



Headlining Music at SU

current as of 5/15

We love to host new artists, and we often work with folks who've never played churches before. However, because this gig is unlike regular club, festival or concert gigs, here's a basic description of what a Sunday feature artist gig entails.

PAY: Fee for featured guest artists is a modest \$210, paid to the artist at the gig. We adhere to labor standards put forth by [Fair Trade Music Seattle](#).

PRODUCT SALES: We provide a lobby table for our guests to sell their own CDs and collect customer emails after the service. During the service, we gladly plug our guests' product and their upcoming shows, and we publish their web contact info in our weekly PR materials that go to about 800 people.

We see an average of about 200 people per Sunday (a bit lower in summer), with buying averages of ~7.5% across all artists. That means artists sell an average of ~18 CDs, and it's usually more for first-timers. We do not take any percentage of guests' sales, though it's a church so we do appreciate a **tithe** when guests feel so moved.

LODGINGS FOR TOURING ARTISTS: With notice, we can help arrange a comfortable one or two-night homestay with a congregant, and basic transport to/from gig/lodgings/airport. Summer months are high vacation time, so out-of-town artists are advised to arrange lodgings early, whether with one of our hosts or on their own at a local hotel.



SERVICE: Guests perform 2 or 3 feature songs during the service. We enjoy originals and covers, from sacred or secular/positive sources, mostly higher energy genres. Artists will need to pitch 6-9 songs, with mp3's and preferably charts ready in pdf. We design a "coherent service", which means songs must support the minister's message, rather than simply being the most popular tunes from the guest's CD.

Artists are gently asked to remain in the sanctuary and attend the entire service, rather than leaving or facebooking during the minister's talk.

ENVIRONMENT: I am a high-involvement director; I choose the songs, I may edit charts, arrange backing vocals, etc. We're not big on the sin/shame/blood doctrines, so I may even tweak lyrics at times. I have a large database of potential songs for artists in need of appropriate repertoire ideas, which is also helpful to first-timers, as it focuses on songs they may already know from other contexts, not just "church music".

We have an excellent houseband and support singers, and an "integrated music team model" which means the guest plays or sings in on all the easy singalongs, as well as his/her own feature tunes, too. The music team does their homework well. I send everyone the mp3's and charts mid-week, then we run everything promptly at 8 a.m. Sunday morning, with service at 10, done by 11:15.

For examples of what services are like with us, we have plenty of videos that our congregants have posted to [youtube](#).

RECORDING: Note that these videos are from congregants, and may or may not be taken on the day the guest is there, so artists who are highly restrictive about their online presence need to take note. All services are recorded for podcasts for our shut-in community. We make our very best efforts not to allow these recordings to negatively impact guest product sales.

We realize that touring and gigging costs always increase, while product sales may not, so we try to treat our guest like the royalty we feel they are. If you'd like to gig with us, [email me](#) with links and samples.

Best regards -

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