

ALTAMONT REFORMED CHURCH
Organist/Choir Director (Part-Time)

The Organist/Choir Director will be responsible for all musical aspects of worship at ARC, including playing the pipe organ or piano, directing the Chancel Choir, and assisting in worship service planning.

The church is fortunate to have a fine pipe organ that was installed in the early 1900s and was completely rebuilt in 1952. During the rebuilding process, the original pewter pipes were retained. All of the wooden pipes were replaced and more stops and an electric console were added. The pipe organ was again totally rebuilt in 2003 by William A. Brys of New Hampshire. At that time the following was added to the existing six rank organ: 8' Diapason, 8' Melodia, 4' Harmonic Flute, Mixture III, 8' Fagotto as well as a solid state action, a multiplex switching system, midi, and transposition keys.

Duties and Responsibilities

As Choir Director:

- Plan and adequately prepare choral anthems.
- Direct the Chancel Choir in one rehearsal during the week, warm-up on Sunday, and participation in worship each Sunday, from September through mid-June.
- Prepare the Chancel Choir for special services, including Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, as needed.
- Select anthems and prepare for Music Emphasis Sunday services in December (Christmas) and June (Choir Sunday).
- Assist in recruiting choir members.
- Select and purchase music and music supplies for the choir, based on the amount designated in the church budget.
- Arrange for special music during the summer months (mid-June through August).

As Organist/Pianist:

- Provide organ or piano music for all Sunday morning services and other seasonal services of the church (i.e., Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday). The organist is expected to have his/her own supply of appropriate musical arrangements for the organ.
- Accompany the Chancel Choir at rehearsals and Sunday worship.
- Advise church staff when the organ or piano requires maintenance or tuning.
- Provide music for weddings and funerals held at the church for an additional fee. Must give permission for another organist to play at these services.
- Secure substitute organist/pianist for planned absences.

Skills and Qualifications

- At least five years of experience as a church organist
- Demonstrated ability in choral conducting

- Knowledge of church music, preferably within the Reformed Church
- Familiarity with the pipe organ and its maintenance requirements
- Ability to sight-read hymns and simple anthem accompaniments

This position will be filled as a one-year, renewable contract at an annual salary of \$11,625, payable monthly. The Organist/Choir Director is expected to serve as an ex-officio member of the Worship Life Committee and to contribute to the preparation of the music ministry budget.

Please send cover letter and resume to nancymacarc@gmail.com or Altamont Reformed Church, PO Box 671, Altamont, NY 12009. No calls, please.