St Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church

Diocese of New Westminster, Anglican Church of Canada

**Position Description: Music Director**

**Summary:**

St Stephen the Martyr is a growing, multicultural Anglican parish adjacent to the major redevelopment of Lougheed Town Centre in Burnaby. Our community is proud of our diversity – worshippers include Aboriginal families, first-generation Canadians from around the world, new arrivals from China, Korea, Iran and elsewhere, as well as the descendants of European settlers. While many visitors find us because we are **the** church in the neighbourhood, a growing number of newcomers to St Stephen’s are attracted to our broad theology, openness to LGBTQ2S individuals, and our liturgical worship.

Music is an integral part of our worship, and, we believe, deeply connected to how we worship God, learn scripture, and practice our faith. We have a history of incorporating contemporary music and are ready to learn some new songs and ways of including music in our worship. In addition to sung service music, we have a cantor who chants the Psalm most weeks. A Kawai CP 175 digital organ is used to accompany our singing. We also have a Kawai grand piano available. Currently, we select music from *Common Praise, Songs for a Gospel People,* and a songbook compiled in-house (last updated in 2011). We maintain licensing through SongSelect and OneLicense. We celebrate Holy Eucharist weekly on Sundays at 10am, with an average of 60 people. Our volunteer choir has between 4 and 8 singers.

We are seeking a Music Director who will celebrate both traditional and contemporary music. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a capacity to lead inspiring and dynamic worship music. We want our new colleague to have the people skills to teach and encourage amateur singers – both among our small choir and with the whole congregation.

**Responsibilities:**

***Worship Services***

* Lead and accompany music on organ and piano and other instruments, if applicable, at all Sunday services and special services throughout the year
* Schedule and lead rehearsals with the choir as needed
* Working with the Parish Priest and Music Committee, select liturgically and pastorally appropriate music for all worship services at monthly meetings
* Provide music and other information for weekly church bulletins in a timely manner
* Have the right of first refusal to play music at weddings and funerals for additional remuneration. Assist with music selection and arrange for musical accompaniment for these services

***Congregational Skills Development***

* Assess and monitor the musical skill level of the congregation, with an eye to helping members develop their musical gifts in the midst of community
* Teach the congregation new hymns and provide introductions to new music genres as appropriate

***Administer Parish Music Program***

* Maintain the parish music library
* Consult on the care of all musical instruments and related equipment
* Prepare and submit an annual budget and an annual report for the music program
* Arrange for capable substitute musicians, when necessary

**Qualifications/Requirements**

***Background***

* Committed Christian faith is expected. Knowledge and experience in the Anglican Church is an asset.
* Strong, innovative, and organized leader who can nurture the musical talents of the parish
* Knowledge and appreciation of Anglican liturgy and a willingness to be mentored by Anglican musicians, if coming from another faith tradition are assets
* Fluency in spoken and written English required.

***Musical Competence***

* Skilled keyboard musician playing organ and piano. Competence with other instruments is an asset.
* Experience in leading and teaching modern forms of musical worship, as well as more traditional hymnody.
* Proven ability to form, rehearse, and direct a choir.
* Strong vocal ability, suitable to lead congregational singing and choir an asset.

***Working with Others***

* Ability to work independently and to also be a collaborative team player
* Relate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds, including those with cultural, linguistic, and theological differences; an appreciation of the value of creating spaces that are welcoming to this diversity.
* Comply with screening requirements according to the Screening in Faith policy of the Diocese of New Westminster

**Time Required and Compensation:**

* An average of 8 hours per week. It is anticipated that holiday seasons will be slightly higher and other months will be slightly lower. Primary hours are Sunday mornings.
* Anticipated compensation is $800 per month.
* Paid holiday of 3 weeks per calendar year, including three Sundays off per year.
* The Music Director is considered a contractor and must provide a monthly invoice.

**Position Structure:**

* Reports to and takes direction from the Parish Priest; is accountable to the Parish Priest and Wardens
* Meets regularly with the Parish Priest to establish work plans and for supervision, training, and support
* An initial contract will be offered for a 3-month probationary period, ending with a mutual review. A renewable contract with annual reviews may be offered thereafter.

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply before October 17, 2019. Please submit a cover letter and resume, attn: The Rev Ruth Monette to [info@ststephenburnaby.ca](mailto:info@ststephenburnaby.ca) with the subject line “Music Director Position.”