

**JIM CULVER**  
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*Creative thinking, energetic church musician with 31 years of professional experience.*

**EXPERIENCE:**

**PUBLISHED COMPOSER** (1980 – present)

- Compose choral, vocal, hand bell, piano, organ and instrumental works
- Create original music and one act musicals for schools and churches
- Sold over 130,000 copies through 4 publishers
- Sold over 5 million recordings through Silver Burdett Company

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: MUSIC DIRECTOR and ORGANIST** (2008-present)  
Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg

- Created & Conducted Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Hand Bell Choir
- Composed and authored 4 musical comedies, 15 choral anthems
- Played organ, piano, MIDI keyboard

**BUSINESS FRANCHISE OWNER** (2000-2008)

Cold Stone Creamery (4 locations in Grand Rapids, MI)

- Owned and Operated 4 franchise businesses
- Managed 120 high school and college aged employees
- Elected to National Advisory Board; represented 240 franchises in 11 states
- Awarded Best Business Owner internationally for that brand

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: MUSIC DIRECTOR and ORGANIST** (1990-2000)

Fountain Street Church (2,200 member church, Grand Rapids, Michigan)

- Directed 6 choirs of all ages
- Administered music programs with staff of 5 professional music faculty
- Created 3 music performing groups (choral and handbell)
- Involved adults, youth and guests in the Sunday services as guest musicians
- Performed at the National Cathedral, Washington D.C.
- Competed with our youth choir in Toronto, Williamsburg, Washington D.C.
- Awarded 22 first place trophies in choral festivals for youth choirs
- Performed with Opera Grand Rapids, G.R. Symphony, G.R. Ballet
- Played 5 manual, 120 rank pipe organ and piano
- Conducted concerts for chorus and orchestra
- Ordained as Minister of Music

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: CHORAL CONDUCTOR and ORGANIST** (1984-1990)

United Methodist Church (Summit, New Jersey)

- Directed 4 choirs with 80 volunteers of all ages
- Created 2 music performing groups (choral and handbell)
- Played 4 manual, 94 rank pipe organ and piano

## **CHAIR, MUSIC DEPARTMENT (1981-1990)**

Kent Place School (Private School, Summit, New Jersey)

- Directed 6 choral and instrumental performing groups for grades 4-12
- Administered music programs with staff of 5 professional music faculty
- Created 3 music performing groups (choral, handbell and orchestral)
- Taught Middle and Upper School music classes (grades 5-12)
- Taught A.P. Music History, A.P. Music Theory, General Music
- Taught organ, piano, composition
- Coordinated combined concerts with other private schools
- Awarded 20 first place trophies at choral festivals for youth choirs
- Performed on ABC Television's "Good Morning America" with school choir
- Served as faculty representative on the Board of Trustees (1986-1990)

## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: CHORAL CONDUCTOR and ORGANIST (1981-1984)**

Rockaway Presbyterian Church (Rockaway, New Jersey)

- Directed 2 choirs with 40 volunteers of all ages
- Conducted concerts for chorus and orchestra
- Raised funds for new facilities (music office, music library, rehearsal room)

## **EDUCATION:**

Doctor of Musical Arts, 1983

- Major in Music (Organ, Choral Conducting, Composition)
- University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Master of Arts, 1979

- Major in Music (Organ, Choral Conducting, Composition)
- University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Bachelor of Music Education, 1977

- Major in Music Education
- Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois
- Summa cum laude

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

- American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)
- American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
- American Guild of Organists (AGO)

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/PERSONAL**

- Raised funds for DeVos Children's Hospital, Gilda's Club, Make-A-Wish, American Cancer Society, United Way
- Rotary International
- Coached baseball and soccer at Elementary School level
- Served as Vice President of PTSA (Safety Harbor)
- Live in Safety Harbor with my wife, Rebecca and 12 year old daughter, Liz
- Enjoy golf, painting and yoga