

COUNCIL REPORT

Director of Music

February, 2009

Last month, I attended the Church Music Explosion in Ft. Lauderdale. It was, once again, one of the finest conferences I've ever attended. I attended several workshops on organ technique; service playing repertoire; and several choral reading sessions where new music is introduced - sometimes by the composers themselves - to the attendees for possible use in their churches. I also attended workshops on conducting, youth choirs, handbells, and vocal techniques.

I talked to the confirmands and new members class about what and why we do what we do every Sunday morning: explaining the foundations for Christian assembly and the shape of Holy Communion; the history of Lutheran church music; and opportunities to participate in the music program here.

This past Tuesday evening, I had the privilege of providing music for a concert commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the birth of composer Felix Mendelssohn held at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg. An ensemble from our choir sang several anthems (beautifully, I might add), as well as a quartet made up of Amy and myself and Mark and Amy Heinly. Mark and Karen Appel also sang solos. It was a well-attended event, (including many Trinity members) and our musicians received rave reviews. We had only about 3 weeks of rehearsals - but our folks were up to the task!

In addition to the usual weekly rehearsals, I've also been spending a lot of time working on our upcoming concerts: The Thiel Choir, Michael Burkhart Hymn Festival, The Messiah College Choral Arts Society, Expressions of Faith, and The Sacred Concerts of Duke Ellington. These events are just around the corner - not to mention Lent and Easter.

Our 2009/2010 Concert Series is in the planning stages and details are being worked out with the parties involved in booking the various talent.

Respectfully submitted,

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