

From the President's Desk



Diann Back

Have you ever wished that you could improve on the quality of each day? By improving the quality of your day, I mean being able to say at the end of the day that you did something worthwhile for others or for yourself. Of course, having a quality day involves getting enough sleep, eating healthy foods, learning something new, being observant, and interacting with people you like/love. A quality day is infused with an attitude of gratitude.

So exactly what is an attitude of gratitude?

It's showing our thanks for the small things in life that often we take for granted. Will Schwalbe, author of a New York Times bestseller entitled *The End of Your Life Book Club*, notes, "And gratitude isn't what you give in exchange for something; it's what you feel when you are blessed...." (p. 211).

Melissa Michaels, mother of three and a pastor's wife, maintains an award winning website called *The Inspired Room*. On October 27, 2008, she shared a few ways to show our thanks for those small actions that, on a daily basis, bless our lives (Online).

Attitudes of Gratitude

1. Smile when you see your family. Turn your frown upside down.
2. Say I love you before going to bed.
3. Give hugs daily.
4. Don't worry about tomorrow. Focus on what you are happy about today.
5. Show thankfulness for even the little things others do for you.
6. Encourage someone with a compliment.
7. Verbalize what you are grateful for when you feel like complaining about life.
8. Remember to thank God for blessings each day.
9. Surprise your family (or friends) with little gifts or treats to show you thought of them.
10. No grumbling about minor annoyances around the house.
11. Do special things to cherish time with your family. You never know what tomorrow will bring.
12. Reflect on happy memories regularly.
13. Help someone out without them having to ask you. Watch for someone in need.

MMM expresses its gratitude to the musicians, vocalists and volunteers who generously share their musical and organizational talents each fall at the Annual Service. This yearly event is a love offering to the community and a way to say "thank you" to all the volunteers who prepare musical programs, talks, and who take time to care about folks who, for a variety of reasons, may not be able to attend church regularly. If you've never attended an MMM Annual Service, come to Providence Baptist Church on Sunday evening, September 29 at 6 PM, and experience the attitude of gratitude that fills the sanctuary!

Sincerely,

Diann P. Back
President

From the Past Chairman of the Board



Martha Iley

"Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us." Psalm 90:17

One of the anthems planned for our Annual Service is "For the Beauty of the Earth" by Philip Stropford. The words are the same ones found in our hymn by the same title, but the melody and harmony are a new setting. I understand that this is a lovely selection. Studies have verified something that we all know: there is a longing for Beauty

in the human heart.

An experiment in a tenement community in New York City some years ago made a surprising discovery. An adult approached a group of children playing in the streets. She offered them a choice. They could take a hot doughnut or a long-stemmed red rose. Every one of those hungry children chose the flower.

I read of a pioneer woman who spoke of her quilt-making. Her living conditions were extremely harsh and hazardous. She said, "I make my quilts thick to keep my family warm, and I make them beautiful to keep my heart from breaking."

How fortunate we are as Christians to have the opportunity through prayer to be in touch with God. He is the Creator of the Beauty of the Earth, and the Source of endless comfort, mercy, and grace!

Another favorite hymn is "Fairest Lord Jesus" (Beautiful Savior). Our Redeemer intercedes for us at the right hand of God the Father. He is the Friend of Sinners who longs to deliver us from evil and bring Beauty and Peace to each Child of God.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us on September 29!

Grace and Peace,

Martha Iley

Donate Old Choral Music

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

SERVICE RECORD

Cumulative October 7, 1984—August 31, 2013

Number of Services, Programs, Meetings, and Projects:

11,213

Number of Times an Individual Participated in Ministry

Work:

33,342

Total Known Audience:

461,200

Meet the Choir Directors for the Annual Service



Charlotte Judge

lessons. Before coming to Providence, she was an associate director and worked with Charlotte Children's Choir for 17 years.

Judge writes that Ray Barber, Minister of Music at Millbrook Baptist Church, was the most influential person in her beginning musical career. "He helped to guide me musically and emotionally through junior high and high school. However, growing up, there was always music in our home. My mother was the church organist."

Favorite composers of this accomplished musician are Johann Sebastian Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Johannes Brahms, and Sir Edward William Elgar.

Judge is married to husband Jack. They have two daughters, Lillie and Anna.

MMM is so pleased to welcome Charlotte Judge and the Providence United Methodist Church Children's Choir.



Dr. Kenneth Lister

Baptist Church (Greenville), Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church (Lexington), and First Baptist Church (Greenwood) in addition to First United Methodist Church in Peoria, Illinois.

Dr. Lister was a presenter at the World Church of Music Conference, London and Music Director of Peoria 2000. He lists his favorite music composers as Beethoven, Rutter, and Martin.

MMM is so pleased to have Dr. Kenneth Lister and the Providence Baptist Church Adult Ensemble with us this evening.



Dr. Robert Ridgell

Rutgers University. A finalist in the 2004 American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation, he has been a featured artist for the 2002 Winter Olympics; the 2005 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists; the 2008 release of the Miramax film "Doubt"; and the 2013 National Association of Pastoral Musicians Convention. In 2006, Dr. Ridgell was the Artistic Director of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Bicentennial Concert Orchestra and Chorus of over 400 students.

Charlotte Cathcart Judge

Charlotte Judge was born in Charleston, SC and spent most of her childhood in Aiken, SC. She attended Winthrop College and the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, PA. In 2011, she completed her Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal Performance at Queens University of Charlotte.

Currently, Judge serves as the Associate Director of Music Ministries at Providence United Methodist Church, a position she has held since 1995. She also teaches private voice and piano

He founded the Trinity Youth Chorus which today has over 100 choristers and continues to be one of the leading choir/community music programs in revitalized Lower Manhattan.

MMM celebrates the achievements of Dr. Robert Ridgell and welcomes Christ Episcopal Church Sanctuary and Parish Choirs.



Nathaniel Gumbs

Christmas at the Blumenthal Theater with the Charlotte Symphony, in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Break of Freedom Concert with the Charlotte Symphony and has performed in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Concert at the Knight Theater.

He holds a Bachelor of Music from Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University and a Master of Music from Yale University. Mr. Gumbs cites Nathan Carter as his favorite sacred music composer.

MMM applauds Nathaniel Gumbs and welcomes the choir of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.



Peter Leo

He earned a Bachelor in Music Education from Illinois Wesleyan University and Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California.

Leo finds leading others in singing his life vocation. Peter Leo resides in Matthews, with his wife Laura and two daughters, Erin and Madeline.

SOLIDEO GLORIA!

MMM thanks Peter Leo for leading the Choir of Directors this year.

Service of Sacred Music

Please post the flier of the 28th Annual Celebration of Music in Worship (included as an insert to this newsletter) on your church bulletin board or somewhere that others may see it. In addition to the five choirs, a special feature of the program will be an organ duet by Diann Clark, organist for Providence Baptist Church and Nancy Watson, a former MMM Board member. One of the numbers they will play will be "Praise to the Lord the Almighty." You won't want to miss this!

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.

METROPOLITAN MUSIC MINISTRIES, INC.
cordially invites you to the
Twenty-eighth Annual Celebration of Music in Worship
A Service of Sacred Music

Sunday, September 29, 2013– 6:00 pm

Providence Baptist Church
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, North Carolina

David M. Hines, Dr. Martha S. Iley, Ginger G. Wyrick, *directors*

Diann Clark, *organist*

Dr. Luther I. Wade, *reader*

Brass Quartet: John Harding, Eric Knight, Mac Willet, Patti Lutz,
Nancy H. Watson, *organ*, Kent E. Love, *timpani*,

Choirs and Directors

Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble.....Frank Williams
Christ Episcopal Church Sanctuary and Parish Choirs.....Dr. Robert P. Ridgel
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Choir.....Nathaniel Gumbs
Providence Baptist Church Adult Ensemble.....Dr. J. Kenneth Lister
Providence Methodist Church Children's Choir.....Charlotte Judge
Choir of Choral Directors, *with guestconductor*.....Peter Leo

Accompanists:

Frank McGinnis, Dr. Gregory Thompson, Dr. Adam Ward, Cathy White

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. Anthony Marciano II.....*Executive Director*, Charlotte Rescue Mission

Participating 2013 MMM Church Music Scholarship Winners

Elizabeth Davis, *pianist*, Cheryl Iley Lindstrom Scholarship
Rahab Hackett, *organist*, Richard Van Sciver Scholarship
Ethan Price, *baritone*, Martha Strawn Iley 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

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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Volunteer Spotlight: Barbara Falls

By Lisa Honeycutt



Barbara Falls is a dedicated member of Metropolitan Music Ministries. Barbara can best be described as a lady who dons many hats in her church and community. She has been a board member of Metropolitan Music Ministries for 27 years. In her service to MMM she has worn the hat of recording secretary, vice president, secretary, and hospitality committee chair. She currently serves as assistant secretary whose job involves handling over 200 pieces of correspondence yearly.

And in the Charlotte community, Barbara donned her “organizer hat” during the years she spearheaded fund raising events for Bethlehem Center, a United Methodist mission. Barbara also served on the Board of Directors of Bethlehem Center and chaired the board for two years. Barbara's dedication to community service is demonstrated by her 20 years as semi-annual worship leader for the Charlotte Rescue Mission Sunday chapel services.

In addition to reading, journaling and working crosswords, “musical hat” has always been one of Barbara's favorites. For many years Barbara shared her musical talents with the residents of Sunrise Assisted Living, The Carriage Club and Bryan Center. She was an active member in the Cokesbury United Methodist Church Choir for over 20 years. Furthermore, she and three fellow musicians formed the “Cokeberries” who entertained at various United Methodist Churches special events.

As a member of Providence United Methodist Church Women, Barbara comfortably wears her “leadership hat” having served as Vice President of United Methodist Women, Chair of Christian Personhood, Global Concerns, Circle Co-Chair, program chair and a member of the Staff Parish Committee. In the larger United Methodist Women organization Barbara served as District President and Associate Treasurer of the Charlotte District UMW. She was a delegate to Annual Conference several years and held the position of Conference Courtesies Committee for two years. Barbara was elected to the United Methodist Foundation Board and the Conference Trustees and represented the district as a delegate to the 2000 World Methodist Conference in Brighton, England.

Perhaps the dearest “hat” belonging to Barbara is the one of loving wife, mother and grandmother. Barbara and husband Crowder have been married for sixty years. They have one son Mark and two grandchildren, Meredith and Cameron Falls.

A hardy thank you to Barbara for gracefully wearing these many hats in service to Metropolitan Music Ministries, her church, her community and her family. May God bless all our MMM volunteers who wear various hats that support and sustain our ministry.

MMM Intercessory Prayer

“There are many ways to love one's neighbors, but intercessory prayer—praying on behalf of other people—has got to be one of the most powerful.”

Each month a small group of MMM supporters meets in an upstairs room of St. John's Episcopal Church on Carmel Road to offer intercessory prayers for others. It is a powerful but little known ministry of MMM.

The *Full Life Bible* defines intercessory prayer as “holy, believing, preserving prayer whereby someone pleads with God on behalf of another or others who desperately need God's intervention.” Following a simple noon meal prepared by an MMM volunteer, the group prepares itself for prayer by listening to a devotion usually offered by Angela Forde. Angela's mother, Cicely Forde also prepares a thoughtful written meditation based on Scripture that each can take home. Following the devotion, MMM Past Chairman Dr. Martha Iley leads the group in a unison prayer. In this prayer we pray for the MMM ministry, for directors and advisors, for former directors and advisors, for those with close connections to MMM, for those in the military, for our churches, and for those on the St. John's Episcopal Church prayer list.

Following the unison prayer, participants take turns reading the names of those for whom we have been asked to pray. In addition to specific families and individuals, there are dozens of anonymous individuals listed with just a first name. The service concludes with this prayer: *Heavenly Father, we thank you for being attentive to our prayers. Our faith assures us that You will anoint each body and soul with Your healing grace, according to your perfect will. We now lift our own lives to You, and pray that they may be lighted by the brilliance of Your presence. As we go our separate ways, grant us the companionship and guidance of Your Holy Spirit. Creator God, to Your loving care we commit our loved ones. Watch over them, protect them, and quiet them with your love. These mercies we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Healer. Amen.*

Ten Commandments for Handbell Ringers

1. Thou shalt attend rehearsals with steady faithfulness.
2. Thou shalt not touch graven metals with thy bare hands.
3. Thou shalt not take thy sharps and flats in vain.
4. Remember thy performance dates and keep them holy.
5. Honor thy director that thy days may be long upon the land.
6. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's bell assignment.
7. Thou shalt not tap thy foot with exceeding loudness.
8. Thou shalt not steal thy neighbor's pencil.
9. Thou shalt return thy bells to their cases shiny and unscathed.
10. Thou shalt return thy director to his car shiny and unscathed.

--anonymous

Background on a Hymn

One of the anthems we will sing in the Annual Service is For the Beauty of the Earth although as Dr. Iley says in her column the melody and harmony are new. The original words were written by England-born Folliot S. Pierpoint (1835-1917), a graduate of Queens College, Cambridge University. He chose teaching as a profession and traveled from place to place throughout his life, teaching in various schools. He eventually retired from academics to become a writer.

During his 82 years of life, Pierpoint published seven volumes of poetry. Many of his writings spoke of his love for nature. He is most remembered for the hymn For the Beauty of the Earth, first published as The Sacrifice of Praise in 1864.

For the Beauty of the Earth is mostly commonly sung to the tune of Dix, written by German composer and organist Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) in 1838. It was originally sung as a hymn for communion in Anglican services. It has since become a favorite for Thanksgiving services, and for Sunday School Children. It was sung in the 1994 movie version of Little Women. The original version of the hymn had eight stanzas

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Isaiah 65:14
"... my servants sing
for joy of heart."



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