

Director of Music (full-time)
Trinity Episcopal Church
Asheville, North Carolina

Salary

\$70,000 + dependent on experience, plus full benefits

Summary

- Trinity Episcopal Church, Asheville, seeks a highly skilled and experienced church musician to lead our large downtown parish's music program beginning August 1, 2024.
- We seek a leader who will pursue the highest standards within the Anglican choral tradition and organ playing as our primary organist and choir director for Sunday services.
- We also seek a collaborator to help us nurture music-making beyond the Anglican tradition.
- Our next Music Director will effectively manage the church's significant investment in music, supervise a team of staff musicians, and care for our fully restored Austin pipe organ and other instruments.
- We seek a talented colleague who will bring energy and passion to their work here and further develop our vision for music at Trinity.

Full Position Description

Trinity Episcopal Church is the largest Episcopal parish in the Diocese of Western North Carolina—a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming community of faith in the heart of downtown Asheville, with an average Sunday attendance of about 350-400 over three services. Trinity is distinguished by its long-standing commitment to excellence in music and seeks an outstanding leader and highly talented individual to serve as Music Director. Music ministries at Trinity are lively, with three choirs, including an adult choir consisting of over twenty choristers, both volunteer and paid. A 10-member adult handbell choir also provides service music several times a year. The Sunday afternoon Celtic Eucharist draws on the talents of Trinity musicians and local professional musicians, who provide music for the service each Sunday at 5:30 pm.

We seek a full-time Director, a highly skilled church musician with proven experience in bringing the best out of accomplished musicians and the congregation. We seek an individual with proven leadership experience within the best of the Anglican choral tradition and organ playing. At the same time, we seek a collaborator who will help us nurture music-making beyond that core Anglican tradition within the context of three Sunday Eucharists, two in the morning and one in the evening. We need a leader to strengthen and grow choral programs for young children and teenagers. This person should understand and respect the Rector's leadership of all liturgy and worship. Above all, we seek a leader whose love for people fuels their passion for music.

We expect candidates to be trained primarily in the Anglican tradition and familiar with resources such as the *Hymnal 1982*, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, *Wonder Love and Praise*, *Voices Found*, etc. We are also seeking a musician to help our singing congregation continue to sing with a full voice, with familiar and new music.

Applicants will either possess a background in the Episcopal Church or have comparable and proven experience as a church musician. Keyboard, choral conducting excellence, and a master's degree in a relevant area or equivalent experience are required. Successful applicants will have a track record of pastoral sensitivity and excellent communication skills and must be able to work in collaboration with clergy and senior staff. The Director will oversee other music staff and numerous volunteers and will be committed to excellence and caring for those from whom they seek growth and excellence.

Our annual financial commitment to music includes a dedicated endowment fund that provides financial support to the program. The next Director will enjoy the support of several paid singers in the adult choir and fully-equipped musical facilities. The Director will also oversee the stewardship of a three-manual 1976 Austin Pipe Organ. The organ was entirely renovated and expanded in 2018 by The Austin Organ Company of Hartford, CT. In addition, Trinity has a four-rank antiphonal Austin organ, installed in 1995 and recently revoiced (complete organ specifications [here](#)). A historic, well-maintained 1893 Steinway grand piano, a single manual harpsichord, and Malmark Bells and hand chimes.

Compensation and benefits are commensurate with standards for lay employees within the Episcopal Church. The annual salary will be approximately \$70,000, depending on experience. Trinity provides healthcare, dental, life insurance, and pension benefits as per denominational standards. Additional compensation for weddings, continuing education, and reasonable relocation expenses are included.

Application Instructions

Review of applications begins **January 24, 2024**. To receive full consideration, please submit:

- A pdf containing your Cover Letter and CV/resume to musicsearch@trinityasheville.org.
- URL links to videos of you conducting two contrasting anthems for SATB choir
- Samples of your organ playing (two pieces, suitable for opening and closing voluntaries), two hymns from The Hymnal 1982, and a short improvisation leading into the Old 100th.

The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2024**. Applicants are also welcome to contact the search committee chair with any questions at musicsearch@trinityasheville.org. A full position description and application instructions are available at <https://www.trinityasheville.org/music-director-applicants>.

Asheville is a dynamic, diverse, and growing city in Western North Carolina with a unique mix of urban amenities, natural resources, educational and arts institutions, and residential neighborhoods of all kinds. It enjoys an extensive network of hiking and biking trails, public gardens, green spaces, parks, and many musical opportunities for audiences and performers. Asheville's arts community is strong and developing in visual and performing arts, with numerous performance spaces and dozens of other arts venues. Visit Explore Asheville for more: <https://www.exploreasheville.com/>

Learn more about Trinity at trinityasheville.org