



Grace Notes

A Publication of *Metropolitan Music Ministries, Inc.* ~ SEPTEMBER 2019

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S KEYBOARD

Dr. Diann Back

Dear MMM Friends,

In this issue of Grace Notes, readers will see a change from the usual format. Starting



with this issue, the president's annual appeal letter will be included along with a giving envelope. This change is being made in order to direct more of Metropolitan Music Ministries (MMM)

funds into scholarships rather than clerical needs.

We hope you continue to enjoy this newsletter and continue to support MMM with your prayers and your financial resources. You are cordially invited attend this year's Annual Service on September 29 at Providence Baptist Church (PBC) beginning at 6 o'clock in the evening. Plan to stay for a reception in the PBC Fellowship Hall immediately following the close of the service. At the reception, you'll get a chance to greet old friends, make some new ones, and speak to one of the founders of MMM, Dr. Martha Iley.

Sincerely,
Diann P. Back, President

FROM ONE OF M.M.M. FOUNDERS

Dr. Martha Iley

Memories play an important part in our lives at every stage.

One of my seminary professors said that the Old Testament can be summed up in one word, REMEMBER-ING. The Hebrew people were reminded, through historians, poets and prophets, of God's calling and deliverance so that they could be a blessing to the world.



Often some of our MMM Volunteers bring music and/or devotionals to nursing home groups living in Alzheimers (sometimes called "memory") units. They are not surprised to observe a resident who changes from a lethargic/depressed mood to a state of engagement and joy when something triggers a long-ago memory. Sometimes the change is prompted by the 23rd Psalm, the Lord's Prayer, or the Apostle's Creed. Many times it is brought about by music -- the Doxology, a hymn, or a secular song from another era.

Music has been called the great communicator, the strange power that knows no generation gap. An

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WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out our 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.

Musicians' Prayer

(a prayer suitable for church musicians)

Creator God,

You hear us, our words in prayer, our silent thoughts and pleas and each note or melody we sing and play. May our praises today connect with heaven and unite our hearts with the sound of eternity.

Lord, may the gifts of our voices and melodies of our instruments move with the work of your Holy Spirit. May we bring light into dark places, restore hope and vision to all who are oppressed, and well-being and health to all those who suffer.

Today Lord, we give you our worship. May it be a platform for you, Father God, to touch our lives afresh and build your church.

Amen.

Read more: https://www.living-prayers.com/people/musicians_prayer.html#ixzz5xrci2BKe

FROM ONE OF M.M.M. FOUNDERS

Dr. Martha Iley

(Continued from front page)

unknown writer stated, "It makes babies coo, children giggle, teens swoon, adults dance, and elders connect with profound joy." According to Lynn Hinton, a hospice chaplain, "Music is the heart's language of remembrance." She quoted a blues/rock singer who wrote, "Music is the last true voice of the human spirit, beyond age and beyond color, straight to the heart and mind of all people."

Singing has always been a dominant factor in my life. Some of the earliest songs I sang, after "Jesus Loves Me," other church songs and nursery rhymes, are "Springtime in the Rockies," "Red Wing," and "Have You Ever Been Lonely." Even now, if I hear or even think of one of those songs, I am immediately transported, however briefly, back to my three and four year old world. Unfortunately, age diminishes some of our life-long skills. Now in my later years, I can still play the piano, but my singing voice has all but disappeared. Recently I had a dream. I was singing a song I love; it was "How Are Things in Glocca Morra?," a song about homesickness. In my dream I was standing tall, my pitch was true, the tone firm and full with good breath support, and delivered with deep conviction. I woke up smiling, remembering how joyfully I used to sing. How well I know this truth: even when the ability to sing is gone, the spirit can still sing!

As we visit the sheltered places, armed with music and the Word, we know that this is a great privilege. We can help some dear people experience the blessings of remembering.

Grace and Peace,
Martha Iley

Your contribution to Metropolitan Music Ministries will place you in one of the following levels of support.

Contributions are cumulative within each calendar year.

Friends \$1-24 Donors \$24-29 Promoters \$50-99

Supporters \$100-249 Sustainers \$250-499

Benefactors \$500-999 Patrons \$1000 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 _____

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State _____ Zip _____

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My Email _____

Mail to:

Metropolitan Music Ministries

PO Box 12736 • Charlotte, NC • 28220-2736

MMM Prayer Luncheon

Second Thursday of each month

St. John's Episcopal Church

Adult Education Room

12-1 PM

ANNUAL SERVICE DIRECTORS

Dr. JARED DAUGHERTY is the Minister of Music at Sardis Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. Professionally, he is a member of ACDA, AGO, HMA, and PAM, and serves as the chair of the planning committee for the annual Mid-Carolinas Handbell Festival. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Georgia Southern University, a Master of Music degree from Western Michigan University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Georgia. Recently, he accepted an invitation to guest conduct



Poulenc's *Gloria* at Carnegie Hall, in New York, in June of 2020. In 2018, he traveled to Vilnius, Lithuania to study Lithuanian music and interview composer Vytautas Miskinis. This resulted in an American premier of *Light Mass*, scored for SATB choir, jazz trio, and piano improvisation.

The Rev. TIMOTHY PAUL HILL has served as Minister of Music at Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, since 2014. He has served with many congregations in the upstate of South Carolina since 1997. He earned a BA in Music Education from Anderson College and a Master of Worship Studies degree from Robert E. Weber Institute for Worship Studies. Under his leadership, the Providence Sanctuary Choir has presented numerous major works for choir and orchestra. His musical tastes are as varied as his talents, and he uses old hymns, contemporary choruses, and even bluegrass when he plans worship. He is a decorated teacher, youth chorale conductor, and actor. He has developed a special fondness for the people of Romania, where he experienced many relationships during multiple mission trips.



Dr. KATHERINE S. KINSEY, Professor of Music Emeritus of Winthrop University, served as Director of Choral Activities from 1997 to 2017. She earned a Master of Music Education from UNC Greensboro, and a Bachelor of Music Education and a Doctorate of Musical Arts in conducting from the Univer-

sity of South Carolina. She spent 13 years teaching in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, while also teaching at the Charlotte Community School of the Arts. Since 2012, she has held the title of Artistic Director for the York County Choral Society and the Chamber Singers. Dr. Kinsey considers her musical strengths to be energetic leadership, the promotion of a strong work ethic in the rehearsal format, the periodic/stylistic interpretation of choral repertoire, and the insistence upon a vocally blended choral tone.

MITCHELL LEWIS holds a Bachelor of Choral Music Education degree from Florida State University and a Masters in Choral Conducting from Winthrop University. During his tenure as a choral educator, Mitchell has taught middle and high school chorus in the public school systems of Leon County, Tallahassee, Florida, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Charlotte, NC. He also served as the graduate assistant for the Winthrop University Collegiate choir during his graduate studies. Mitchell currently serves as the conductor for the Men's Choir at UNC Charlotte, and he directs The Charlotte Chorale, a highly esteemed vocal ensemble. In addition to his conducting assignments, Mitchell has served as choir director and accompanist for churches in Florida, South Carolina, and North Carolina. He is an active member of both ACDA and NCMEA.



(Continued on next page)

CUMULATIVE SERVICE RECORD

October 7, 1984 - August 31, 2019

Number of Programs, Services, Meetings and Projects.....	12,809
Number of Times an Individual Participated in Ministry Work.....	39,039
Total Known Audience	502,119

ANNUAL SERVICE DIRECTORS

(Continued from previous page)

Dr. LARRY STRATEMEYER is the Director of Music at St. Gabriel Catholic Church, since March of 2013. He served as the Director of Music at the St. Patrick's Cathedral for over 21 years. He earned the Master of Music and the Doctor of Musical Arts degrees at Eastman School of Music, where he studied with David Craighead. He studied with John Obetz at the Conservatory of Music, University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he received the Bachelor of



Music degree. He was a student of Marie-Claire Alain at the Conservatoire National de Région de Reuil-Malmaison, France. He has served as Dean, Sub-dean, and board member of the Charlotte Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and served as District Convener for North Carolina.

BRUCE A. THOMPSON is Director of Choral Activities at Jarvis Christian College at Hawkins, Texas, and he also directs the B. A. Thompson Singers in Charlotte, North Carolina. He holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Stillman College and a Master of Music Education degree from Western Illinois University. Bruce is a bass-baritone soloist and performs often. He was a "Celebration" Residence Artist for Opera Carolina. He has served on the Choral Review Panel for the North Carolina Arts and Science Council, the Board of Directors for the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, and the Board of Directors for the Southeastern African-American Collegiate Choral Festival. He has written many Negro Spirituals, gospels, and anthems. He has studied voice with Dr. Donald Gray at USC, Fran Shafter of Charlotte, and Grace Bumbry in Salzburg, Austria.



REMEMBERING BILL DAILEY

(1934-2019)

On February 27, a long-time friend of our ministry passed from this life to join the heavenly choir. Dr. William Albert Dailey, Colorado native, had a varied and highly successful career in music. He was a teacher, composer, conductor, singer, and performer on piano, viola, trombone, drums, and perhaps many other instruments. He served for 6 years in the U. S. Army Chorus at Fort Myer, VA. His teaching ranged from Texas Wesleyan University, various public schools in New York City, CPCC, and UNCC, where he won the Teacher of Excellence Award in 1971. He played in the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra from 1969 to 1972. For 12 years he was the director for Carolina Voices which presents "The Singing Christmas Tree." He and his talented wife, Eleanor, have served as Ministers of Music in a number of Methodist, Presbyterian, and Lutheran churches.

In the early days of MMM Bill brought one of his UNCC choral groups to give a program for The Methodist Home. More recently, he, Eleanor, and their daughter, Gwen Berger, have faithfully sung in our Choir of Directors at the MMM Annual Service.

Many former students, church choir members, and colleagues gathered at Resurrection Lutheran Church for a Memorial Service. Some of his original anthems were performed. Several speakers paid tribute to his musicianship and his kind and gentle manner of working with singers. One former church choir member recalled how he tactfully corrected her faulty rhythm at a rehearsal. He said, "Linda, may I introduce you to the dotted eighth note?"



Above all, Bill always demonstrated his deep devotion to God as he trained and encouraged others to use their music to glorify the Creator of all harmonies. Thanks be to God for our Friend in Ministry.

METROPOLITAN MUSIC MINISTRIES HOLDS AUDITIONS

Recently, young musicians competed in the 2019 MMM Scholarship Auditions on March 30th at St. John's Baptist Church. While each student showed poise and proficiency in his or her discipline, three outstanding artists were granted scholarships carrying a \$1,500 award. Each recipient has been invited to perform for the MMM Annual Service on September 29th, 2019 at Providence Baptist Church.



The Cheryl Iley Lindstrom Church music Scholarship in Piano was awarded to **Laura Brooke Smith** a student of Dr. Matthew Manwarren of Winthrop University and the daughter of Charles and Heather Smith of Rock Hill, SC. Laura holds junior academic standing at Winthrop University where she studies music education and is named on the Dean's List. Additionally, Laura was the recipient of the Rock Hill Music Club piano award. Laura is actively involved in the music ministries at Harvest Hill Baptist Church in Rock Hill. She writes, "This (Truth Trackers children's ministry) has been a wonderful experience for me in learning how to communicate musical ideas to children and learning how to help them engage in music-making for the purpose of glorifying Jesus Christ." Laura intends to teach elementary school music and use her musical talents in church ministry as an accompanist or director.

The Martha Strawn Iley Church Music Scholarship in Voice was awarded to **Regan Susana Sawyer** a student of Christina Pier of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the daughter of Scott and Stephanie Sawyer of Sherrills Ford, NC. Regan holds junior academic standing and is a music education major. Also, Regan advanced to the regional level in both the 2018 and 2019 National Association of Teachers of Singing competitions. Regan has participated in various musical programs and served as a soloist at Bethel United Methodist Church, Denver, NC. Regan writes in her essay, "Music is a near perfect reflection of God's beauty and grace. Music opens our hearts and minds and makes us feel something that nothing else in the world can make us feel." Regan aspires to work in church music ministry.



The A. Lee Royal Church Music Scholarship was awarded to **Lyubov Draga**, a sophomore piano student of Dr. Dylan Savage at UNC Charlotte, and the daughter of Vera and Aleksander Draga. Lyubov serves as the Main Choir accompanist and Kid's Choir director for Church of New Hope in Charlotte. In addition, Lyubov participates in missionary trips abroad. She assists in assembling camps for orphans and refugees and shares the gospel through stories, games and songs. In her essay Lyubov writes, "...I am so thankful that I have been given so many opportunities to use my gifts of music to share the gospel to little children. It gives me great joy to be about my Father's business, and in such a fun way! I can't wait to see where He will take me next!"

Metropolitan Music Ministries extends its thanks to audition judges Diann Clark and Meagan Lacher.

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METROPOLITAN MUSIC MINISTRIES
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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2019 ANNUAL SERVICE

September 29
6:00 pm

Providence Baptist Church
4921 Randolph Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28211

Reception follows service.

*You
are
invited!*

HYMN TRIVIA: These are lyrics from famous hymns. See if you can identify the name of the song.

1. Which hymn features the lyric, "What more can He say than to you He hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?"

- How Firm a Foundation
- Standing on the Promises
- Trust and Obey
- He Hideth My Soul

2. This hymn features the lyric, "When peace like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll."

- Amazing Grace
- Blessed Assurance
- It Is Well with My Soul
- My Faith Looks Up to Thee

3. This hymn features the lyric, "This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long."

- Amazing Grace
- My Jesus, I Love Thee
- Blessed Assurance
- Nearer, My God, to Thee

4. This hymn contains the lyric, "All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give."

- Take My Life, and Let It Be
- I Surrender All
- Have Thine Own Way, Lord
- Is Your All on the Alter?

5. This hymn features the lyric, "In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare."

- What a Friend We Have in Jesus
- Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
- I Need Thee Every Hour
- Sweet Hour of Prayer

6. This hymn contains the lyric, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness."

- Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
- Higher Ground
- The Solid Rock
- Count Your Blessings

7. Which hymn features the lyric, "Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come, why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home?"

- How Great Thou Art
- His Eye Is on the Sparrow
- Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- To God Be the Glory

8. This hymn features the line, "Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er. Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!"

- Praise Him! Praise Him!
- Jesus, Lover of My Soul
- 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
- I Love to Tell the Story

9. This hymn features the lyric, "Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all."

- Holy, Holy, Holy
- Come, Thou Almighty King

- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

10. This hymn features the lyric, "Let the water and the blood, from Thy wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure."

- Blessed Assurance
- Be Still My Soul
- Just as I Am
- Rock of Ages

From Fun trivia at <https://www.funtrivia.com/playquiz/quiz2400881b7d248.html>

Answers:

1. How Firm a Foundation
2. It Is Well with My Soul
3. Blessed Assurance
4. I Surrender All
5. Sweet Hour of Prayer
6. The Solid Rock
7. His Eye Is on the Sparrow
8. 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
9. All Hail the Power of Jesus Name
10. Rock of Ages

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



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