



Organist

First Congregational Church of Hudson (UCC) | Hudson, Ohio

First Congregational Church of Hudson (UCC) seeks an experienced collaborative Organist to join our vibrant and growing Music Ministries program. Music and our organ play a central role in our worship life, and we are committed to artistic excellence, theological depth, and meaningful congregational participation.

The Organist serves as principal organist and collaborative pianist for weekly worship, ensembles, and special services throughout the liturgical year. Additionally, the ideal candidate will be encouraged to engage the broader community with recitals or other events that feature the instrument and expand access to and appreciation for the organ and organ literature.

First Congregational Church of Hudson houses a distinguished pipe organ that serves as a cornerstone of our worship life. Installed in November 1991, the organ was designed and constructed by Karl Wilhelm, Inc. of Mt. St.-Hilaire, Quebec, Canada (Opus 124). For more information about the Wilhelm organ, including a stoplist, visit:

www.hudsonucc.org/music/instruments/

Essential Responsibilities

Worship Leadership

- Serve year-round as organist and collaborative pianist for two Sunday-morning worship services (8:30am & 10:00am)
- Serve as organist and collaborative pianist for additional special services and events, including Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week/Easter, etc.
- Prepare and perform organ literature appropriate to the liturgical calendar (including weekly preludes and postludes, as well as organ solo features as needed)
- Confidently and creatively lead congregational hymn singing
- The Organist maintains right of first refusal for weddings and memorial services (*at additional compensation*)

Ensemble Collaboration

- Accompany Wednesday-evening Chancel Choir and adult ensemble rehearsals (*late August through May*)
- Accompany ad hoc summer and seasonal rehearsals, as needed
- Rehearse with and accompany vocal and instrumental soloists/ensembles as needed for worship and other events

Additional Engagement

- Work with the Director of Music Ministries to develop programming that will feature the Wilhelm Organ and Organist throughout the year – this may include recitals, special events, online broadcasts/recordings, etc.
- Additional responsibilities in the music ministries of FCCH may be available to qualified and interested candidates. Additional information on request.

Qualifications

- Strong organ performance skills, including solo literature, service playing, and hymn leadership
- Excellent collaborative organ/piano skills
- Proficiency accompanying choirs and soloists
- Strong organizational skills and reliability
- Collegial spirit and ability to work efficiently and collaboratively with clergy and music staff
- Preferred: Degree in Organ Performance, Sacred Music, or related field

About First Congregational Church of Hudson

The First Congregational Church of Hudson, led by Rev. Dr. Peter Wiley, reflects a wide range of theological beliefs and is united by a common faith in Jesus Christ. Rich ministries are provided for all ages. Throughout the church's more than 225-year history, there has been an emphasis placed on being engaged with the needs of the current day. The congregation strives to be God's word alive in the present. For more information, visit

www.hudsonucc.org.

Built during the Civil War and completed in 1865, the church sanctuary offers a warm, resonant acoustic that supports choral and organ music with clarity and richness. Our 8:30 a.m. worship service averages 45–65 in attendance, while our 10:00 a.m. service averages approximately 250+ worshipers. In addition, hundreds of online and cable television viewers join us each week – the Organist has the ability to make use of our advanced audio and video technology for special programming. The congregation embraces a wide range of musical styles—from Renaissance polyphony and classic hymnody to contemporary choral anthems, spirituals, and other diverse expressions of sacred music—providing a rich and varied musical environment for worship leadership. Seven vocal and instrumental ensembles as well as soloists and small ensembles complement our worship on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 10am, while our 11:25 Band leads worship at our third Sunday service.

Our Statement of Welcome & Embrace

We are called to be followers of Jesus, who embraces all people, wherever they are on their journey. Sometimes we stumble, yet we are seeking to follow Jesus' path and embody Jesus' welcome, love, and acceptance for all. We believe our political, social, and theological differences can be sources of strength, as together we seek to practice civil discourse that respects the integrity of each person. No matter your age, socioeconomic status, gender, race, sexual orientation, family circumstance, or certainty of faith, you are welcome here. Because you are a valued, loved child of God.

Compensation & Application

Base compensation starts at \$25,000/year with additional compensation commensurate with experience and final negotiated responsibilities. Benefits include up to 4 weeks PTO and opportunities for professional development. Assistance with moving expenses may be offered to the successful candidate relocating from outside the region. The organ, pianos and associated spaces can be available for the successful candidate's use for private lessons. A detailed package will be shared with the selected candidate.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, résumé or CV, links to video recordings of organ performance, collaborative work, and/or service playing, and three professional references (including contact information) to **organist@hudsonucc.org**. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.