

How to Find a Musician

Where can I find a volunteer music leader for my church?

One of the most difficult questions I get asked on a regular basis is “Where can I find a volunteer music leader for my church?” It’s a difficult question because it has a difficult answer. The truth is - you may have to continue looking for some time before you find the right person. You may have to train someone already in your church to be the leader you need. Or, you may have to look outside your community and call someone to come and help you, and that may be costly.

The following ideas are meant to encourage you. God wants to provide for your needs in music ministry. He does have a plan to lead you to the right person. With open hearts, let’s begin to ask, seek, and knock to find His will for your church worship ministry.

1. Ask

The first place to begin looking is on your knees asking God to lead you to the right person. Don’t give up asking, even when the responses are slow and few. God knows your needs and wants to provide for them. Trust God to lead you to the right person in His perfect timing.

Ask your church members about their talents and skills. See if God may be raising up a worship leader from within your own church. Begin opening the doors to music ministry now for your youth and children by providing musical experiences for them at church. Someday God may call them to musical ministry or service in your church or in some other church. You can have a great effect on God’s call in their life.

Ask your neighboring pastors about the potential leaders in their church. It may be, at the large churches around you that someone is waiting for opportunity to serve. Wanting to give it a try but not having the opportunity because other leaders are in place. Ask that pastor to help God’s kingdom grow by keeping an eye open for someone who might serve in your situation. Be willing to train them and allow them to fail as they learn. You have a great opportunity to help mold them into a qualified leader.

Ask your association and state leaders for references and resumes that may have come into their office.

They visit many churches and talk with many pastors along the way. It could be that God will use them to put you in touch with the right individual.

2. Seek

Look in churches, schools and colleges, music stores and piano teacher’s studios. Look in bands, guitar lessons, and coffee shops. Look everywhere musicians gather. Put up notices and talk with people. It may not be enough to just make a phone call and depend upon someone else to get the word out about your ministry opportunity. Go there yourself and meet the people who can help you. Set up appointments and interviews and don’t be shy about trial periods where either of you can call it off if you feel it’s not right. After finding a potential leader, see if they will come as a guest leader for one or several weeks. Give it some time to see if it will work out.

3. Knock

Knock on the hearts of those you find. See if they will pray and ask God about leading music at your church. If they tell you they are not talented enough, or don’t have the right skills, it could be that they will develop the needed skills over time if they are willing. Plan to help cover any expenses they may have to come and lead at your church.

Knock, and help God open the door to His call in their life. Many people respond to God’s call after hearing a pastor ask “Is God speaking to you about this?”

If you will ask, seek, and knock, you can begin the process of finding the musician you need. I want you to know that our office is here to help you. We will join you in prayer for that leader God will send. We will help provide and point the way to the training and resources they will need. We will bring friendship and encouragement to help them enter a life of ministry as God calls them. We want to help you as we can. God bless you in your search.

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