

Wanted: Choirmaster/Organist for Christ Church, Westerly, RI.

Christ Episcopal Church, founded in 1834, is a historic church with a venerable past and a reputation for excellence within the Anglican choral tradition. Christ Church is located at the heart of downtown Westerly, across from historic Wilcox Park. The parish draws worshippers from SE CT and SW Rhode Island, as well as seasonal worshippers and those passing through. The church building is a 19th-century Neo-Gothic. It serves as a ready home for traditional liturgy and music within a forward-looking congregation of people from many perspectives. The legacy of Mr. George Kent, choirmaster and organist for seventy years, built, developed, and sustained the musical ethos of Christ Church. He was responsible for the installation of the current Fisk Organ in 1965.

The new choirmaster and organist will faithfully build on the traditions of Christ Church in directions both new and familiar, within the broad vision of the Anglican choral tradition. The parish and leadership have identified the engagement of children and families with the choral tradition of the church as a major priority. We know this is a challenge, but it is a challenge the parish is committed to supporting. Along with a vision for multi-generational participation is the development of more regular offerings of Choral Evensong, in addition to our annual special services.

Applicants should have:

- Active Christian faith aligned with or hospitable to Episcopal/Anglican theology
- A degree in music education, performance, or equivalent, as well as experience in organ playing and choral conducting in an Episcopal/Anglican setting
- Energy and leadership ability for forging new initiatives and drawing new people, of all ages, into the musical and liturgical life of the parish
- An interest and desire to cultivate connections with the local musical and arts community and to facilitate partnerships and collaborations where possible.
- Strong knowledge of Christian hymnody and the Anglican choral tradition
- A commitment to both choral excellence and robust congregational singing
- A team player, comfortable in working under the direction of and in partnership with a rector/pastor, as well as with other staff and key lay leaders
- A bonus is a choirmaster who has an interest in church bells; ours are manually played

The position is full-time with flexibility.

Compensation will be competitive based on education, ability and experience.

Inquiries, as well as cover letters with resumes, may be sent to

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Goodrich OP, Rector, at FatherGoodrich@ChristChurchWesterly.Org