

**Information for Applicants for the Position of Director of Music  
Wesley Uniting Church, Forrest ACT  
2016**

Dr Calvin Bowman will resign his position as Director of Music at Wesley Uniting Church on March 6th, 2016, to take up other career opportunities back in Victoria.

The Church Council now seeks suitable applicants for the position.

**Canberra Central Parish** is the largest Uniting Church community in the Canberra region, embracing hundreds of members from the whole city and beyond. We welcome visitors from across Australia and from around the globe nearly every week. Together, we seek to worship God in spirit and in truth, sharing the hope we have found in Jesus Christ, to foster programs that enhance community and family life, and be a focus for excellence in sacred music, developing music ministry in worship and in the community.

We are an open and progressive faith community, centred in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and grateful for the heritage of literary, historical and scientific enquiry that has marked recent centuries.

There are two ministers in placement in the Parish – the Rev'ds David Thiem (November, 2009) and Dr Ockert Meyer (May, 2014).

There are two **services** at Wesley on Sunday mornings -

**Contemporary Family Worship** at 9.00am

The first service has an informal, family oriented feel. Songs and choruses are led by the piano, flute, violins, drums and singers. Members of the congregation are always involved in assisting to lead worship. There is a special children's program each week, and at least once a term the whole service is planned around children's involvement.

**Traditional Family Worship** at 10.30am

The second service draws on the rich heritage and resources of the Church in worship. The Choir and the organ lead the singing of hymns and anthems. The prayers and preaching are focused on the international lectionary readings for the week, and we include a segment directed to the children in worship before they leave for Sunday Club or Crèche. The Director of Music is involved in this service.

A special feature is the contribution of the **Wesley Music Scholars**. This scheme commenced in 1994. There are usually several choral scholars and a variety of instrumentalists (strings, woodwind, organ and brass). The Parish and the Wesley Music Centre jointly fund the Scholarship Program; for convenience, the Program is administered by the Director of the Wesley Music Centre, Liz McKenzie.

**The Wesley Organ.** Our 3 manual plus pedal pipe organ is described [here](#). The pipe organ in Wesley Uniting Church is the largest and most versatile liturgical and recital instrument in the Australian Capital Territory.

### **Music Staff**

In addition to the Director of Music, there is an Assistant Organist, Dr David Black, BMus(Melb), PhD (Harvard), ARCO, and a Deputy Director of Music, Graeme Brown, MLitt (UNE), Assoc Dip Church Mus (NSW Conservatorium).

### **Choir**

There has been a church choir at Wesley since its foundation as a Methodist church in Canberra in 1925.

The present church building dates from 1955 and was known as the National Memorial Methodist Church prior to Church Union in 1977.

A vital music ministry has always been a feature of this Parish. Currently there are 17 active members in the choir and we are recruiting new members.

The choir rehearses in the church on Wednesday evenings and prior to the morning service. It sings from the first Sunday in February until Christmas Eve, with a three/ four week break from the last Sunday of June.

The **Wesley Music Centre** is part of the Wesley Uniting Church complex and is governed by a Board appointed by the Church Council. It is a focus for the Parish's outreach to the community through music. It was opened in 2002 and includes a purpose-built Music Room with excellent acoustics seating up to 140 people, along with associated rooms and facilities.

### **Job Description**

[Please see separate document](#)

### **Applications**

A contract for the position will be drawn up between the Church Council and the Director designate. It will include a probationary period.

The Church Council has appointed a Search Committee and applications should be directed to -

Graeme Brown  
Secretary  
Church Council

[gbrown@grapevine.com.au](mailto:gbrown@grapevine.com.au)

Enquiries: 0408 246 474