



St. Andrew's United Reformed Church

Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay. NE25 8LU

Director of Music and Organist

The worship life of St Andrew's URC, Monkseaton has been enriched over many years by the music life of the Church. As part of developing this aspect, it has been decided to appoint a Director of Music and Organist who can be part of the life of the Church and can enhance the musical life of the congregation, initially in worship but also within the wider life of the Church. To do this, St Andrew's are looking to find an individual who will be able to encourage the existing musicians and musical talents while helping to develop new ways in which music can feature in the Church's life.

St Andrew's URC has worship which is formal in structure but flexible in its approach. It uses music from a variety of periods and traditions, utilising contemporary hymnody and songs alongside traditional hymns and music. The Church has access to a regional library of sheet music (based in central Newcastle) and a small budget for further resources. There is an Organ (made by Johannus, fitted with a 'Manual Bass' facility eliminating the need to play pedals), an upright Piano, and electronic Keyboard, which are available for use in worship. A selection of percussion instruments are available for use by the congregation in worship, and there are a number of singers and other musicians in the Church, including some who are professionally trained. There is a Worship Group of singers who convene occasionally to sing in worship, usually to help teach a new hymn or song. There is currently a rota of four Organists who take it in turns to play for Sunday worship, one of whom takes a lead and coordinates the musical activities. Other musical activities in the Church include music making by adult and children's Ukulele groups, the Church's own Gilbert and Sullivan Society, room hires from a local Stage School, and several singing groups.

The Director of Music and Organist will work closely with the Minister and others involved in the worship life of the Church (other musicians and worship leaders) to plan and deliver music for the weekly worship (Sunday, 11am) and other special services. They will accompany worship on the Organ and/or Piano and they will encourage other musicians from within the Church and beyond to be involved in high quality music making as part of Christian worship. They will lead rehearsals outside of worship and will attend meetings to plan and prepare areas of involvement. They will work with a wide range of abilities and ages and will be able to enthuse those with little or no musical training to participate in music making.

Alongside regular worship, they will be interested in developing a strategic vision for music in the life of the Church and in facilitating the growth of music as part of the Church's mission to the wider community of Monkseaton and Whitley Bay.

The Director of Music and Organist will be contracted on a freelance basis, at a fixed rate of £240 per month at an hourly rate of £20 per hour, payable on submission of monthly invoices. This covers their availability for three Sunday morning services per month plus rehearsal, meetings and administration totalling an expected 12 hours per month. Additional services at Christmas and Easter will be negotiated in line with this expectation. The contract will be subject to quarterly review and renewal. Further services (funerals, weddings etc.) may be available and if so will be arranged and paid separately from this contract.

Applications should be received by 12noon on Monday 22nd August 2016 and should consist of a CV and covering letter.

For more information, or to apply, please contact: stanurcmusic@gmail.com

<http://standrewsmonseatonurc.org.uk>

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