

John B. Hansen-Tarbox

John is the newly commissioned Minister of Music at Kensington Community Church, UCC in San Diego, CA. He came to the UCC as a paid section leader for the Chancel Choir and found his spiritual and musical home in Kensington. His small, but mighty chancel choir worships in many musical styles and sings with gusto and flair anything that is placed before them.

Growing up with the King James Version of the Bible, John recently converted to using inclusive language; finding it less limiting to his personal concept of God. He uses his talents to creatively find solutions to inclusive language in all of the music that is used in worship. Rehearsals are often taken up with discussions about poetic vs. inclusive when changing lyrics to songs and hymns.

John holds an AAS in Music Performance from Ricks College, Rexburg, Idaho and a BA in Music/Liberal Studies from California State University, San Bernardino. His studies encompassed not only vocal performance but also theory & composition, ethnomusicology, drama & dance, and the history of English Light Opera.

For several years, John was a character actor and chorister for Lyric Opera San Diego as well as functioning as the assistant to the Costumer. He sings with the San Diego Master Chorale, and is a founding member of the Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego.

He and his husband, Dean live in the Talmage /Kensington area of San Diego. John has two adult daughters, both studying music as well as art in college. Meredith wants to cross the race and gender barriers to become a Japanese Anime artist and Brittany is planning on becoming a CPA and moving to Oregon with her new husband, Michael.