

## General Congregational Profile

Abington Presbyterian Church  
Abington, PA  
Organ Position 2018

Abington Presbyterian Church is blessed with a comprehensive, nationally renowned worship and concert music program which includes a graded choir program, comprehensive bell program, symphony orchestra, and a substantial concert series, *Music at Abington*. The congregation is well-known for its long-standing commitment to excellence in liturgy and music. In May 2017, Kirby Lawrence Hill was installed as Head of Staff and Senior Pastor.

This spring the congregation will undergo a significant capital campaign to renovate and update the physical structures of its beautiful campus including increased accessibility to the building.

The organist works closely with the Director of Music Ministries, to whom he/she is responsible and with whom he/she plays an integral role in the planning of the entire music program. The highest priority of the music department is to provide quality musical leadership in worship marked by music of integrity, support of the scriptures, and the integration with the focus of each service. The music, whether for organ, choir or congregation, serves to enhance the total experience of worship.

The sanctuary's pipe organ was originally installed by M.P. Moeller in 1969 with 58 ranks. It was given a partial upgrade in 1996, converting to a digital relay and combination action with some tonal augmentations. In 2014, Robert Gladden & Assoc. gave the organ a total overhaul including a new Walker digital relay and combination action, new four-manual console and expansion of all divisions of the organ to 85 pipe ranks and 20 digital ranks. Congregational hymns, choral anthems, and organ repertoire represent a rich variety of traditional masterworks and new musical expressions of worship, faith, beauty, and humanity. *Music at Abington* celebrating its 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season, annually present performances by our choirs and the Abington Symphony Orchestra, and guest performances by a wide variety of musicians including professional chamber groups, handbell and gospel choirs, children's programs, solo recitals, and jazz services. Major works in recent years have included the Mozart, Duruflé, Brahms, and Fauré Requiems, Hadyn's *Creation*, Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*, Brahms' *Nänie*, and newly commissioned works by Timothy Shaw and Peter Hilliard. There is a strong history of solo organ recitals by both the resident organist and guest artists along with organ concertos and symphonic works with the orchestra.