services:

- Sunday at 8 a.m. = classic Anglican liturgy (mostly BAS with some elements written in the parish, BCP once a month) with hymns on the organ and communion songs on the piano (about 75 – 90 people)
- Sunday at 9:30 a.m. = contemporary Anglican liturgy (mostly written in the parish) with a mix of classic hymns and newer songs led by the choir with organ, piano, and guitar (about 250 – 300 people during the school year)
- Sunday at 11:15 a.m. = innovative liturgy, no paper / no vestments, with music led by the band (about 30 – 40 people)
- Thursday at 9:30 a.m. = BAS service with hymns on the piano (about 20 – 25 people)

Volunteer leaders, many of whom have professional qualifications or experience, work alongside our paid staff to create music and performing arts programs that engage people of all ages as singers, instrumentalists, dancers, and actors. Current activities include:

- **choir:** about 30 voices coached and conducted by the Director of Music and the Performing Arts, SATB, rehearses Thursday evenings during the school year (September to June), leads congregational singing (along with the guitar group) and sings an anthem at the 9:30 service, performs in special events (with actors and dancers) at Christmas and Easter, sings in retirement residences a few times a year, occasionally performs a “cabaret” for the parish, makes occasional trips to other churches (including outside Ontario).
- **guitar group:** about six players, coached and rehearsed by another member of the parish, rehearses and performs with the choir on Sundays at 9:30 and on visits to retirement residences.
- **dancers:** about 18 to 24 participants, mostly girls aged 6+, trained and directed by two members of the parish with professional dance training and experience, rehearse during the school year on Sundays after the 9:30 service, perform in special events (with actors and singers) at Christmas and Easter, perform occasionally on Sundays.
- **actors:** recruited from the congregation and directed by a parishioner who is a professional actor, rehearsal schedule varies, perform in special events (with singers and dancers) at Christmas and Easter.
- **SHINE** (performing arts program for children): about 12 to 18 participants, directed by our Director of Children's and Youth Ministry with the Director of Music and the Performing Arts, rehearses Thursdays after school during the school year, performs three times a year in church on Sundays (Christmas Pageant, Palm Sunday, end of the school year).
- **instrumentalists:** from time to time (and especially at Christmas and Easter) parishioners offer their music gifts (trumpet, flute, harp) during worship.
- **11:15 band:** a group of about six parishioners under the direction of a paid music leader, plays at the 11:15 service every Sunday, rehearses on Monday evenings.
- **making our facility available** to a variety of artists or arts groups, including: Burlington Civic Chorale (rehearsals and performances), Burlington Children's Choir (rehearsals and performances), Brott Music Festival (performances), community music festivals (performances), local music teachers (recitals).

Parishioners describe our music and performing arts programs as lively and joyful, inspirational and meaningful, diverse and flexible, creative and inclusive, accessible, high-quality, and unique. They value the variety or diversity in both repertoire and instrumentation, a positive impact on Sunday worship, wide participation (especially the involvement of children and youth), and special presentations (such as at Christmas or Easter). Overall, St. Christopher's values both wide participation (so no one is excluded) and high quality in performance (so we perform at our peak).

Our Casavant organ was originally built in 1960 and completely rebuilt in 2006. 2 manuals, 18 stops. It is equipped with a micro-computer-based control system that includes the stop action, combination action, crescendo, keying and coupling, a transposer, and MIDI. The organ memory can record up to 100 separate performances.

The church also owns a concert-quality Kawai grand piano and there is a rehearsal piano in the Director's office.

Music for church services is chosen in conversation with the Rector in his role as chief liturgical officer of the parish (on behalf of the Bishop). Liturgical texts are often written by "Liturgy and Learning" teams of lay people with the clergy and sometimes these teams ask musicians in the parish to create new music for these liturgies. *Common Praise* (the Anglican Church of Canada hymnbook published in 1998) and a parish collection called "*Sing Your Praise*" are used for congregational singing at most services (except Sunday at 11:15).

Weekly staff meetings include:

- the Rector (full-time)
- the Pastoral Associate Priest (full-time)
- the Director of Children's, Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry (full-time)
- the Parish Administrator (full-time)
- the Director of Music and the Performing Arts (part-time)
- the Director of Ministry Development (volunteer)
- and one of the Honorary Assistant Clergy (volunteer)

Other staff include:

- one part-time Custodian and two part-time Custodial Assistants
- three part-time staff of Open Doors, our community engagement program that offers a free community meal, free clothing store, and recreational programs for children and youth.

We hope this has helped you learn about who we are and what we do now; but what really interests us is:

what could we be and do together?