



November 14, 2018

## New Director of Music for Montreat Presbyterian Church: Vivian Hare

**The Session of Montreat Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce **Vivian M. Hare** as our new Director of Music beginning January 1, 2019!**

*From the Personnel Committee:*

Vivian has had 17 years of experience as a church musician and music program director, leading choirs and performing sacred music on organ as well as piano. During much of that time, she worked closely and in partnership with our pastor. Vivian is a graduate of Presbyterian College with degrees in Church Organ Performance (*magna cum laude*) and Religious Education (*magna cum laude*), and has a master's degree from PSCE (now Union Theological Seminary) in Christian Education. She was organist and choir director of Carolina Beach Presbyterian Church 2002-2015. Since 2016, she has held a similar position at Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church, with a year in between serving as pianist/choir director of New Hope Presbyterian Church in Asheville.



Also in her background are more than 15 years as a Director of Christian Education at various churches, international service as a Volunteer in Mission, experience as a teacher's assistant in public schools, and more than five years serving at the national level of the PC(USA) in Louisville, culminating in the position of Director of the Mission Volunteer (USA) Program. We believe that she and Keith will make an outstanding team for our church as they did at their previous church together.

The Search Committee was made up of the Personnel Committee plus one

other church member. The committee received applications for one month, advertising with the American Guild of Organists, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and on the church website. After prayerfully reviewing all the applications received, the committee identified our top choices, and after our interview with Vivian, we knew she was the person we would recommend to the session as Director of Music for Montreat Presbyterian Church. A perfect fit for this church.

*From Pastor Keith Grogg...*

"Of course I am absolutely delighted at the committee's selection of Vivian as our Director of Music. Having worked closely with Margaret for nearly five years and seen the diligence she has brought to everything from the selection of appropriate worship music to high personal expectations of her own performance to seamlessly weaving in the musical gifts of others, I know that Vivian brings the same principles and the same dedication and faithfulness. We love working together and are excited about being able to do so in a part of the world that we both cherish and where we both feel so at home, where we are thankful to God every day for the privilege of being here."

*From Vivian Hare...*

"About 10 years years ago I visited Montreat Presbyterian Church on a Sunday morning and after worship made a special point to compliment the musician for the beauty of her music. That musician was Margaret Neale, and now having been a member of this community for the last four years I am even more appreciative of the gifts she has brought to this church, and proud to follow in her footsteps. I am excited and honored to be the Director of Music at Montreat Presbyterian Church, and looking forward to continuing the tradition of sharing music that brings inspiration and beauty to our worship experience and bringing honor and glory to God in our music together."

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