



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

First Congregational Church of Hudson (UCC) seeks an experienced and 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. Qualified candidates may also express interest in an expanded leadership role as Organist & Associate Director of Music Ministries (up to 30 hours per week).

Essential Responsibilities (Organist)

Worship Leadership

- Serve year-round as organist and collaborative pianist for two Sunday morning worship services (8:30am & 10:00am)
- Prepare and perform organ literature appropriate to the liturgical calendar
- Confidently and creatively lead congregational hymn singing
- Collaborate with clergy and music staff in worship planning
- Maintain/schedule routine maintenance of the organ

Ensemble Collaboration

- Accompany Wednesday-evening Chancel Choir rehearsals (7:00–8:30pm, late August–May)
- Accompany Women’s and Men’s Ensembles (approx. six three-week rotations during the program year)
- Accompany Memorial Choir and Sanctuary Bells, as needed
- Accompany summer “pop-up” rehearsals (various 2- to 3-week rotations during summer months)
- Rehearse and accompany vocal and instrumental soloists/ensembles as needed for worship and other events

Special Services & Events

- Candlelight Choir rehearsals (two Sunday midday rehearsals in December)
- Christmas Eve (currently 3pm, 5pm, 7pm & 11pm)
- Ash Wednesday
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Easter Sunrise Service

- Additional liturgical and congregational events as scheduled
- Right of first refusal for weddings and memorial services (*additional compensation*)

Qualifications

- Strong organ performance skills, including service playing and hymn leadership
- Excellent collaborative piano skills
- Experience accompanying choirs and soloists
- Familiarity with mainline Protestant liturgical traditions
- 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

Expanded Role Option: Organist & Associate Director of Music Ministries (up to 30 hours per week)

In addition to the responsibilities above, duties can include but not be limited to one or more of the following, depending upon the successful candidate's qualifications, interest and availability:

- Directing one or more church ensembles
- Assisting with youth music (Wednesdays, 4:30–5:30pm during the school year)
- Assisting with children's music (Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30pm during the school year + dress rehearsals)
- Assisting with the music portions of Vacation Bible School (four evenings in June)
- Coordinating soloists and ensembles for the 8:30am Sunday-morning service
- Coordinating recitals, guest artists and other special music & arts events
- Coordinating our Choral Scholars program
- Substituting, as needed, to lead rehearsals and worship services in the absence of other music staff
- Assist with or lead music for various occasional off-site (e.g. retirement communities) worship services
- Assist with departmental administrative tasks (e.g. license management/reporting, data entry, etc.)

Our Instrument & Worship Space

First Congregational Church of Hudson houses a distinguished pipe organ that serves as the 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/

Built during the Civil War and completed in 1865, the 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+ worshippers. In addition, hundreds of online and cable television viewers join us each week. 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.

About First Congregational Church of Hudson

The First Congregational Church of Hudson congregation, 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 200-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.

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

Compensation is competitive (starting at ~\$20,000) with additional compensation commensurate with experience and final negotiated responsibilities. A detailed package will be shared with selected candidates.

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**](mailto:organist@hudsonucc.org). Review of applications will begin on **Friday, April 10**, and will continue until the position is filled.