

# CLAY WHITTINGTON

*Worship Artist*

## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

**MASTER OF MUSIC | Choral Conducting**  
**University of Arizona • Tucson, AZ**

**BACHELOR OF MUSIC *magna cum laude* | Sacred Music**  
**East Carolina University • Greenville, NC**

## PUBLICATIONS & LECTURES

*Interest Session Presenter* | 2026  
**Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM)**  
**Worship & Music Conference • Montreat, NC**  
*Come Sunday: Duke Ellington in Worship*

*Author* | Spring 2026  
**Tactus, Western Region ACDA**

*When Dissonance Finds Resolution: Healing and Strengthening*  
*Clergy–Musician Partnerships in the Church*

*Lecturer* | 2025  
**Summer Choral Literature Intensive**  
**University of Arizona • Tucson, AZ**  
*The Choral Music of Kurt Weill*

*Author* | 2024  
**Choral Journal, Vol. 64, No. 8 (May 2024), p. 89**  
Choral Review: Kurt Weill's *Kiddush*

## AFFILIATIONS

**Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society**

**American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)**  
*Vice President, UA Graduate Chapter* | 2024–2025

**Presbyterian Association of Musicians**

**American Guild of Organists**

## PROFILE

Innovative worship leader and musician with over two decades of experience designing contemporary services that are theologically grounded, musically diverse, and culturally responsive. Skilled in leading from piano, organ, guitar, and voice while arranging for unconventional ensembles and integrating genres such as jazz, gospel, folk, and rock. Dedicated to collaboration, mentoring, and amplifying underrepresented voices in worship.

## ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP & CONDUCTING

*Artistic Director & Conductor* | 2024–Present  
**Tucson Summer Chorus • Tucson, AZ**

- Lead an 80+ voice community ensemble in performances that have drawn strong community attendance and support.
- Programmed diverse repertoire—based on concert themes—balancing accessibility with high artistry.
- Built partnerships with local arts organizations and cultivated donor support for sustained growth.

*Director of Music Ministries* | 2022–Present  
**Immanuel Presbyterian Church • Tucson, AZ**

- Direct a multi-ensemble program (sanctuary choir, handbell choir, contemporary band) serving 300+ weekly.
- Introduced seasonal festivals, hymn celebrations, and cantatas, broadening audience engagement.
- Recruit, train, and mentor singers and instrumentalists, ensuring both artistic excellence and sustainability.

*Assistant Conductor* | 2023, 2024  
**University Singers & Treble Glee**  
**University of Arizona • Tucson, AZ**

- Assisted in preparing major choral works and training student ensembles in advanced choral artistry.
- Conducted performances broadcast on Classical 90.5 AZPM, extending reach to statewide audiences.

### Previous Artistic Roles

- *Director of Music Ministries* | 2020–2022  
**First United Methodist Church • Fuquay-Varina, NC**
- *Music Director* | 2019–2021  
**Spilman Memorial Baptist Church • Kinston, NC**

*A complete résumé may be found on my website.*