# PROGRAM

The music tonight is an offering of prayer and praise to the Giver. Please save applause until the end of the program.

**Opening Voluntary** 

*Prelude Pièce Héroïque March* from Symphony III for Organ

Mary Preston, Organ

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

From Psalm 122

Dr. Charlotte Kroeker, Executive Director, Church Music Institute Rev. Dr. Doug Baker, Marvin United Methodist Church, Tyler, Texas

I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me

C. Hubert H. Parry

I was glad when they said unto me, "We will go into the house of the Lord." Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself. O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces.

# Music, a Gift from God

\*Please stand as able for hymns printed in the program.

César Franck Charles Marie Widor

Louis Vierne

#### Francis of Assisi, trans. William H. Draper

### LASST UNS ERFREUEN Arr. Paul Leddington Wright





What Sweeter Music

Robert Herrick, 1591-1674

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away and give the honour to this day that sees December turned to May. Why does this chilling winter's morn smile, like a field with corn, like a meadow shorn? Come, see the cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'Tis He is born, whose quick'ning birth gives life and lustre, mirth, to heaven and the under earth.

# **Music, for Praise**

O Clap Your Hands

From Psalm 47

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God. Sing praises unto our King, for God is the King of all the earth. Sing ye praises, everyone that hath understanding. God reigneth over the heathen. God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness. Sing praises unto our King.

\* O God, Beyond All Praising

1.0 God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and sing the love a-2. Then\_ hear, O gra-cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring, that we who know your for. maz - ing that songs can- not re we can on-ly won-der pay; at vor may serve you as our and wheth - er our to - mor-rows be fa king; ev rv gift you send, at\_ bless-ings with - out num-ber and mer-cies with out fill'd with good or ill, we'll tri - umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you lift our hearts be - fore. end: we your you and wait up - on still: to. mar vel at your beau ty and glo - ry in your -Word, we hon - or and a- dore\_ you, our great and might-y Lord.

sac - ri - fice

of

praise,

a joy-ful du - ty our

Michael Perry

ways,

and\_ make

Hal H. Hopson

ng THAXTED

Gustav Holst, Arr. Robert Hobby

# Music, for the Journey

In the Year That King Uzziah Died

David McK. Williams

In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphim; each one had six wings. With twain he covered his face, with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, "Woe is me! For I am undone because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips, for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." Then flew one of the seraphim, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar, and he laid it upon my mouth and said, "Lo, this hath touched thy lips, and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin is purged." Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then said I, "Here am I, send me."

# Oh! For a Closer Walk with God

William Cowper, 1731-1800

*Oh!* For a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame; a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb! Return, O holy Dove, return; sweet messenger of rest. I hate the sins that made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast. So shall my walk be close with God, calm, and serene my frame. So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

### Keep Your Lamps!

Arr. Andre Thomas

Charles Villiers Stanford

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh. Children don't get weary 'til your work is done. Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

# Music, for the Heart

*The Gift of Love* 

I Corinthians 13, Par. Hal H. Hopson

American Folk Tune, Arr. Hal H. Hopson

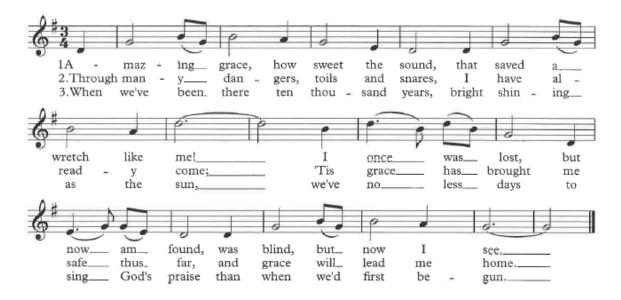
Though I may speak with bravest fire and have the gift to all inspire and have not love, my words are vain as sounding brass and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess and striving so my love profess, but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship and are freed. Amen.

#### Spiritual

Isaiah 6:1-8

John Newton, 1779; Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790

AMAZING GRACE Virginia Harmony, 1831



The Lord Is My Shepherd

Psalm 23

John Rutter

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk thro' the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Ann Knipschild, Oboe

# Music, with All the Saints

Shall We Gather At The River?

Words & Music by Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Arr. Hal H. Hopson

Shall we gather at the river where bright angel feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God? Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful river. Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God. Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down. Grace our spirits will deliver, provide a robe and crown. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease. Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

### \* For All the Saints

#### William Walsham How

SINE NOMINE Arr. Paul Leddington Wright



#### Stanzas 1, 2, 6 – all; Stanza 3 – choir only

# Through Music, a Church United

Sanctus & Benedictus from Mass for Two Choirs & Two Organs, Op. 36

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Charles Marie Widor Arr. Terry Price & Robert Mann

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Salvation Is Created

Pavel Tschesnokoff

Salvation is created in the midst of the earth, O God, our God. Alleluia.

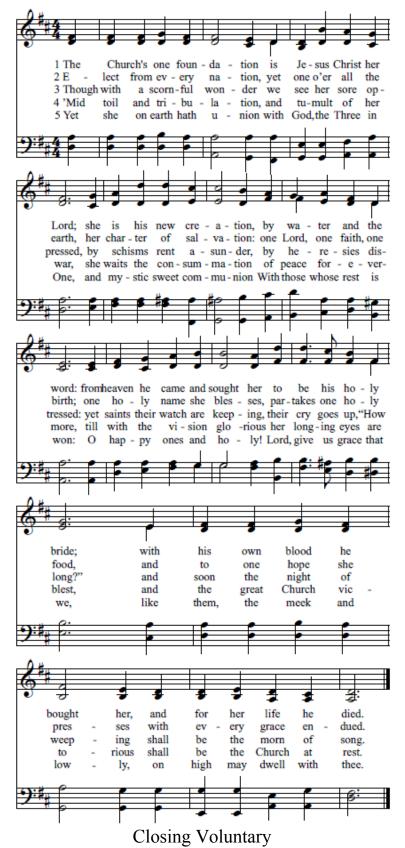
A PARTING BLESSING

Rev. Dr. Stuart Baskin, First Presbyterian Church, Tyler, Texas

Samuel John Stone, 1866

AURELIA Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Stanzas 1, 5 – all in unison; Stanza 2 in parts; Stanza 3 – unison men; Stanza 4 – unison women



Mary Preston, Organ

Charles Marie Widor

The Church Music Institute Honors

# Hal H. Hopson Composer, Lyricist, Church Musician, Theologian

Hal H. Hopson is the most prolific composer of church music of his generation. With more than 1,800 published works for 30 publishers, Mr. Hopson's music is heard weekly in congregations throughout our country. His compositions reflect respect for the best liturgical tradition, scripture and theology. Mr. Hopson composes music accessible to nearly all choirs and congregations, striving always to include rather than to exclude. His published repertoire includes almost every conceivable genre: anthems for children, youth, adult choirs; compositions for organ, piano, harpsichord, handbells. Mr. Hopson writes especially for congregations in concertato anthems, hymn tunes, responsorial psalm settings, and liturgical services.

A church musician throughout his professional life, Mr. Hopson has also been conductorclinician for workshops and choral festivals in the United States, Europe, and Asia, and professor of church music at Westminster Choir College and Scarritt Graduate School. He is also a hymn writer whose texts appear in major denominational hymnals.

Hal Hopson was born in Mound, Texas, in a family of thirteen children where music making figured prominently. His first piano teacher was his older sister, Merle, whom he holds in deep regard for her enormous musical and personal influences on his life. Hopson's well-known hymn tune, MERLE'S TUNE, is named in her honor. He first accompanied worship services at age thirteen and later graduated from Baylor University and Southern Baptist Seminary with B.A. and M.S.M. degrees, respectively. He completed additional study at universities and conservatories in the United States and Germany.

A recipient of many honors for his distinguished service to music, Mr. Hopson is listed in the *International Who's Who in Music*, Cambridge, England. He has served on the national boards of Presbyterian Association of Musicians, Choristers Guild, the Church Music Institute, and has received annual awards from ASCAP for many consecutive years. Expertise in psalmody and liturgy led to appointments on the Symposium for Church Composers sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Milwaukee and the Task Force on Psalmody sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, USA, which resulted in the official Psalter for the denomination.

*God with Us*, a cantata by Hal Hopson, was chosen during the American Bicentennial, 1976, for placement in a capsule to be opened and performed at the Tercentennial in 2076. This composition was selected because it was judged to be representative of choral music of the century. It received a performance on National Public Radio during the Bicentennial Celebration.

In the summer of 2013, Austin, Texas, became the home of Hopson and his wife, Martha Smith Hopson, also a church musician. They have three children, six grandchildren, and enjoy living in the beautiful Texas hill country.

Hal H. Hopson embodies characteristics Church Music Institute considers important for church musicians: a deep and personal faith commitment, a servant leader, exemplary professional qualifications, recognition that music is the vehicle of liturgy in worship. Church Music Institute honors Hal H. Hopson for his lifetime of service to the music of the church and gives thanks that subsequent generations will continue to be recipients of his extraordinary gifts. Dr. Robert C. Mann

#### Tributes

Hal Hopson has a rare gift for writing lyrical, accessible tunes -- the kind that people find themselves humming and singing throughout the week after having experienced them in worship on a Sunday morning (or in choir practice on a Wednesday night). The new Presbyterian hymnal is greatly enriched by including more than a dozen entries from this distinguished contributor to the church's song. Mary Louise Bringle, chair of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song

Working with Hal Hopson has always been an honor and a privilege. His contributions to the collective song of the Church will echo for many generations to come. Mark W. Lawson, MorningStar Music Publishers

The invaluable contributions of Hal Hopson to church music will live on in the voices of generations yet to come, who will give thanks to this composer and writer. And so do I! David E. Eicher, Hymnal Editor, Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal (2013)

One of the best things about working with Hal Hopson, one of the great church musicians and composers of our generation, is to spend time with one of the nicest individuals I have had the pleasure to know. Jim Rindelaub, Choristers Guild

Hal Hopson composes theologically strong, liturgically supportive, skillfully conceived, and melodically inviting music that is readily accessible to all congregations, serving the church and giving glory to God for many future generations. William McConnell, Executive Director – Presbyterian Association of Musicians

# FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS

CONDUCTOR is Paul Leddington Wright, also an organist, composer and arranger of sacred and classical music. He has served BBC Radio and TV for over 25 years, including the popular weekly program Songs of Praise. Between 1991 and 2011, Mr. Leddington Wright served as Artistic Director of the annual International Church Music Festival. His strong connection with Conventry Cathedral endures as a member of the music staff and conductor of Saint Michael's Singers. Each year he organizes the Royal Maundy Service for Her Majesty the Queen.

ORGANIST is Mary Preston, who is Resident Organist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Organist/Choirmaster of St. John's Episcopal Church, Dallas. In addition to performing recitals throughout the world, Ms. Preston has appeared on National Public Radio's "Pipedreams" and as recitalist at numerous regional and national conventions of the American Guild of Organists. Recognized as an international recording artist, Ms. Preston's recordings on the Meyerson Lay Family Concert Organ for the Gothic and Naxos labels have met with rave reviews.

COORDINATOR OF FESTIVAL CHOIR is Terry Price, Director of Music at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church, Dallas. He has directed choirs at church music festivals in Coventry and Cambridge, England, and Rome, Italy, and served as Interim Director of the Dallas Symphony Chorus, 2009-10.

#### INSTRUMENTALISTS

Trumpets:	Ryan Anthony	Horn: Mark Houghton
	Brad Luna	Trombones: Don Bozman
	Cody McLarty	Rob Graham
	Jarrod Beard	Oboe: Ann Knipschild
Percussion:	Steven Kimple	Timpani: Judy Melson

#### PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Emmanuel Presbyterian, Bedford First Presbyterian, Arlington First Presbyterian, Bonham First Presbyterian, Forney First Presbyterian Grapevine First Presbyterian, Plano First Presbyterian, Richardson First Presbyterian, Tyler First United Methodist, Paris First United Methodist, The Colony Marvin United Methodist, Tyler Preston Hollow Presbyterian, Dallas St. George Episcopal, Dallas St. John's Episcopal, Dallas St. Mark's United Methodist, Mesquite St. Philip Presbyterian, Hurst Trinity Presbyterian, Flower Mound Trinity Presbyterian, Plano West Plano Presbyterian, Plano

#### DIRECTORS

**Clinton Bray Russell Farnell** Roger Ashcraft Wayne Davis **Rick Walsh** Linda Dyer Pease Ralph Stannard\* Donald Duncan Pat Fowzer **Tish Davenport** Jim Broussard\* Terry Price\* Peggy Wood Mary Preston Larry McCord Pam Cochrane Sara Abell Dave Leeman Kathy Johnson

\*Festival Choir Rehearsal Conductor

"As a congregation needs a pastor, As the liturgy needs voices, as the two or three in worship need each other, So the church needs music and music needs the church." ~Paul Manz, 1919-2009

> My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me. Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. ~Samuel Crossman, 1664

"The Christian community sings. . .the community that does not sing is not the community. . .it can be at best only a troubled community which is not sure of its cause and of whose ministry and witness there can be no great expectation." ~Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics, IV* 

> Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings. It is the Lord who rises with healing in His Wings. ~William Cowper, 1731-1800

"The best, most beautiful, and most perfect way that we have of expressing sweet concord of mind to each other, is by music. When I would form in my mind an idea of a society in the highest degree happy, I think of them as expressing their love, their joy, and the inward concord and spiritual beauty of their souls by sweetly singing to each other." ~Jonathon Edwards, *The Miscellanies*, #188

#### FESTIVAL UNDERWRITERS

Ruth Ann Ernst Lois Ann and Gary Godfrey Jeanne R Johnson Charlotte Kroeker and Robert Mann

Durel and Barbara Reid Richard and Enika Schulze George and Nesha Morey Kim and Diana Warner

#### GIFTS GIVEN FOR THE HAL H. HOPSON LECTURESHIP (as of October 23, 2013)

Lance Bohannon

Annette Albrecht Myra Boswell Jane Dingwall Jim and Cindy Finley Carol Ann Graham Charlotte Kroeker and Robert Mann Andrew Meyercord Sara Moseley Deanna Palmer Mary Preston Pamela Jo Ramp Schneller Joe Snyder Sarah and Don Warnecke Chancel Choir of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Flower Mound, TX

Anne Bowman Kimberlee Maphis Early Cathey and Wilford Fuqua Joan Hemer Dave Leeman George and Nesha Morey Sameera Murad John Palmer Terry and Alyce Price Richard and Enika Schulze Nancy Stevens Kim and Diana Warner

Abbe Bolich Donna Corbett Ruth Ann Ernst Gary and Lois Ann Godfrey Marilyn and Jack Irons Carolyn Lewis Ellen Morton John Neely Carol and Bob Poteet Don Read John and Keith Semingson Ed Tompkins Karen Wiese Joan MacFarlane

#### GIFTS GIVEN FOR THE PAUL LINDSLEY THOMAS LECTURESHIP (as of October 23, 2013)

Pamela and Michael Barbera Vance and Susan Campbell Nancy Currey Louise and Guy Griffeth Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson Mary and Jerry Massengale William and Carol Pardoe Jane and George Slover, Jr. Charles R. Stewart Suzanne and Robert H. Thomas Peter N. Wiggins, III

**Robert Harms Bliss** Peggy, Web and Catherine Carr Philip Fischer Winnie and Davis Hamlin Charlotte Kroeker & Robert Mann Alex Martin Ann C. Mills Robert and Sue Patton Steve and Pat Snider Brenda Stubel Tignor M. and Peggy Thompson Peggy Wood

#### SUSTAINING GIFTS, 2012-13

Anonymous Suzanne and Mark Anderson **Deedy Bennett Timothy Binkley** Chris Brunt Kathy and Gary Collier Alice Court Greg Elam Philip Fischer Michael Hawn Orrena Herod Hal and Martha Hopson Jarl and Nadine Johnson Bedford and Kathryn Knipschild

Elmer and Jean Adams Byron and Billy Bates Lee and Lee Berlin Lance Bohannon Patricia Coggan Richard and Annette Conklin Carolyn Dennis Ruth Ann Ernst Betty Marie Fry John Hedrick Linda Hester Marilyn and Jack Ed Irons Jeanne R. Johnson Ann Knipschild

Joan Blomquist Plack Carr Garnett B. Grevelle Blake Hull George and Nesha Morey Ashley Priddy Mr. and Mrs. James M. Spellings Sylvia Taylor Nancy Weber Tish Woodruff

Annette and Wayne Albrecht J. Robert and Leslie Beatty Betty Bernshausen Mildred Brumble Mike and Garland Cohlmia James and Wanda Cowles Kay and Hal Damiano Jim and Cindy Finley Gary and Lois Ann Godfrey Tena Hehn Gus Hoehn Don Horisberger Peter Knecht Paul Klemme

Robert Koch Elaine Longer Sueda Luttrell Larry McCain Steve and Marcia Miller Ellen Morton John Neely Diane and Ed Parry Carol and Bob Poteet David and Virginia Rester Jan Schmidt Bill and Mica Sleeper Anne Stewart Melvin and Helen Warkentin Paul and Cynthia Weatherall Stan and Judy Woodward

Charlotte Kroeker & Robert Mann Frank and Leta Lassetter Don and Elsa Jean Looser Thomas Manton: DeeDee Manton Loretta Massad Suzanne McGraw Karen Monroe Sara Moseley Leslie Niemi William Pasch Mary Preston Diane and John Rutzler Richard and Enika Schulze Arlene Small Charlotte Test Sarah and Don Warnecke Charles Webb Carol and Billy Willis

Ann Love Andrew and Megan Meyercord George and Nesha Morey John and Sameera Murad Ron and Deanna Palmer Elizabeth J. Pense Durel and Barbara Reid James Savage Robert and Betty Sherman Don and Mary Jane Stake Fave Thompson Kim and Diana Warner Margot Williamson Nancy Wright

Conoco Phillips – Matching Grant Exxon Mobil - Matching Grant

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS GIFTS

Suzanne McGraw - Course Project in Music and Worship First Presbyterian Church, Forney, TX – "Praying Twice" Music & Worship Study Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard, OR - Oregon Summer Workshop Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Grove, OR - Oregon Summer Workshop

#### Charlotte, North Carolina Festival of Church Music

Julian and E.J. Albergotti Dick and Judy Austin Kenneth and Hilary Brown Robert and Laura Lynne Frazier Lewis and Carolyn Gaskin George and Nesha Morey St. John's Episcopal Church St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Centenary United Methodist Church Covenant Presbyterian Church Myers Park Baptist Church Park Road Baptist Church Presbytery of Charlotte Sardis Presbyterian Chuch St. John's Baptist Church

#### FOUNDING BENEFACTORS

We give special thanks for three founding benefactors, Harold W. McGraw, Jr. In Memorium, Jeanne Johnson, Anne Stewart, and for the many other founding members who gave generously when the Church Music Institute was a dream. Now, they and many others have been part of creating the reality of CMI that continues to serve worshipping congregations across the United States and beyond.

### ABOUT THE CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE

### Mission:

The Church Music Institute is dedicated to the practice, advancement and stewardship of the best of liturgical and sacred music for worshipping Christian congregations. The Institute offers educational courses, workshops, on-site and online resources, fosters conversation among musicians, pastors and laypersons, and sponsors research in the field of church music.

### Vision:

The Institute acknowledges music as one of God's greatest gifts, deserving of our best understanding and care. The work of the Institute is thus based on the following assumptions:

\*That music in worship should be chosen for its capacity to approach holiness, beauty and transcendence in the worship of God.

\*That music in worship is a vehicle for prayer, praise, and proclamation, serving the gathered community of all ages and backgrounds.

\*That leaders of music in worship must first be equipped with the finest skills as musicians, and further with the theological and musical skills to enable congregational song as prayer and praise.

\*That leaders of music in worship must have available resources that reflect the best of literature and practices available from current and past contributions to the music in Christian worship.

\*That pastors/priests must be equipped to work together with musicians so that together they can combine word and music to the glory of God and as a vehicle for the worship of the congregation.

# Why is the Institute important?

\*The Institute is the one venue in the United States for pastors/priests and musicians to address the music of worship in an ecumenical, non-commercial setting.

\*The Institute provides workshops, seminars, academic courses, conferences, and online resources where clergy and musicians receive musical and theological training and locate resources for planning worship.

\*The Institute maintains an archive of more than 5,000 catalogued sacred anthems, searchable in twenty-four fields in *eLibrary*, a one-of-a-kind online database.

### Who is behind the Institute?

\*The Church Music Institute began in December of 2006 with a group of musicians, clergy and laypersons interested in strengthening the music of Christian worship. Three Presbyterians gave initial funding, and the Institute has grown through the support of hundreds of donors to become an educational entity with a national presence, offering workshops and church music festivals throughout the country. The Institute is ecumenical and serves a broad range of Christian denominations. CMI is incorporated in the State of Texas and has IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit status.

\*A board of directors guides CMI. The Board includes Kim Warner, Chair (Retired V.P., Texas Presbyterian Foundation), George Morey, Treasurer (Retired Corporate Financial Executive); Ruth Ann Ernst, Board Secretary (Business Owner and Lay Musician); Mary Ruth Caldwell (Music Educator and Church Musician), Jim Finley (JFA Consulting, Inc.); Lois Ann Godfrey (Church Musician); Dr. Robert Mann (Professor Emeritus, School of Music, Stephen F. Austin State University); Nesha Morey (Music Educator); Diana Warner (Lay Musician); and the Rev. Dr. Paul Westermeyer (Professor Emeritus, Luther Seminary). A group of nationally prominent advisory board members assists the organization in varied areas of expertise.

\*Executive Director is Dr. Charlotte Kroeker who came to Dallas from the University of Notre Dame where she held a faculty research position in church music. She is the editor of *Music in Christian Worship*, Liturgical Press, 2005 and author of *The Sounds We Offer: Achieving Excellence in Church Music*, Alban Institute, 2011.

### Where is the Institute housed?

\*The Institute is located in offices in North Dallas at 7557 Rambler Road, Suite 420, off Walnut Hill between Central Expressway and Greenville.

# THE CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE

George and Nesha Morey, Festival Coordinators

Dr. Charlotte Kroeker, Executive Diector Dr. Robert Mann, Resource Library Director Carolyn Lewis, Administrator Rev. Janne Brumbelow, Volunteer Dr. Kenneth Hart, Volunteer Sylvia Taylor, Volunteer Peggy Wood, Volunteer

Cover Design by Walter E. Gast <u>wegast@att.net</u> Cover Photography courtesy of Jack Ed Irons

# Check Your Church Music Facts!

Do you know....

More live music is made in churches than in all other venues in the U.S. combined, including schools, concerts, and public performances of all kinds.

There are more choirs in churches than all other choruses in the U.S.

Choral singers are better citizens when measured by community service, frequency of voting, charitable giving, volunteer work.

30-60% of an average worship services consists of music.

We remember a text we sing much longer than spoken words we hear.

Music marks the important occasions in our lives (e.g. Christmas, Easter, baptisms, weddings, funerals) and the music of those occasions helps us remember their importance.

Hymns contain the accumulated theological wisdom of centuries of Christians.

Hymn tunes are often folk music, some of the most beautiful, singable music ever heard.

Most hymnals contain hymns written from the 4<sup>th</sup> century continuously to the present.

Hymns, since they are most often based on Scripture, provide a way to learn the Christian faith.

60-90% of mainline churches use an organ and choir in their primary worship service.

A recent study found church-goers under age 30 prefer church music to be beautiful, transcendent, and different from music they encounter in popular culture.

The commandment to sing is one of the most frequently found directives in the Bible, especially in the Psalms, which were written to be sung.

Singing is best learned when learning to talk, a skill that will last a lifetime.

Singing is voiced prayer.

Healthy choirs support singing congregations who comprise healthy churches.

Music has been associated with the worship of God from the earliest historical records of civilization.

NOTES