

Hello, again!

It's me, Ms. Marcie. I've introduced myself a bit as the DLF in the religious education program overview. I am incredibly lucky to add a few more hours of "work" to my part time schedule making beautiful music with a wonderful group of people each week.

Qualification Summary

- 3 years of experience as main director of children's musical program for the Prairie View Ward in the LDS church.
- 16 years of various professional and amateur level Choir participation
- 12 Years piano training with strong knowledge of music theory and techniques
- Extensive background in musical theatre.
- Skilled at scheduling events, programs, and activities.
- Able to develop constructive and cooperative working relationships with others, and maintain them over time.

I have been the director of music for a little over a year now. Balancing the responsibilities of both director positions has taken some practice, but with the support of the Faith Development volunteers, choir members and the congregation, I feel we have perfected the dance.

Our choir has come to embrace the motto, "We are small, but we are mighty." When I first began, we scarcely had 3-4 people showing up regularly to rehearsal. We now have a solid group of 10 choir members. Many of our choir members are retired and travel often, but we have anywhere from 6-10 songbirds available for performances.

Our choir members range from beginner to intermediate by way of choral experience but I am often overcome with emotion at the music this little group produces. I truly believe this is because each one of them have an intense pride in their contribution to worship. They put their heart and soul into every anthem, sung response and hymn.

UCC has unique musical environment. Many of our congregants have little to no musical background and even hymns can be a challenge. But after many weeks of positive enforcement that "we are all learning together" and "it is not a performance; we are merely lifting our voices in joyful noise" I have been thrilled to see the confidence of our congregation grow. They are eager to learn and willing to try new things.

In addition to choir performances, we have a few members in the congregation that are gifted instrumentally. We like to incorporate them as often into worship with beautiful piano, guitar, violin and harmonica pieces. One of the things that brings me the most joy is incorporating our youth that are perfecting their vocal and instrumental skills into worship. I often bring in talented members from our local community as well.

Music and singing are integral parts of UUCC's worship services. Music can shift the energy of the worship and move it into our bodies. I look forward to working together to deepen the congregation's connection to Spirit and each other through song.

Love and harmony,

Ms. Marcie Kindred Smith
Director of Music
Unitarian Universalist Church of Cheyenne