

2021 Was an Exciting Year of Firsts!

We are grateful to CMI's supporters and constituents for navigating two most unusual years for the church and CMI. The music of our faith is emerging stronger and more deeply embedded in our worship as CMI's resources reach more people engaged with each other and in this important work. Thank you! We look forward to 2022 with you.

- Charlotte Kroeker, Executive Director

January - Eric Birk of AGO presented "Organ Music for Meditation" while choirs were not yet singing because of the pandemic.

February - Online Book Study of *Church Music & the Christian Faith* by Erik Routley drew participants from across the country, led by Dallas Chapter AGO Dean Chris Brunt.

March - Joint Webinar with AGO featured Lilly/CMI Clergy-Musician Scholars who demonstrated productive working relationships and congregational projects to a national audience. We lost our wonderful board member Diane Parry to glioblastoma.

April - Joint Webinar with ACDA featured an online tour of the CMI Choral and Organ Libraries to a curious audience of thousands. We even planned a Pentecost service!

May - CMI hosted an online meeting of the Suffolk County, NY chapter of the AGO for their May meeting to explore the Organ and Choral libraries, and awarded CMI memberships to delighted winners of a raffle.

June - With Brite Divinity School, CMI offered the online graduate course, "Congregational Song" to students from Beijing to Cork County, Ireland and all U.S. time zones in between, led by six illustrious professors – from their home offices across the country!

July - CMI received the thousands of books and pieces of music from the libraries of Fr. Jan Michael Joncas, the largest and most comprehensive collection ever donated to CMI.

August - CMI held its first hybrid onsite and online summer event at Northridge Presbyterian Church Dallas, with Bob Chilcott and Craig Cramer as Paul Thomas and Hal Hopson Lecturers.

September - A panel of experts gave tips for "New Beginnings" as the pandemic eased and church music programs began to open along with congregational worship and singing.

October - Don Saliers led a workshop titled "Sounding the Depths" on what matters and why in music and worship; Don Horisberger and Charlotte Kroeker led an Advent planning session. (cont. page 2)



A CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!

2022-2023
CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE

WORSHIP AND MUSIC PROJECT

Project Information:

Study opportunities for clergy/musician scholar teams with a congregational representative

A project to inform, energize and engage congregations and their leaders in a more vital worship life, based in proven practices, using local resources

For information and to apply:

www.churchmusicinstitute.org/worship-music-project/

Applications Due February 28, 2022.

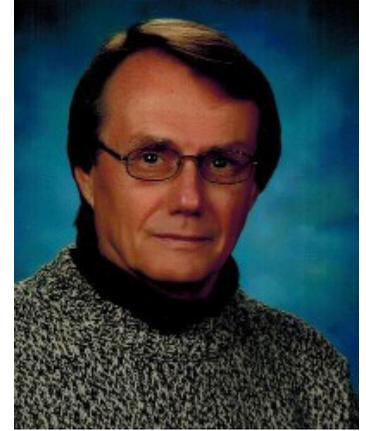
November - Don Horisberger and Charlotte Kroeker led a Christmas planning session. We gave tearful but fond farewells to inspirational composer and church musician Dr. Paul Lindsley Thomas.

December - CMI celebrated the legacy of Hal and Martha Hopson and the nearing completion of the endowed fund that will continue the Worship and Music Education project on their behalf.

Welcoming Dr. Rene Schmidt

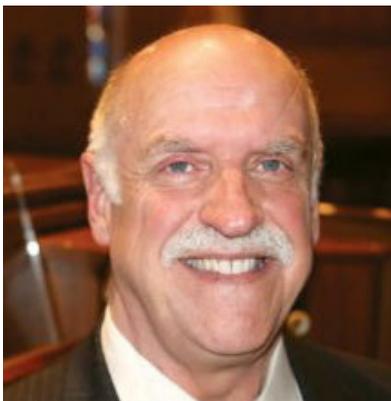
The Church Music Institute is pleased to welcome Dr. Rene Schmidt as Director of Libraries and Associate Director of CMI as of January 20, 2022. Dr. Schmidt will take over primary responsibility for all of the CMI libraries as Dr. Robert Mann will continue as Senior Resource Librarian. In addition, Dr. Schmidt will assist in administration and future planning in his role as Associate Director. Dr. Schmidt, a musicologist, church musician and educator is well equipped to serve the musicians, clergy and congregations among CMI's clientele. Originally from Minnesota and the son of a Lutheran minister, Dr. Schmidt holds degrees from Luther College, Southern Methodist University with masters in organ and harpsichord, and the Ph.D. in musicology from the University of North Texas where his doctoral dissertation focused on the Christmas Cantatas of Christoph Graupner. Equally at home as a scholar, educator, church musician, and volunteer for historical projects in the community, Dr. Schmidt is the recipient of numerous awards from

entities such as the Dallas ISD, the Dallas Symphony, and Preservation Dallas. His long, dedicated service to Christ Episcopal Church in Oak Cliff was accompanied by teaching in the Anglican School of Theology for over a decade, and numerous leadership positions in the Dallas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Learn to know him, and you'll not only learn about church music but you might get a tip on a good mystery book or two! He frequently hosts a Murder, Mystery and Spirituality book club that, like church music, spawns perennial questions with soul searching answers.



UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

For details and registration, visit: www.churchmusicinstitute.org/events/



January 8th

Best Ideas for Organ hosted by Michael Bedford



January 15th

Best Ideas for Choral Conductors hosted by Tim Sharp



January 29th

Preparing for Lent with Old Testament Scholar Dr. Wilma Ann Bailey

Remembering Dr. Paul Lindsley Thomas (1929-2021)

Few people in our lives make such a difference that we mark their intersection as “before” and “after.” Paul Lindsley Thomas’s faith, expressed in the music he composed and offered as a church musician, changed lives forever. We must not forget. It is now for us who remain to perpetuate the gifts of his glorious music and eloquent “best practice” of church music.

The Church Music Institute receives with gratitude the legacy of Dr. Thomas in the form of all his music, archives, and the lectureship in his name that has brought luminaries in church music for over a decade to inform and inspire church musicians across the U.S. Gifts to CMI designated to the lectureship will endow a fund to continue the lectureship and access to his music into perpetuity.

What is the legacy of Paul Lindsley Thomas for CMI to carry? We have his own words to help us understand, written in 2010 and reaffirmed in 2021:

“The opportunity to perpetuate the

highest of ideals in church music to which I committed my life has been offered by friends of mine. The Church Music Institute (CMI) is the extraordinary vehicle for advancing those ideals.”

“When we offer anything to God, it needs to be the best of which we are capable. As much as possible we must pursue excellence.”

“When we offer anything to God, it needs to be the best of which we are capable. As much as possible we must pursue excellence. This is what CMI cultivates. I do not see any reason why church music should not exhibit the same excellence that one experiences in the finest concert halls.”

“With all my adult and children’s choirs, I would always remind them that we offer God not just our money but our time and talent to the best of our capability. The result was incredibly beautiful,

even though the musicians were volunteers. The product was always greater than the sum of its parts because the inspiration of the moment took over.”

“Individual musicians with varying levels of expertise out-performed their supposed capabilities. That was the Holy Spirit at work – the ‘X-factor.’”

“The offering of this music nourished the spiritual growth, prayer and praise of the Christian congregations who experienced it.”

“Today I envision the Church Music Institute carrying on this mission. Through the work of CMI, I think what is happening here is just as good as what is happening in New York, for instance. I know that CMI can do this better than any individual church because it serves multiple churches and denominations and is unhampered by denominational barriers or changing local church leadership.”

We give thanks for the music of our faith Dr. Thomas loved and to which he devoted his life. If you would like to join us in perpetuating his legacy at the Church Music Institute, we welcome your memories and pictures for the archives, and your gifts to his lectureship and maintenance of his collection.

Read more about his life here: churchmusicinstitute.org/remembering-dr-paul-lindsley-thomas/

We give in gratitude and appreciation for a life well lived.

Donations to the lectureship can be made by check or at: churchmusicinstitute.org/donate/



Left: Terry Price, Paul Thomas, & Charlotte Kroeker in 2010 when Paul Lindsley Thomas received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the CMI Meyerson Festival of Church Music. **Right:** Notables John Weaver, Hal Hopson and Paul Lindsley Thomas at a CMI Summer Workshop



To listen to a beautiful rendition of Shout the Glad Tidings by Paul Lindsley Thomas with the Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church choir, visit: www.churchmusicinstitute.org/shout-the-glad-tidings

Looking Forward to 2022!

- CMI welcomes **Dr. Rene Schmidt** to its staff as Director of Libraries and Associate Director of CMI in January, 2022.
- Dr. Robert Mann's book, *The Church Sings Its Faith*, will be published by GIA early in 2022.
- Yearlong topical sessions on Saturday mornings will continue, bringing expertise on many topics and shared experiences, wisdom, and expertise from members.
- The graduate course, "Music in Christian Worship" taught with Brite Divinity School will be offered online, June 13-24, 2022.
- In August, 2022, CMI will host another event available for clergy, musicians and congregations.
- On October 30, 2022, the Rev. Dr. Peter Marty will lecture and hold a workshop on worship and music, concluding with a mass choir singing Evensong.

**The Church Music Institute
is a proud partner of the American
Choral Directors Association and the
American Guild of Organists.**

AMERICAN
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***Informed by the past
Committed to the present
Preparing for the future***

Become a member!

A CMI membership gives you access to our extensive, carefully curated Sacred Music Libraries, with Organ and Choral repertoire searchable by scripture, hymn tune, composer, and more!

To become a member, sign up at www.churchmusicinstitute.org/membership/

Let's connect!

CMI is now on Instagram! Follow us @churchmusicinstitute on Instagram, as well as on Facebook and Twitter, to keep up with the latest CMI happenings!

CMI
CHURCH MUSIC
INSTITUTE

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Dedicated to the advancement and stewardship of the best liturgical and sacred music for Christian worship, serving clergy, musicians, and congregants.