

Job Posting: Choir Conductor

First Mennonite Church of Winnipeg, 922 Notre Dame

Term: One Year (September 2026 – June 2027)

About First Mennonite Church

First Mennonite Church is a welcoming faith community with a rich tradition of congregational singing and choral music, now entering its 100th year. Music plays a central role in our worship life, and we are seeking a skilled and dedicated Choir Conductor to lead our adult choir through an exciting year of song and service.

Position Overview

The Choir Conductor is responsible for the artistic direction, preparation, and leadership of the First Mennonite Church Choir. This is a one-year contract position running from September 2026 through June 2027, with the choir performing two Sundays per month throughout the term. Highlights of the year will be a special candlelight service on Christmas Eve and a special service on Easter Sunday.

Schedule and Commitments

Rehearsals: Thursday evenings, two weeks per month (September 2026 – June 2027)

Sunday Services: Pre-service rehearsal (9 am) and service (10 am) on two Sundays per month

Christmas Eve Service: Planning and preparation for a special Christmas Eve service (Dec 24)

Easter Service: Planning and preparation for a special Easter Sunday service (Mar 28)

Additional planning meetings: The Choir Conductor will join monthly Worship Committee meetings for planning

Key Responsibilities

- Plan and select repertoire appropriate for our Mennonite worship context, drawing hymns from the Voices Together hymnal, with additional choral selections from the music library
- Lead Thursday evening rehearsals in an organized, encouraging, and efficient manner
- Conduct the choir during Sunday morning worship services, including pre-service rehearsals
- Coordinate with the church's ministerial team, accompanist, and organist to ensure musical selections support the themes of each service
- Collaborate in planning to ensure the choral aspects of the candlelight Christmas Eve service and Easter Sunday service reflect the traditions of the church
- Maintain a positive, inclusive, encouraging, and spiritually grounded rehearsal environment
- Communicate rehearsal schedules, music selections, and other relevant information to choir members in a timely manner. This is typically by email, no more than once per week.

Qualifications:

- Demonstrated experience conducting choral ensembles (church, community, or academic settings)
- Strong choral technique and rehearsal skills, including the ability to work effectively with volunteer singers of varying abilities
- Ability to read and conduct from choral scores
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Respect for and sensitivity to Christian worship traditions

Assets:

- Familiarity with Mennonite church musical traditions and theology
- Experience with the Voices Together hymnal (Herald Press, 2020)
- Experience planning and leading worship services
- Experience working closely with accompanists

Compensation:

Details will be provided to shortlisted candidates.

How to Apply:

Please submit the following to office@firstmennonitechurch.ca

- A cover letter describing your experience and interest in this position
- A current résumé or curriculum vitae
- Two references familiar with your choral conducting work (references will not be contacted without prior notice)

We thank all applicants for their interest. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

First Mennonite Church is an LGBTQ+ affirming congregation with a love for music and a growing sense of our calling in matters of peace and justice.

FMC is committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment.

We encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds.

Our vision, as a people confessing Jesus Christ, is to be instruments of God's grace on earth. Our mission is to nurture believers towards discipleship, minister to human beings with love and compassion, express in fellowship the meaning of the gospel and invite others to become followers of Christ.