

St Giles Presbyterian Church

(181 First Avenue, Ottawa ON, K1S 2G3, Canada, stgilesottawa.org)

Position Title: Music Director

Vision:

“When God restored the fortune of God’s people, it was like a dream, too good to be true.” (Psalm 126:1, paraphrased) The psalmist recalls the joy of God’s past deliverance, and invites the covenantal community to ask for a fresh display of God’s power, so that sorrow shall be transformed into joy. We believe God is doing something new here at St Giles Presbyterian Church. We see but a glimpse of that renewal, and music ministry will be integral. The anticipation of God’s restoration provides us a powerful hope. We trust in God’s past deliverance, and we pray that God will do it again.

Overview:

St Giles Presbyterian Church is looking for a Music Director who will provide accompaniment at regular congregational worship services (on Sundays, Christmas Eve and Good Friday). The sanctuary—spacious with good acoustics—houses a well-maintained Casavant Organ and an upright piano, thus the ability to play both the organ and the piano is a must. Currently, worship style is traditional with an openness of gradually transitioning towards a blended style. The Music Director should possess a willingness to cherish the old while embracing the new. This person will work closely with the Minister and the Session, in identifying and utilizing the strengths of St Giles, thus growing its music ministry in multicultural and intergenerational ways.

The Music Director will need to recruit, rebuild and direct the congregational choir of St Giles. Starting from a modest beginning, this person must be excited by the work of nurturing and growing the choir in a post-pandemic context. Ideally, the Music Director should be people oriented—a connector who can bring people together in praise and worship. A budget will be set-aside for the Music Director to bring in outside singers and/or instrumentalists. Contacts with Ottawa area musicians and groups are an asset. However, sustained growth of the choir should come from within the congregation, as part of the overall ministry of congregational renewal.

The Music Director should be attracted to working with young people, helping them to discover and share their own musical talents, both vocal and instrumental. In due time, the Music Director should give leadership in forming a junior choir for children and youth.

The Music Director should be a committed Christian who understands the importance of living out one's faith in a community. This person should be willing to participate in the congregational life of St Giles.

Other Considerations:

- 1) The position will likely require 10 to 15 hours weekly.
- 2) Willingness to work closely with others, including, but not limited to, the Minister, the Church Administrator, the Worship Committee, the Session, the choir president, lead singers, and choir members.
- 3) Strong organizational skill and experience working with streaming licences such as CCLI and One License an asset.
- 4) To arrange replacements in case of vacation or illness. The Church Administrator or Treasurer of St Giles should be advised with sufficient time to prepare remuneration for the replacement.
- 5) A probationary period of three months would be beneficial for both the candidate and the church.

Benefits

- 1) Access to the organ and piano in the sanctuary at all time
- 2) A parking spot beside the church office is available.
- 3) Priority consideration to provide accompaniment for funerals and weddings taking place at St Giles
- 4) A budget for music ministry to work with, to hire lead singers and other musicians.
- 5) Salary level will be guided by the RCCO scale, with a projected range of \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year.

Applicant should include a CV and a cover letter and the application be sent to office@stgilesottawa.org. Applications will be received until September 30, or until the position is filled. All applications will be kept in strict confidence. Please direct inquiries to Rob Brandon rob@laurabrandon.ca, chair of the Search Committee.