

Choir Accompanist
First Unitarian Society of Ithaca, New York

Reports to: Music Coordinator

Supervises: N/A

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

Status: Part-time (2-3 hours/week) independent contractor, 10 months per year, non-exempt, working Thursday evenings and one Sunday a month

Job Overview:

First Unitarian Society of Ithaca (FUSIT) is a mid-sized Unitarian Universalist congregation with rich and vibrant programs. The Choir Accompanist supports the vision and mission of FUSIT by providing musical accompaniment for the choir. This position requires work on most Sundays and Thursdays. The exact days and hours worked will be determined by mutual agreement of the Choir Director and Music Coordinator.

Physical Requirements:

The physical functions described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made upon request to enable individuals to perform the functions of the role.

Daily requirements include (but are not limited to):

- Ability to sit/stand – amount of time may vary
- Typical manual dexterity for working with papers, files, computers, standard technology
- Ability to play piano/organ and other instruments.

Usual work environment/equipment used: This position operates in a church work environment with an expectation to interact with the congregation and utilize standard office equipment.

Essential Functions:

- Provide piano music in a professional manner for all choir practices, rehearsals and performances
- Lead sectional rehearsals by playing parts, identifying challenging passages and problem areas, correcting mistakes and providing the right notes and rhythms.
- Accompany the choir on Sunday mornings during services once a month when the choir is performing
- Take responsibility for finding and scheduling substitute accompanists for rehearsals or performances for scheduling conflicts
- Collaborate with the Choir Director and other Music and Ministry staff
- Quickly and easily learn new musical selections each month
- Other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

Education: College diploma or equivalent. Music degree preferable, but relevant job and life experiences may be substituted.

Skills:

Advanced piano proficiency

Ability to sight read music and play from chord charts.

Ability to work and respond with a positive attitude under pressure

Collaborative and flexible

General Statement of Responsibility: The Choir Accompanist's duties will extend from September through the beginning of June of the following year. The time commitment will average two to three hours per week which will include responsibilities as outlined above.

The employment of the successful job candidate is conditional upon receipt of a satisfactory background check appropriate to the position.

EEOC & Affirmative Action Statement: Equal Employment Opportunity is a fundamental goal and policy of FUSIT. FUSIT recognizes and reaffirms all federal and state laws preventing discrimination against applicants and employees on the basis of any protected class or characteristic. It is the duty of FUSIT to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Approved by Operations Administration Team:

Approved by Personnel Committee:

Approved by Board of Trustees: