**Position:** Director of Contemporary Music and Youth Band

**Classifications:** Full-Time, Program Staff, Exempt

**Reports To:** Rector of Saint Joseph’s Episcopal Church

**Supervises:** Volunteers of the Contemporary Music & Youth Band Program and Contract Musicians

**Evaluation:** Annually by Rector and Vestry

**How to Apply:** Send a cover letter and resume with references to [SrWarden@stjoesweb.org](mailto:SrWarden@stjoesweb.org)

*Note to potential applicants: Please do not be overwhelmed by the job description below. Consider the following as a description of a vision of who you would like to become, as opposed to necessary experiences or qualifications you must currently possess. If the following lights a fire of passion within you, consider applying. We would like to grow into this with you!*

**Job Summary:** You have been praying and anticipating this opportunity to expand yourself to more fully utilize your musical talent and creativity to build something wonderful with a church community. St. Joseph’s matches your yearning, as we have developed a reputation over the years as an innovative liturgical “laboratory” that continues to look for and implement new ways of expressing the Gospel message to all people in our varied liturgical offerings. You will be a full-time employee with pension and medical benefits as you join a loving and dedicated small team of our staff. You will have flexible hours to coordinate, plan, and lead contemporary worship music for the weekly Unplugged Service, and also bring to fruition your passion for working with youth by organizing, directing and performing with the Parish Youth Band. In between, you will have your own Contemporary Music Room that is sound-proofed to recording studio quality. You will have the freedom and encouragement to offer private lessons to individuals both for supplementing your income and fast-tracking the learning curve of our Youth Band.

**Your Education and/or Experience:**

* You have a Bachelor’s Degree in Music or higher, or have an equivalent amount of experience leading contemporary worship music. Your ability to lead professional musicians is crucial for the Unplugged service, just as your ability to shepherd youth is crucial for the Youth Band.
* You have a knowledge of notation, music theory, and standard harmony, as well as mastery of at least one musical instrument and demonstrated leadership of a music ensemble.
* You have at least a knowledge of multiple instruments with a minimum of guitar, bass, drums and piano, in order to keep a well-rounded youth band afloat.
* You possess an ability to coach modern instrumentalists and vocalists. You have an ability to multi-task and problem solve. When it comes to the Youth Band, your skill set is overshadowed by your ability to have an innate connection with teenagers.
* You have success working in collaboration with staff and/or church members to build sustainable relationships and working efficiently and effectively for the right end-result, particularly in worship planning, rehearsal and execution.
* You have a proven ability to engage with others, establish trust and credibility, inspire confidence and work toward conflict resolution when needed.
* You have a desire and ability to motivate, inspire and engage individuals with varying knowledge, experience levels and personality types toward a common goal.
* You have the ability to articulate Christian beliefs and possess a personal calling to lead worship.
* You possess strong reading comprehension, written and oral communication skills, with the ability to speak effectively to the congregation and other groups.

**Your Characteristics:**

* You understand how creativity can blend new approaches to liturgical music with traditional liturgical worship in the Episcopal Church, to create an innovative, joyful, and prayerful experience. Even if you have another denominational background, you possess a keen sense of reverence and respect for what is going on in our “all are welcome” Episcopal approach. Your progressive theological outlook positively impacts your desire to learn and lead hymns that are a good fit for the church and our values and beliefs. You love giving new life to old hymns just as much as creating new music that will become the standards of tomorrow.
* You dislike the term “praise music” in describing your musical style because your passion is for music that has a much deeper spiritual and soulful inspiration.
* You love working with teenagers and building them up while providing a safe and nurturing place for youth to come, connect with others, and learn music. You are excited about this opportunity as the ability to fulfill your passion. This is not a stepping stone – you love doing this ministry.
* You are flexible. You thrive when on-the-spot thinking is required to re-direct and re-focus.
* You have a servant’s heart that is focused on liturgical experiences that strengthens the faith of all on their faith journey, whether first time or long time attendees.
* You love modelling that behavior for teenagers to incorporate it into their own lives.
* You are comfortable being a worship leader in front of people, and you understand it is not about you or the band, but in joyfully inviting people into active participation in sung worship.
* You love working with, encouraging, and supporting a broad range of people, regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

* Overall, you will plan, coordinate, and lead the Contemporary Music Program for St. Joseph’s:
  + You will assist with planning and coordination of the process for continued development of Contemporary Services, including competent leadership capacity during your absences.
  + You will assist lay leadership in the development of and oversee the management of the annual operating budget for the contemporary music program.
  + You will maintain knowledge of current trends in sacred and secular contemporary music and worship arts and advise worship leaders regarding liturgy and music.
  + You will consult weekly with the “preaching” clergy person for selection of music and possible creative presentations in worship, which results in planning and arranging music for contemporary services that encourages engagement/participation, reflection, and worship consistent with service objectives.
  + You will proof printed bulletins and/or Easy Worship Schedules prior to each service.
  + You will coordinate and lead the Sunday Contemporary Services, and the weekly ensemble rehearsals.
  + You will provide oversight and coordination of set-up, tear down, and Easy Worship presentations for the Contemporary Services.
  + You will recruit, evaluate, develop, help train and identify gifts of lay participants and potential leaders to grow the core group of leaders for our contemporary worship.
  + You will keep us on the cutting edge of liturgy, remaining current with musical trends broadly and in Christian faith development and expression, worship practices and visual presentation, sharing these developments with others to nurture their development. We appreciate the value of external benchmarking and training, and will do our best to support you in benefiting from such identified opportunities.
* In your role as Youth Band Director, you will coordinate and direct our Youth Band from September through mid-June, nurturing and training musicians and singers, and fostering a positive band community:
  + You will prepare music and direct the youth band & singers in rehearsal each Wednesday during the school calendar year (or at an alternate rehearsal time to be decided with the participants.) You will recruit, develop and train youth to participate, and create practice tools for the band.
  + You will coordinate and lead the designated Youth Band worship services including, day-of rehearsals, load-ins and load-outs. (Youth Band currently leads worship approximately 15 times per year: at The Blessing of the Animals on a Sunday afternoon, Christmas Eve 6:30pm service, monthly “Family Services” at the 9:30am Sunday service from October through May, and the daily music for our week-long Vacation Church Camp from Monday through Saturday in June.)

**Collaboration**

* You look forward to participating in other Church activities, programs and services to support St. Joseph’s mission and promote overall congregational unity.
* You enjoy working directly with the clergy regarding logistics about the services.
* You delight in seeking opportunities to integrate contemporary and traditional styles into combined worship experiences.
* You strive to collaborate with all staff to promote positive work relationships.
* You relish developing healthy relationships with youth and identifying and fostering their gifts to be used in Contemporary Worship.
* You appreciate that on a small multitasking team there will be times when all the staff perform additional/other duties and responsibilities for the good of the whole.

**Technological Skills:**

* You have the ability to learn or already use worship presentation software (such as Easy Worship) proficiently to edit worship visual presentations.
* You have a proficiency in running sound to properly mix live audio.
* You are Proficient in Microsoft Office and other basic software.
* You are able to interact via social media regularly to reach a desired audience.

**Other Training/Travel Requirements:**

* You have completed or are willing to complete required training in Safeguarding God’s Children and Safeguarding God’s People (training provided by us).
* You are willing to travel as requested to assist with youth on pilgrimage or to national retreat camps (such as Kanuga).

**Physical Demands**: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job:

* While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand; use hands to finger, handle, or feel; and reach with hands and arms.
* The employee frequently is required to walk and talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl.
* The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds.
* Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, color vision, depth perception and ability to adjust focus.

**Work Environment**: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions:

* You will work in an office environment, involving contact with staff and the congregation.
* Your work may have deadlines, multiple interruptions, high volume and may be stressful at times.
* While performing the duties of this job, your are occasionally exposed to the risk of electrical shock and vibration. The noise level in your work environment is usually loud.