

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Full-time Director of Music Ministries
Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church
201 S. Roan St.
Johnson City, Tennessee 37601

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, Johnson City, TN, seeks a full-time, highly skilled, energetic, and visionary Director of Music Ministries to provide artistic, organizational and spiritual leadership. Sunday morning Traditional worship services are held in the Sanctuary with a focus on liturgy, prayers, preaching, and music in the classical -liturgical tradition, blended, and contemporary worship opportunities. Munsey has a strong tradition of intergenerational music leadership in its worship services, with Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Handbells and Children's Choirs. Experience and a passion for leading such choirs and musical expressions are key to success in this position.

The Director of Music Ministries will answer directly with the Senior Pastor to plan and coordinate worship services, as well as to supervise the Director of Contemporary Worship, and work closely with the Organist and Music Associate, and all additional musicians. In addition, they will serve as a resource for the Open Door Worship service in the Melting Pot.

Each applicant is asked to submit a personal statement of faith.

Anticipated Start Date: October 1, 2024. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt, with interviews established accordingly. The deadline to receive applications will be no later than July 1, 2024.

Applications may be submitted at jobsearch@munsey.org

ABOUT MUNSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Munsey Memorial UMC is a vibrant church in the heart of downtown Johnson City with a rich history of music and community involvement. Membership is about

1600, and average worship attendance is over 300. The church offers four Sunday worship services in different styles: a blended service in the sanctuary at 8:45; an informal Open Door service at 9:00 which serves the downtown community among others; a traditional service in the sanctuary at 11:00 with the chancel choir, a 59-rank Colby pipe organ, and a Steinway concert grand piano; and the Journey contemporary service in the Christian Life Center at 11:00. The church has five and three octave sets of Schulmerich handbells and Malmark handchimes as well as a two-octave Cymbell set. The church has several special services and concerts each year including Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Tenebrae, and a memorial concert around All Saints Sunday. The church also hosts concerts, recitals, and rehearsals for several community groups.

Johnson City is the eighth largest city in Tennessee with a population of about 72,000 and growing. It is part of the Tri-Cities region of northeast Tennessee (including Kingsport and Bristol), home to nearly half a million people and nestled in the scenic Appalachian Mountains between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains. The downtown area of Johnson City has experienced a rebirth in recent years. The city boasts numerous parks and has many outdoor recreational opportunities within a short drive. Many festivals in and near the city add to the cultural richness of the area. Johnson City is home to East Tennessee State University and a VA Medical Center.

History

1871 - Munsey began as East Market Street Methodist Church, built of handmade bricks at a cost of \$4,000. The church was part of the heritage of the early Methodist circuit riders that brought the gospel to the pioneer settlements of the American frontier.

By the turn of the century, the church had grown to the point that a new sanctuary was needed, and our current location of the corner of Roan and Market was purchased. The magnificent new sanctuary was circular, with beautiful stained glass windows and a copper dome ninety feet high.

1908 - The congregation named the church in memory of the Reverend William E. Munsey (1833-77). Born in Virginia, Munsey was the son and grandson of

Methodist preachers. Munsey was largely self-taught but became a brilliant pulpit preacher. He retired in Jonesborough where he died at the age of 44.

Munsey Church grew rapidly, with the membership doubling in only three years. Young people were attracted to the modern gymnastic equipment, and men liked to visit the church to take advantage of the new invention - the shower - after their Saturday morning haircuts.

1949 - The church expanded again, but this time construction included an indoor swimming pool! Munsey was forced to close the pool in 2001 because of structural issues. To this day, we are still known for the pool, which was an integral part of the Johnson City community.

1950 - The church began a preschool program, which is still thriving today. It is the oldest state accredited preschool program in Tennessee.

1955 - Once again, the church outgrew its sanctuary, so a new one was built on the same site. This necessitated the demolition of the beloved round church. Some of the stained glass windows from the round sanctuary were given to other churches and some were stored for potential future use. Several of those windows are now in our Chapel. Stained glass windows in the new sanctuary convey stories of Jesus, John Wesley, and Munsey Church.

1989 - On Christmas Eve, a horrific fire caused the deaths of sixteen residents of the John Sevier Center, a low-income residential high-rise across the street from the church. Munsey became the hands and feet of God in a very real way as it transformed into a triage center for those escaping the smoke and flames and a location for families to be reunited. Christmas Eve services were cancelled, and our congregation spent the evening bringing food and blankets to the victims and first responders. The days ahead were helping to locate temporary housing and providing essentials for the displaced residents.

After the fire, members of the church committed themselves to showing Christ's love to the residents of downtown Johnson City by providing a Saturday morning breakfast. From that, the Melting Pot ministry was born. Before long, Munsey and Good Samaritan Ministries began a cooperative daily lunch program in the Melting Pot. Lunch is served five days a week, and breakfast is served every single morning.

2002 – The Christian Life Center, with a gym (which also houses the Journey worship service) and large meeting room, opened.

2004 - We began the Open Door worship service in the Melting Pot as an outreach to our downtown neighbors.

To this day, Munsey continues to take an active approach to meet the needs of our congregation and community. We strive to seek new paths for ministry and mission, not only in Johnson City, but also throughout the world.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

The Director of Music Ministries coordinates all aspects of the music ministries for the purpose of promoting the spiritual life of the congregation and helping members strengthen their Christian faith journeys.

Specifically, the director's responsibilities are as follows:

RELATIONSHIP TO THE CONGREGATION, ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND MISSION:

- Coordinate the planning and implementation of a comprehensive music ministry for the congregation and community;
 - Direct the chancel choir, Genesis I youth choir, and Highway 56 fifth and sixth grade choir;
 - Direct the adult handbell choir as well as handbell choirs for youth and older elementary children (the number has varied from one to four over the years; currently, there is one handbell choir for grades 5-12);
 - Assist the Music Associate as needed with the younger children's choirs;
- Work closely with clergy and worship team in providing music for worship services, weddings, funerals, and other services;
- Recruit, lead and supervise music ministry staff (paid and volunteer), scholarship singers, and guest musicians;

- Advise music-related volunteer councils/committees;
- Advocate the concerns of the music program and keep the congregation informed regarding goals, needs and resources of the music program;
- Provide administrative reports as required or requested;
- Follow procedures for employees as established by Staff-Parish Relations Committee.

PLANNING

- Work closely with clergy and worship team in planning liturgy and music for worship services, weddings, funerals, and other services.
- Participate in weekly staff meetings, Church Council, and other meetings or committees, as needed;
- Consult and collaborate with clergy and other church program staff (e.g. youth and children's ministers) in the development of related programming;
- Know and be responsive to overall goals and needs of the congregation when planning appropriate musical experiences for the congregation and community;
- Lead ongoing evaluation and assessment of the music program.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

- Develop and support effective musical leadership in the church;
- Provide opportunities for the development of musical skills, spiritual growth, and Christian fellowship to participants in the music ensembles and programs;
- Envision and coordinate special music programs, youth and adult choir tours, concerts or services for Lent/Easter, Advent/Christmas, and other seasons and events, as deemed appropriate;
- Assist, as needed, in providing music for other church functions (e.g. children's ministries, Christian education, United Women in Faith.)
- Lead in the development of new initiatives to meet the musical needs of the church.

EQUIPMENT OVERSIGHT

- Ensure proper care and maintenance of all musical instruments, choir robes, and other music materials owned by the congregation.

BUDGET INPUT

- Prepare and submit budget needs for music and equipment upon request;
- Oversee the music budget and income generated from music endowment funds and fundraising projects.

COPYRIGHT SEARCHES

- Secure copyright approvals for all music that will be used within the music ministry.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Continually pursue opportunities for personal, professional and spiritual enrichment.

OTHER

- Perform other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Demonstrated Christian commitment as a United Methodist, or familiar with the United Methodist Church and its traditions. Anyone from other mainline Protestant traditions, such as Episcopal, Lutheran, or Presbyterian, will also be considered.
- Master's degree in church music (or other comparable, certified training) or conducting.
- Strongly preferred: 5 years prior experience in leadership and supervision of church music ministry.
- Expertise in conducting choral, handbell, and orchestral music.
- Knowledge of church history, worship styles and experiences with the traditional liturgical calendar.

- Interest in a wide range of musical experiences.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Desire and ability to work with persons of all ages and musical backgrounds, encouraging their growth spiritually and musically.
- Ability to work with volunteers and committees.
- Superior organizational and leadership skills to lead a comprehensive music and worship program.

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law. Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church is organized for religious purposes with oversight and support by The United Methodist Church. Consequently, Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, under an exception from the prohibitions contained in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 concerning religious discrimination in employment, exercises preference in employment on the basis of religion so that it may fulfill its vision and mission as a Christian community. Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer under all applicable civil rights laws and affirmatively states that it does not discriminate based upon protected characteristics.

More information about Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church may be found at www.Munsey.org.