**Position Description for Principal Organist**

**Morrisville Presbyterian Church, Morrisville, PA**

Primary Function

The Principal Organist works with the Director of Music, Pastors and the Worship Committee to provide vision and supportive leadership to the music ministry of Morrisville Presbyterian Church (MPC).

Qualifications:

1. Spiritual: The candidate should be respectful of the Presbyterian worship tradition and committed to personal spiritual growth.
2. Education: Completion of, or present enrollment in, a music degree program with a concentration in organ.  The candidate must demonstrate proficiency in service-playing, accompanying, organ literature performance and be committed to musical excellence and continued professional development.
3. Experience: The candidate should show evidence of the ability to carry out the musical and extra-musical responsibilities of the Principal Organist, such as arranging for substitutes as needed, scheduling piano and organ maintenance, regular attendance at Worship Committee meetings and regular discussions with the Director of Music.  Prior experience as a church musician and familiarity with the associated repertoire is strongly preferred.
4. Personal Characteristics:  The candidate should possess good communication, organizational and interpersonal skills.  He or she must exhibit personal sensitivity and spiritual concern for people of all ages involved in the music program.

Responsibilities

1. To provide organ and/or piano leadership for all Sunday worship services as well as designated worship services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Christmas Eve.  This includes playing service music, and accompanying, as needed, all choirs, soloists and ensembles.
2. To rehearse with the following groups:
3. Chancel Choir – once a week during the week, prior to worship, and any extra rehearsals prior to special services.
4. Teen Choir – once a week, immediately after worship, prior to worship when that group is singing, and any extra rehearsals prior to special services.
5. Agape Choir - prior to worship when that group is singing, and one three hour rehearsal the Saturday before Children’s Sunday (typically, the second Sunday in May).
6. Soloists and ensembles – as needed and at a mutually agreed upon time.  It is understood that the organist will not have to teach any soloist or ensemble their music, but that they will come to the rehearsal well prepared.
7. Select and prepare appropriate music for preludes, postludes, offertories, etc. and provide title and composer information to the church office in a timely manner.
8. Arrange for maintenance of all keyboard instruments.
9. Play for weddings and funerals – or arrange for a substitute.  Honoraria for these services are in addition to base compensation.

Relationships

1. The Principal Organist reports to and works directly with the Director of music.
2. The Principal Organist works in cooperation with the Pastor / Head of Staff.
3. The Principal Organist fosters a positive attitude among music personnel and groups.