



Title:	Interim Adult Choral Conductor
Reports to:	Artistic Director
Collaborates with:	Board of Arts & Music (BAM), Countryside staff
Employment Status:	Part-time (estimated at 12 hours per week)
Interim Period:	18 months (January 2019 - June 2020)

Interim Position:

Countryside Community Church seeks part-time Interim Adult Choral Conductor. Duration of the interim part-time position is 18 months, with the option to move to a permanent part-time position.

Position Summary:

The Interim Adult Choral Conductor will provide leadership and direction for two volunteer adult choirs. Under the direction of the Artistic Director, this position will collaborate with the Clergy, Staff, and Board of Art and Music (BAM) to grow and enhance the vibrant and thriving music ministry at Countryside Community Church

Responsibilities:

- In collaboration with the Artistic Director:
 - Develop a plan to recruit new members, and cultivate a welcoming and engaging rehearsal environment that attracts and retains members.
 - Review and select appropriate music for purchase.
 - Assist in arranging substitutes as needed.
 - Plan and schedule special music programs, such as concerts, recitals, outreach, etc.
 - Develop outreach and non-traditional musical offerings.
- Prepare and conduct two unique adult choirs:
 - Prepare and study selected music to convey historical, theological, and artistic implications appropriate to each choir.
 - Conduct regular, weekly rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, and occasionally, extra rehearsals as needed and assigned.
 - Rehearse hymns and other service content as required
 - Engage choir members to improve and refine vocal technique, diction, musicianship, and interpretation.
- Effectively communicate with:
 - The Artistic Director, Clergy, and other worship planning stakeholders to determine appropriate art and music programming choices.

- Choir members, Artistic Director, BAM, and staff to build community and successful collaborations for the growth of arts and music at Countryside.
- Individual choir members before or after rehearsals, via phone and email correspondence, and/or occasional appointments (particularly for solo or small ensemble opportunities) as needed.

Competencies and Characteristics

- Personal Character:
 - The Interim Adult Choral Conductor must be in sympathy with the basic aims and outlook of a progressive congregation of the United Church of Christ.
 - High level of personal and professional integrity.
 - Enthusiastic, engaging personality.
 - Relate well to a wide range of personality types.
 - Self-starter capable of motivating others and working with both close and distant supervision.
 - Open to new ideas and approaches.
 - Sensitive to interpersonal dynamics.
 - A team builder/player with ability to collaborate with others.
 - Highly organized.
- Communication Skills:
 - Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including one-on-one, small and large group situations.
 - Ability to listen to and communicate with people of all ages and musical backgrounds.

Qualifications

- A minimum of three and preferably five years of experience leading adult choirs.
- Strong knowledge of vocal technique and choral repertoire.
- Sufficient keyboard skills to direct and accompany a choir rehearsal simultaneously, if necessary.
- Demonstrated ability to work with volunteers and committees.

Education Requirements

- B. Mus. or B.A. in music is required with a concentration in choral conducting or related field from an accredited university or college required. Experience with a proven track record of excellence may also be considered
- Master's Degree in Music with a concentration in choral conducting or related field preferred.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

- Must have the ability to sit and stand for extended periods of time
- Exhibit manual dexterity to dial a telephone, play piano or other keyboard instruments, and enter data into a computer terminal
- Must have the ability to see and read a computer screen and printed material, such as music scores with or without vision aids;
- Must have the ability to hear and understand speech at normal levels, outdoors and on the telephone; speak in audible tones so that others may understand clearly in rehearsal and performance situations, outdoors and on the telephone
- Must have the physical agility to lift up to 25 pounds; and to bend, stoop, climb stairs, and reach overhead.

Compensation

Based on experience and expertise; and commensurate with churches of similar size and positions with similar responsibilities.

Applications

Applications should consist of the following:

1. Letter of application
2. Resume or Curriculum Vita
3. List of three references with current phone numbers
4. Optional and appreciated - conducting video(s) and three letters of recommendation

Send all materials to:

Adult Choral Conductor Search Committee
Countryside Community Church
8787 Pacific Street
Omaha NE, 68114
alexr@countrysideucc.org

Screening of candidates will begin immediately and the search will remain open until the position is filled.

About Countryside Community Church

Countryside is affiliated with the United Church of Christ. We were established in 1949 as part of the Congregational Church, one of the oldest denominations in America, which still remains strong in the New England states. In 1957, our branch of the Congregational Church joined with the Reformed Church in the United States, independent congregations of the Christian Connection, and the Evangelical Synod of North America to form what is now commonly known as the United Church of Christ, or the UCC.

We are currently located at 8787 Pacific St in Omaha, Nebraska. In the spring of 2019, we will relocate our congregation to the Tri-Faith Commons at 132nd and Pacific as the Christian partner of the Tri-Faith Initiative.

What we believe: We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example. We care for one another, support one another, and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace and justice in our conflicted world.

More on Countryside's Adult Choirs and Musical Resources

Countryside's music program is rooted in excellence in amateur music, led by two adult ensembles and a youth ensemble. These choirs are open and non-auditioned.

The Chancel Choir serves as the flagship ensemble at the 9:00 am classical service. Repertoire is steeped in the classical tradition, but draws from a wide range of styles and composers within the idiom. The Chancel Choir collaborates with Spirit of Grace on festival Sundays and major works.

Spirit of Grace is a dynamic ensemble that explores a broad spectrum of repertoire from traditional anthems to contemporary gospel jazz charts. Alternating between the classical and jazz services, Spirit of Grace typically sings twice a month, and joins the Chancel Choir for festival services and major works.

In January 2020, a new three manual pedal pipe organ designed and built by John-Paul Buzard will be installed in our building at the Tri-Faith Commons. The instrument will have 25 independent speaking stops, and 31 ranks of pipes, with three Walker digital voices, several stops and a Choir Division prepared for future addition. This instrument will be one of the finest in the region. Additionally, we are seeking to purchase a new concert grand piano for the sanctuary in 2019. Currently, there are five grand pianos including a 7' Baldwin SF Grand, an artist-level 7' Schimmel Grand, a 5'10" Baldwin R Grand, and a

5'3" Yamaha G1R Grand. We also have three upright pianos, four octaves of Schulmerich handbells, four octaves of handchimes, two electronic keyboards, and a harpsichord

Equal Employment Opportunity

It is the policy of Countryside Community Church to grant equal employment opportunity to all qualified persons without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, disability, or handicap - if such handicap or disability may be accommodated without undue hardship. The recruitment and selection process will be based on job-related, objective qualifications, in accordance with the job requirements of the position being filled. All employees must be able to perform the essential functions of their jobs as set forth in the employee's individual position description. Reasonable accommodations will be made, in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, to assist employees with disabilities in performing the essential job functions.

Countryside Community Church is organized for religious purposes and is substantially supported by a religious body, the United Church of Christ. As a religious organization, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 exempts churches from the prohibition on religious discrimination; consequently, our hiring practices may require faith as a job-related, objective job qualification for some specific positions.