

# COUNCIL REPORT

Director of Music

March, 2009

All of the choirs have been busy rehearsing their music for the Sunday morning services - especially Easter and two upcoming concerts: the Music Festival with Michael Burkhardt on March 22 and the May 17 concert featuring the Sacred Works of Duke Ellington.

This is also a time when, after winter/spring planning and scheduling has been completed, I spend much time practicing and reviewing those selected pieces.

The 2009/2010 Concert Series is now mostly planned with exciting events including a Festival of Keyboards (4 pianos, 8 hands), organist Olivier Latry from Paris' famed Notre Dame Cathedral, the J. Stewart Hardy Tribute Concert, the newly formed Capital Church Choir Festival, Christmas concerts, etc. etc.....much more to come.

February was a month of strenuous rehearsals preparing for Holy Week, Easter and concerts. Beautiful meditative music will enhance our worship on Maundy Thursday; an ensemble from the choir will sing Good Friday afternoon; I will do the chanting of the Solemn Reproaches on Good Friday evening and the Exultet at the Easter Vigil. The Vigil Choir - an inter-generational group with teenagers and adults - will also sing the Easter Vigil. They sing very well each year - with just one rehearsal! On Easter Sunday, of course, we will present identical services with brass, percussion, timpani, organ and choir.

Also, I played for three funerals, one wedding, and am planning for several weddings over the next few months.

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.

Thanks to all who came to hear the Theil Choir on Saturday night, Feb. 28 and at the 11:00 service on Mar. 1. Presenting music of that caliber is like making a gourmet meal: hours and hours of preparation, the finest ingredients, intricate recipes, and a stunning presentation. It is encouraging to know that so many still enjoy beautifully sung "gourmet" choral music.

Respectfully submitted,

TIM KOCH