

Music Ministry Report to the Vestry – 10/14/08

Music Ministry Goals for 2008-09 *“Leading people to Christ through music in worship”*

In order to fulfill the Long Range Planning Goals set before us by the Vestry, the Music Ministry is focusing on its existing mission statement.

“Leading people to Christ...”

- Goal: **Discipleship** through prayer groups (Chancel Choir), visits with parishioners, the Lay Music Ministry (to Children and Adults), and opportunities of musical and spiritual training (workshops, classes, and conferences). *Long Range Plan Goal #1, 2, and 4*
- Goal: Encouraging **Bible Study** through Sunday morning devotions with the Chancel Choir, Bible stories with the Children’s Choir, and attending small group meetings. *Long Range Plan Goal #1- 4*
- Goal: **Fellowship** through Choir dinners, picnics, outings, retreats and conversation. *Long Range Plan Goal #2 and 4*

“...(through)Music in Worship”

- Goal: **Scripture Based** worship music. *Long Range Plan Goal #1- 4*
- Goal: **Liturgically appropriate** worship music (corresponding with lectionary)
- Goal: **Intergenerational** worship music
- Goal: Nurturing **Congregational/Corporate Singing**
- Goal: Worship Music that best **Demonstrates our faith** at St. Matthew’s
Long Range Plan Goal #1- 4

Although there is always an element of evangelism in corporate worship, our focus during this time must be to bring our individual and corporate sacrifices to God. It is through our talents that we serve Christ, our proclamation of Jesus that we bring glory to the Father, and then through the Holy Spirit that we are evangelized.

Some Specific Goals

- Incorporate each group of the Music Ministry in Sunday Worship in a way that invites congregational singing.
 - Introduce music that is accessible to all ages and abilities.
 - Encourage stronger singing through “responsive” psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (alternate singing of stanzas/refrains).
 - Cantor for unfamiliar songs only to introduce and reinforce congregational singing.
 - Provide worship workshops/classes on the history of hymns and the tradition of singing in the church while continuing weekly lessons in the service bulletins.
- Recruit a larger *core* of singers for the Chancel Choir.

- Recruit a larger *core* of singers for the Sunday Morning Hymn Choir.
 - Advertise the Hymn Choir to the congregation – no weeknight commitments.
- Strengthen the Lay Music Ministry
 - Provide Monthly devotionals to Lay Music Ministers.
 - Meet with each Lay Music Minister once a quarter outside of church activities.
 - Encourage Lay Music Ministers (and all members) to initiate the ministries they feel God leading them to develop at St. Matthew's

Long Term Music Ministry Goals

- Solve issues with Choir rehearsal space.
 - Air conditioning
 - Organization
 - Room
- Music Ministry Outreach to the Community through thoughtful activities/ministries.
 - Children/Youth visiting shut-ins or nursing homes.
 - Providing one (in the next two years) musical worship opportunity that encourages spiritual growth and healing outside of Sunday morning.
 - Examples might be:
 - Lenten prayer service
 - Service that acknowledges grief in song for those who've lost loved ones – Advent/Christmas.
 - Supporting parishioner's talents outside of the walls of St. Matthew's
 - 10K races, sports games, concerts, etc.
- Developing a clear vision of God's purpose of the Music Ministry at St. Matthew's.
 - Focusing all areas of music ministry on the overall vision of the church (Christ, scripture, and service).
 - Developing ministries that lead the church in achieving the overall vision of the church.
- Purchase Choir Microphones for the Sanctuary.

Events and Activities from June 2008 – October 2008

Vacation Bible School – June 23 to 27: Megan, Allison Wise, David Holland, and B. J. provided music and helped with worship everyday for VBS.

Lay Music Ministers Meeting – June 21, August 12

End of the Year Music Ministry Lunch – Tanglewood Ordinary Restaurant – June 29

King's Fest – King's Dominion – July 10 to 12 – Angela Walters, Allison Wise, Christine Hopkins, Megan, and B. J. took 25 youth to this three day Contemporary Christian Music Conference.

Music Ministry Silent Auction – July 26 – Raised \$3,000.00 for Music Ministry Community Outreach Events and Concerts.

Sacred Music Conference – VA Wesleyan College, Norfolk – Megan and B. J. attended the week-long music conference where we gathered ideas by singing in a Hymn Festival, a Sacred Music Concert (with Mass Choir), and attended sessions on Congregational Singing, Children's Music, Handbells, and instrumental music for the church.

Summer Music and Worship Seminar – Thursdays in August - Megan taught a handbell basics/descant class. B. J. taught a Music in Worship class (focused on Hymns).

Sunday School "Worship Series" – August 10 – B. J. taught the adult Sunday School class on "Why we sing in worship".

Music Ministry Picnic – September 13 – Roslyn Center – Kick off party for the new church year. 75 people attended.

6th Dimension Handbell Concert and Workshop – The handbell group from Shenandoah University lead a workshop, open to the public (Attended: Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Chesterfield – Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Glen Allen), focused on advanced ringing techniques and creative bell assignments. The concert that evening was attended by 100 guests and parishioners.

Music for Weddings – June 14th (B. J.'s Mom), July 19th (Johanna Cluver-Montague), Buddy Westbrook (friend of B. J. and Megan).

Leadership for Tuesday Morning Prayer – August 26 and October 14.

Events and Activities from October 2008 – January 2009

Wedding – October 18

Madison Singers Concert – October 24 – 8pm

Hymn Festival – 60th Anniversary – November 2 – 6:30pm

Lessons and Carols – December 21 – 6:30pm

Choir Christmas Party – December 27

Seraphim Concert (UNC Greensboro – Allison Wise) – January 23

On a much more personal note...

Megan will be singing in the chorus for the presentation of the "Music Man" by Henrico Theatre Company (Nov. 7 – 23) at the Glen Allen Cultural Arts Center.

B. J. is chairing the Commonwealth Singers Alumni Choir Committee that will be presenting a benefit concert for the "VCU Friends of Music" scholarship program in February 2009.

B. J. has been invited to sing in the Richmond Symphony Chorus and will be attending his first rehearsal on Tuesday, Oct. 21. They will be presenting St. Matthew's Passion and The Messiah later this year.