From the President's Desk

Dear MMM Friends,

Those who graciously serve as members and advisors on the MMM Board participate in a number of activities throughout the year. Join me as we journey through a typical calendar year with Metropolitan Music Ministries.

In early January, the Board comes together to celebrate Epiphany with a pot luck dinner that provides the current Board members the opportunity to meet the new members and their spouses. The evening ends with the singing of lovely traditional Christmas carols as we symbolically greet the wise men and mentally and spiritually begin to await the Lenten Season and the coming of Easter.

In late January, the Board officially meets for the first official meeting of the year. New members are formally introduced and initiated into the work of the MMM ministry. Pictures of the new members are taken for the upcoming edition of the MMM newsletter, Grace Notes. This meeting is full of business including plans for the MMM Scholarship auditions.

The Board continues to meet alternate months throughout the year. Excitement builds as the date for the MMM Scholarship auditions is set. At the March meeting, plans are finalized for the auditions, usually held in early April. Board members volunteer to take pictures of the applicants, greet them at the door, and escort them to the practice areas and audition venues. Scholarships are awarded in vocal, piano, and organ categories, so the Board members are kept busy on audition day!

In early June, the Board comes together with their spouses and children for an old-fashioned picnic. Everyone brings his/her favorite summer food, and the group enjoys a relaxed time of fellowship in the early summer evening.

The regular monthly meetings throughout the summer are full of plans for the most important evening in the life of the MMM Board—the Annual Service in late September. Months of planning culminate in a wonderful concert presented free of charge to the community. Numerous telephone calls are made, meetings held, rehearsals scheduled, and invitations written by MMM Board members in preparation for the Annual Service. On the evening of the Service, members volunteer to help greet the visiting choirs, serve these groups dinner, prepare for the reception following the service, and host community friends and supporters as they enter the church for the program and the following reception. A large group of MMM volunteers and volunteers from community churches always seem to set up, host, and clean up the reception almost effortlessly. However, behind the scenes, a great deal of hard work is expended to make this event run smoothly. You are cordially invited to attend the 2012 Annual Service and reception on Sunday, September 30 at Providence Baptist Church beginning at 6 PM.

(Continued in next column)

From the Past Chairman of the Board

In October, the MMM Annual Meeting takes place. At this time, new members are presented for membership by the Nominating Committee. At this meeting, the group analyzes the Annual Service in order to continually improve it for the next year's audience and performers.

Our trip is complete. Thank you for taking the time to spend a year "walking in the shoes" of our MMM Board members. However, we need to remember that in addition to their Board duties, many of these dedicated individuals give their time and talent to visit local health care facilities to entertain the residents on a regular basis. MMM Board members are not "faint of heart;" they are truly involved in the work of the ministry—behind the scenes and up front in the community.

Sincerely, Diann P. Back

AN EVER-PRESENT HELP

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV)

How many people over the centuries have been comforted and encouraged by this scripture! Through our Prayer Ministry, MMM is aware of a great number of needs of people in our area and some of those in far distant states. Every month it is our privilege to call out the names from our Prayer List, as we bring our requests for Blessings before the Throne of Grace. Although we do not understand the mystical workings of God, we are assured through Bible teachings that God is at work in behalf of believers. We are constantly aware of the blessings bestowed upon Metropolitan Music Ministries, started just 27 years ago with just three people. As we pray for our ministry, we pray that the Holy Spirit will go before our faithful volunteers as they serve in the sheltered places.

A verse from a poem by Annie Johnson Flintspeaks to this subject: "He's helping me now--this moment, Though I may not see it or hear, Perhaps by a friend far distant, Perhaps by a stranger near. Perhaps by a spoken message, Perhaps by the printed word; In ways that I know and know not, I have the help of the Lord."

Please call our office (704.529.1616) if you would like to become involved in our Prayer Ministry. The beautiful prayer by Appleton so well describes our desire for Blessings upon all who read this newsletter: "May our Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now in His risen power, enter into your body, mind and spirit, protecting you from all that harms, and filling you with His healing and His peace, for His Name's Sake, Amen."

Grace and Peace, Martha Iley
Meet the Directors for the Annual Service

DeVona Jaworsky Boyd, affectionately known as D.J., is a native of Whitmire, South Carolina. As God called him at an early age into the ministry of music, he attributes all of his success and praises to God. He started playing piano at the age of five, later taking lessons and being involved in the school marching and symphonic band programs. Boyd graduated from Winthrop University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music. After college, he served for seven years as the Assistant Director of Choirs and Music at Independent Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and the National Association of Negro Musicians (NANM). He is an avid supporter of the Calvin Institute of Worship, The Hampton Minister's Conference and Organist Guild, and The Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA). Boyd is also a former member of the board of directors for the Charlotte Children’s Choir.

He currently serves as the Minister of Worship at St Luke Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte. During his tenure he has developed a choral program that is blended and balanced in worship services. The choir has participated in the Verizon How Sweet the Sound Choir Competition and as the opening group for the Ryan White AIDS Project. At St Luke, his duties include directing choral rehearsals, and working closely with the media ministry, children and youth music, step teams, mime and dance ministries.

Boyd enjoys all genres of music and has been influenced by former piano teachers but especially Mrs. Dawkins, a lady in her 70’s when he was a teen. She arranged hymns and would have him accompany her. In addition to music, Boyd also has a love and passion for art and design and has his own Interior Decorating business: DeJaBo Designs (www.dejabodesigns.com).

JMM applauds D. J. Boyd and welcomes St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church.

Donna Hill has directed Carolina Voices’ Festival Singers for the past ten years. She is a native of Atlanta but grew up in Monroe and received her education at Wingate University and Winthrop University. A busy musician, currently, she is Choir Director at Central Methodist Church in Concord, Director of the Hospice Light up a Life Choir, and Director for the Annual Good Friends Choir. She has also been Singer and Associate Conductor with the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, Assistant Director for Trinity Presbyterian Church, and Youth Choir Director at Sardis Presbyterian Church. Doris Morgan, Dr. Robert Edgerton, and Dr. Mary Nell Saunders were influences in her musical career.

The Festival Singers presents a 3-4 concert season each year. The group has performed 25 consecutive years during Charlotte’s Piccolo Spoleto Festival. As part of the Dead Sea exhibit in Charlotte, they were commissioned and premiered Psalm 138 by David Crowe. Under Hill's direction, The Festival Singers also premiered Beatitude Mass, a new choral work by Henry Mollicone. The group performed for the NC American Choral Directors Association Conference and most recently performed during the Mecklenburg Ministries 25th Anniversary Celebration.

JMM is so pleased to have Donna Hill and Carolina Voices Festival Singers with us this evening.

Joseph Judge serves as Director of Choral and Vocal Music and Assistant Professor of Music at Pfeiffer University. He has sung with Opera Carolina, The Charlotte Symphony, The Charlotte Philharmonic, Colorado Lyric Opera, and Colorado Lyric Theater Festival, The Boulder Philharmonic, The Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, and The Union Symphony. Prior to his appointment at Pfeiffer, Judge served for nearly a decade as Director of Music and Worship Arts Ministries at Matthews United Methodist Church. Judge received a B.A. from Pfeiffer University and his M.M. from the University of Colorado. An active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and a respected teacher, Judge maintains a private voice studio in Charlotte. He has taught for the University of Kentucky at Lexington and serves as Master Clinician in the Charlotte Metropolitan area, presenting master classes in vocal technique, vocal diction and interpretation. His students perform in concerts and musical theater productions throughout the United States and abroad. Born in Buffalo, NY, his family relocated to Charlotte where he attended South Mecklenburg High School. A number of individuals were major musical influences in his life including his older brother Jack, Marc Seretz, Robert Paley, and Robert Brewer. Dr. Barbara Doscher, David Stoke, and Robert Shaw. His favorite composer? Judge couldn’t narrow it down to just one but admires J. S. Bach, Johannes Brahms, Gerald Finzi, K. Lee Scott, and Morten Lauridsen.

The Pfeiffer Choir has received acclaim for its rich tonal sonorities, its adaptability and flexibility in performing varied styles of choral works and its precise musicianship. The choir has performed at numerous conferences and conventions including the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the North Carolina National Association for Music Educators (NCNAIME) and the General Assembly of the United Methodist Church. The Concert Choir tours frequently throughout the United States and abroad. JMM welcomes Joseph Judge and the strong voices of the Pfeiffer Choir.

J. L. McDaniel-Milliken is Director of Music and Choir Director at Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church. A native of Greensboro, NC, she is Winthrop University’s Music Librarian where she also teaches Opera History. McDaniel-Milliken received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Winthrop University as well as a graduate degree from the University of South Carolina. A number of people influenced her in her musical career including her fifth grade teacher Beverly Poemas and college voice teachers Lorriane Gorrell, Jerry Helton, and Walter Cuttino. Dr. Robert Edgerton, Dr. David Lowry, and Dr. Donald Rogers were also influential. After Dr. Rogers decided to retire from Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church, he suggested the position to McDaniel-Milliken. She became an intern and loved working with the choir so much that she was asked to fill the position. Dr. Lauren Whiteman, who passed away from breast cancer at the early age of thirty-five fostered in McDaniel-Milliken a solid foundation in music and a “belief that I could accomplish anything.” McDaniel-Milliken is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda and Delta Omicron professional music fraternities. She has received the Rock Hill Music Club Award, Alumni Honor, Eddie Leonard Jr. Scholarship, School of Music Scholarship, Graduate Assistantship, and the Mel B. H. Casey Ste Choirship. Her favorite composer is Mendelssohn but she is quick to add that “If you truly have one favorite sacred music composer, then you haven’t listened to enough sacred music.”

Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church Choir is also a repeat performer at our Annual Service. The Choir has performed Vivaldi’s Gloria with Sharon Methodist Debois’ Seven Last Words of Christ, Schubert’s Mass in G, Faure’s Requiem, and Pinkham’s Christmas Cantata, among others.

JMM celebrates the achievements of McDaniel-Milliken and welcomes back the Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church Choir

Debra Wallace has coordinated the Providence Baptist Children Choir for 22 years! At Providence, she also is the handbell director. A native of Rockingham, NC, Wallace was educated at Winthrop University. She is National Board certified and a former Charlotte-Mecklenburg Teacher of the Year. Wallace has taught through eightgrade music at Waddell Academy of International Languages. Waddell has five octaves of bells and three octaves of hand chimes. There is a beginning bell group each semester and an advanced group that meets daily. Wallace is also active in the American Orff Schulwerk Association, where she served on the steering committee for the 2008 National Conference. This summer she served on the faculty directing beginning bells at Montreat. She credits her mother and grandmother for guiding her into a career in music education and church music.

JMM thanks Debra Wallace for working with these young musicians and for letting them be a part of our Annual Service.
METROPOLITAN MUSIC MINISTRIES, INC.
cordially invites you to the
Twenty-seventh Annual Celebration of Music in Worship
A Service of Sacred Music

Sunday, September 30, 2012 – 6:00 pm

Providence Baptist Church
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, North Carolina

David M. Hines, Dr. Martha S. Iley, Ginger G. Wyrick, directors
Dr. Matthew C. Manwarren, organist
Dr. Luther I. Wade, reader

Brass Quartet: Richard Spangler, Eric Knight, Mac Willet, Patti Lutz,
Carole J. Clem, cello, Veronica Mitchell, violin, Kent E. Love, timpani,

Choirs and Directors

Festival Singers…………………………………………………………………..……………………Donna J. Hill
Pfeiffer University Concert Choir………………………………………………………………………Joseph D. Judge
Providence Baptist Church Children's Choir………………………………………………………………………………Debra B. Judge
Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church Choir………………………………………………………………………………………J. L. McDaniel
St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church Choir………………………………………………………………………………………D. J. Boyd
Choir of Choral Directors, with guest conductor……………………………………Dr. Katherine S. Kinsey

Accompanists:
Elson Baldwin, Polly Bostic, Susan Cannon, Diann Clark, Sondra Kale, Nancy Lucus,
Dr. Gregory T. Thompson, Ginger G. Wyrick, Catherine Youngblood

Clergy and Lay Participants

Dr. Diann P. Back…………………………………………………President, Metropolitan Music Ministries
The Rev. Dr. Roy Alton Cadenhead, Jr………………………Senior Pastor, Providence Baptist Church
Ms. C. Angela Forde……………………………………………………Chaplain, Metropolitan Music Ministries
The Rev. Father Paul S. Winton…………………………………….Rector, St. John's Episcopal Church

Participating 2012 MMM Church Music Scholarship Winners

Cody Greene, tenor, Cheryl Iley Lindstrom Scholarship
Caleb Hopkins, baritone, Martha Strawn Iley Scholarship
Cristiana Pessoa, organist, Richard Van Sciver Scholarship

Reception following the service – All are welcome
For more information, visit MMM's website at www.metromusicministries.org
Or call 704-529-1616, MMM Office
Remembering Mary Hale

Not long after Ron Riley passed away, Mary Hale, another past MMM Board member passed to the other side. A native of Wilmington, Mary had moved back to her home city a few years ago because of health issues and to be closer to her nephew and niece and a great nephew.

Although she had no children of her own, Mary had hundreds of children whom she loved and who loved her in return. For many years she taught at Devonshire Elementary School and at Albemarle Road Elementary School. She also taught in Germany.

Mary's work with children didn't stop when the school bell rang because she was an active children's Sunday School teacher. I remember her showing me her classroom at Hawthorne Lane United Methodist Church. It was so colorful and creative and bore the mark of a teacher who knew that the Sunday School classroom should be an inviting and safe haven for children to learn the stories of the Bible.

Mary was also active in handbells and the chancel choir. She took all the Methodist Disciple classes and other Bible studies offered at Hawthorne. For years Mary sent our prayer card reminders to those on the MMM mailing list.

According to Mary's friend Pat Williams, a memorial service was held Saturday, September 8 at Hawthorne Lane UMC. Memorials may still be made to the church on Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte NC 28204.

MMM offers condolences to nephew Michael Jay, to niece Mary Tyndall, and to great nephew Barrett Jay. We rejoice in her life and in her service to MMM.

Mitchell Hagler

Remembering Leonard Robinson, Jr.

Walter Leonard Robinson, Jr. lost his courageous battle with cancer on February 20, 2012. Leonard was a long-time friend to MMM. He was most frequently seen at the MMM Annual Service where he relished his role as an usher. Leonard spent 27 years in the securities business before he bought Providence True Value Hardware in 1978.

He greeted MMM audiences with the same friendly smile that had greeted customers for years at Providence Hardware before it closed in 2003.

Leonard was a charter member of Sharon United Methodist Church and supported the Charlotte Civitan Club and Boy Scouts. He also served on the Aldersgate Board of Directors. However, he continually helped the community in so many ways. Robbie, his son, notes, “He gave jobs to kids and disabled workers. His favorite thing was helping people.” His daughter Ginger remembers, “He was involved in so much and helped so many people.” This is the point at which this tribute gets personal because my husband and I were the recipients of Leonard's generosity and kindness. We moved to Charlotte in 1988 and a year and a half later my husband learned that due to organizational changes, he no longer had a job. As is always the case, this news was devastating. We attended Sharon United Methodist Church at that time, and Leonard offered my husband a part-time job at Providence Hardware. He understood that losing a job can be a blow to one's self-image, and a job with regular hours provided structure to a world suddenly turned upside down. Leonard generously arranged time off for my husband to interview for full time positions. My husband returned to full-time employment some months later. The part-time job at the hardware store helped us through an unusually tough time in our lives, and we will be forever grateful to this generous and kind-hearted man.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Bobbie Jo; sister, Daisie Jane Steward, of Macon, GA; three children: Robbie, Ginger, and Brian; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

This year's audience for the MMM Annual Service will miss Leonard's smile and warm welcome. He was a true gentleman who wholeheartedly devoted himself to helping others.

Dr. Diann Back

Remembering Ron Riley

It was with sadness that Metropolitan Music Ministries received the word. The Reverend Doctor Charles Ronald Riley passed from this life into eternity on June 17. As his health declined in recent months, he reluctantly dropped out of our ministry events that he loved so much, like preaching at Charlotte Rescue Mission (Rebound) Chapel services and offering beautiful prayers at our Annual Services.

My first encounter with Ron was at Rebound years ago when Ron gave the message. He was with a group from St. John's Episcopal Church, representing our ministry. At the time, Ron was the Chief Financial Officer for Royal Insurance, a brilliant and highly respected leader in the business world. Soon after our meeting Ron became involved as a member of our Board of Directors, a position that he held for many years. We were often encouraged and uplifted by his warm smile, his practical and generous participation in our efforts, and his devotion to the Kingdom.

After Ron's retirement he enrolled in Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary where he earned Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees. As he served several churches in pastoral leadership, he continued to be loyal to MMM. How greatly he will be missed!

To his beloved family, wife Rosalie, son Michael, and daughter Laura, we offer our deep sympathy for your great loss. Thank you for sharing with us your loved one--a spiritual giant, always to be treasured in fond memories.

Martha Iley

SERVICE RECORD
Cumulative October 7, 1984—August 31, 2012
Number of Services, Programs, Meetings, and Projects:
10,971
Number of Times an Individual Participated in Ministry Work:
32,268
Total Known Audience:
452,223
REBOUND MINISTRY

A significantly important but little known ministry of MMM is the monthly chapel services conducted at Charlotte Rescue Mission, known as Rebound. Every first Sunday of the month, MMM volunteers lead the worship service for the men who are in residence, the Dove Nest's residents (women) who attend the service, and visitors who may be present. And they have been doing this month after month for years.

Founded in 1938, the Charlotte Rescue Mission has a long history of reaching out to the homeless and to those battling addictions. In 1990, the Mission made a commitment to have a Christian staff trained in substance abuse. This began a 90 day residential program to help the clients change their lives and become productive citizens in the community. This program is known as Rebound and has served thousands of men since it began. In 1992 a women’s program, Dove's Nest, was started.

Today, the mission provides an intensive drug and alcohol recovery program to homeless or about to become homeless men and women. The goal is to address the spiritual, mental, physical, emotional, social, and vocational issues of addiction with each person and return them as contributing members of society.

Dr. Martha Iley coordinates MMM’s participation by scheduling speakers, worship leaders, and musicians for each service. Over fifty MMM volunteers are involved annually. The 2012 calendar includes the following churches and individuals: Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church with Donna Heiser, Rev. Stan Heiser, Rev. Mike Hasele, and Mary Reid; Southside Baptist Church with Catherine Cannon, Doug Joyner, and the Joyful Singers Trio; Eastern Hills Baptist Church with Renato and Jennifer Costa, Robin Morris, and Alisa McCain and Matt McCain; St. Stephen United Methodist Church with Janice Kistler, Dr. Diann Back, Edwin Back, and Winifred McKellar; Rev. Dr. David Jordan, Anne McKenzie, Christy Stephens, and Nancy Brown; Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church with Cathy Youngblood and Rev. Andrew Smith; Lisa Siao, Carolyn Nelson, Angela Forde, Carole Whittington, St. John's Episcopal Church with Alan Reed and the church choir; Holy Covenant and Pilgrim United Church of Christ with Rev. Judah Jones and the Adult Choir; Dr. Frances McClain, Richard Moore, Bobby Hood and the Amen Chorus; Betty Faris, Barbara Falls, Pat McKenzie, and Linda Horne; Mitchell Hagler, Eugenia Warner, Beverly Russell and the Huntersville Brass including Richard Spangler, Torrance Banks, Eric Knight, Al Sudduth, Sam Waymouth, and Don Hill; Mike Slade, Jim Terell, Russ Settles, Sarah Bostian, and Donna Collins.

MMM is deeply appreciative of all of these who give of their time and their talents to this ministry.

Briefly Speaking

SAVE THE DATE
"Musical Delights...mmm!" - Variety Show and Desserts
An evening of musical entertainment and tasty desserts to benefit Metropolitan Music Ministries, February 9, 2013 7 pm Providence Baptist Church. More information to follow.

DONATE OLD CHORAL MUSIC
Purging your church choir library? Gift old anthems to the Presbyterian "Wee Kirk" Conference in October 2012, to benefit choirs of small churches with small budgets. Contact Cathy Youngblood at (704) 364-1234 or music@gspc.net for more information.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP
MMM has graciously accepted a proposal to name a scholarship in honor of a long-time MMM Board member. The scholarship, given by son David McKenzie, will be named the Patricia C. McKenzie Church Music Scholarship and may be awarded in any of the disciplines of voice, piano, or organ. The May 2013 newsletter will carry more information about Pat McKenzie and this award.

NEED YOUR EMAIL
If you haven't checked out our new updated website, please go to www.metromusicministries.org and give us your email address by clicking on Contact Us. In the future we hope to offer an electronic version of the newsletter to those who prefer it.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ray Palmer wrote these words while employed as a teacher at a private girls' school in New York. He had experienced a difficult year of illness and loneliness and was inspired to write this verse one night after meditating on a German poem that depicted a sinner kneeling before the cross of Christ. He later stated, "The words for these stanzas were born out of my own soul with very little effort. I recall that I wrote the verses with tender emotion. . . . When writing the last line, "O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!" the thought that the whole work of redemption and salvation was involved in those words . . . brought me to a degree of emotion that brought abundant tears."

Palmer jotted the text into a notebook, which he shared two years later while visiting with the composer Lowell Mason (PHH 96) in Boston. Mason's prophecy that Palmer "will be best known to posterity as the author of 'My Faith Looks Up to Thee" has certainly come true. A hymn of prayer, this song asks for forgiveness (st. 1), for purity of love (st. 2), for divine guidance (st. 3), and for safe homecoming into glory (st. 4). Stanzas 1 and 2 are popularly judged the best and the most useful. The gloom of stanza 3 is similar to some Old Testament laments. The Psalter Hymnal Revision Committee altered stanza 4 to capture a more Reformed theology.

Palmer is often considered to be one of America's best nineteenth-century hymn writers. After completing grammar school he worked in a Boston dry goods store, but a religious awakening prodded him to study for the ministry. He attended Yale College (supporting himself by teaching) and was ordained in 1835. A pastor in Congregational churches in Bath, Maine (1835-1850), and Albany, New York (1850-1865), he also served as secretary of the American Congregational Union (1865-1878). Palmer was a popular preacher and author, writing original poetry as well as translating hymns. He published several volumes of poetry and hymns, including Sabbath Hymn BookHymns and Sacred Pieces (1865), and Hymns of My Holy Hours (1868). His complete poetical works were published in 1876.
Your contribution to Metropolitan Music Ministries will place you in one of the following levels of support. Contributions are cumulative within each calendar year.

Friend  $ 1-24  Sustainer  $ 50-99  
Supporter $25-49  Benefactor  $100-499  
Patron  $500 and above  

General Fund $ ________  Scholarship $ ________  

Thank you!

May we list your name in our Annual Report?  ___ Yes ___ No

I am interested in volunteer opportunities.  _____

Any gift to Metropolitan Ministries, Inc. may be made in Honor or Memory of Family or Friends.

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT FOR $ _____________

Name:______________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________
City: _______________________________________________
State: _____________  Zip: _____________
Your phone:__________________________________________

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PO Box 12736 • Charlotte, NC  28220-2736

www.metromusicministries.org