

The American Center of CHURCH MUSIC

Volume 3, Number 2

February 1992



Autumn Festival of Choirs at Hill Auditorium

photos by Skip Landini



Piper Robert Lovell at the Choir Festival

Reviews from the Fall Season

Choir Festival

The outstanding acoustics of Hill Auditorium on the U-M campus sympathized with our 150 choristers from seven area church choirs to present a massed choir festival on Sunday, October 13. The occasion was the celebration of the third anniversary of The American Center of Church Music. Brass, bagpipes, voices, and the Frieze Memorial Organ all joined forces to provide a thrilling and inspiring afternoon, aptly affirming the mission of the ACCM as a center for the promotion of church music. Can you imagine singing an anthem with 25 tenors? Now that is a thrill!

Anyone wishing to be part of a similar event in the coming year, please let us know. Your comments are important to us.

Advent Music Series

The Karl Wilhelm organ of the First Congregational Church, Ann Arbor, was the centerpiece for the Sixth Annual Advent Music Series. This year organist Marilyn Mason was joined by the Galliard Brass Quartet in a program some of which is included in the CD that this team recently produced. Others in the series were U-M doctoral student Richard Schneider with guest cellist Beth Vandervennet, and baritone Richard Banks accompanied by organist James Nissen.

Steering Committee

So who are we and what do we steer, anyway? The American Center of Church Music is not a membership organization. It is a catalyst to collaborate with other people and organizations for the promotion of church music and the training of church musicians. Our steering committee refines the ideas which come from the Board of Directors and carries them to completion.

Steering Committee Members:

Susan Berry (bells),
Cheryl Brining (guitar, voice),
Kay Ray (bells, children's choirs),
Margarete Thomsen (mailing list, organ),
Donald Williams (organ, choir).

Part of our vision for Fall, 1992, is to open a Satellite Center in Plymouth, Michigan, to serve the corridor between Detroit and Ann Arbor. It is hoped that this will be a convenience for those living in Northville, Plymouth, Canton, and nearby communities. In the future we can be equipped to offer classes in most aspects of church music, including piano, organ, choral repertoire and training, organ skills, vocal training, guitar, flute, and aspects of children's choirs. However, to begin our Satellite program, we are organizing only one aspect, a youth chorus.

Plymouth Area Youth Chorus

Membership will be by audition and will be open to students in the 5th through 8th grade. Each student must also belong to a music ensemble in his/her school or church.

Conductors:

Michele Johns, Susan Lindquist, Margarete Thomsen. all are seasoned music educators and are active in the Plymouth area promoting music training and appreciation among people of all ages. They are especially interested, however, in nurturing the talents of young people.

A 26-week season is planned, including a Winter concert and a Spring concert. Repertoire will be both sacred and secular with emphasis on a wide variety of styles of music. Auditions will be held during the two weeks prior to the kickoff rehearsal in September.

The conductors and founders of the Plymouth Area Youth Chorus are excited about the many possibilities open to talented youth and they hope to provide rich opportunities for musical growth as well as fun.

Students who are accepted into this ensemble will enrich their own school or church music programs in new and creative ways.

Coming Events

FEBRUARY 8, 8 P.M.

- **Bells and Organ Concert**
Antioch Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills. Re-dedication of the E.M. Skinner organ by Michele Johns, organist, and the Detroit Handbell Ensemble, Susan Berry, conductor. This event is a collaboration of the American Center of Church Music and Handbell Services, Inc.

FEBRUARY 16, 4:30 P.M.

- **Third Annual Festival of Choirs**
First United Methodist Church of Plymouth. Eight choirs will present a massed choir festival to celebrate the installation of a new organ by W. Zimmer & Sons.

MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 12:15 P.M.

- **Twelfth Annual Lenten Music Series**
Wednesdays in the First Congregational Church, Ann Arbor. Hear the stunning Karl Wilhelm Organ and enjoy a light lunch following the concert. Light lunch following the concert. Presented by the American Guild of Organists, Ann Arbor Chapter.

Performers:

- March 4 – Mark B. Smith
- March 11 – Pamela Decker and Margarete Thomsen
- March 18 – J.S. Bach
"Neumeister Chorales," Part One.
- March 25 – J.S. Bach
"Neumeister Chorales," Part Two
- April 1 – Geoff Stanton
- April 8 – Ray McLellan and Sarah Albright

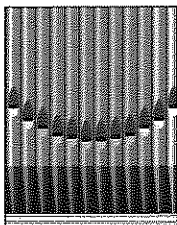
MARCH 6, 8 P.M.

- **Brass, Pipes, and Bells Concert**
Metropolitan Methodist Church, Detroit. Featuring Michele Johns, organist, Detroit Handbell Ensemble, Susan Berry, conductor, and members of the Detroit Chamber Winds. This concert is part of the 17th Music Guild Series of the church.

APRIL 4, 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

- **Handbell workshop for directors and ringers**
St. Hugo of the Hills Church, Bloomfield. A collaboration of the American Center of Church Music, Handbell Services, Inc., and the Archdiocese of Detroit Office of Worship.

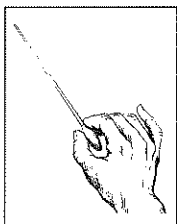
Upcoming Workshops Sponsored by ACCM



- **MARILYN MASON MASTER CLASS** at the First Congregational Church, Ann Arbor. The Neumeister Chorales will be back by popular demand! (Order Barenreiter edition #5181) Plan to come and enjoy learning these lovely and short gems from the Bach repertoire. You are also welcome to

come and play other similar repertoire. The class enjoys an informal and enthusiastic learning atmosphere, no matter what music is being presented. Dates: Mondays at 7:30 p.m. February 17, March 9 & March 16. Fee: \$20 per class or \$50 for the three classes.

Enter by the William Street door, under the portico.



- **SIGHT-SINGING FOR CHURCH CHORISTERS** This is a new class formed as a result of several requests. Don't you wish you knew how to read the anthems better? Don't you wish your singers did? Bring them along. The class will be taught by U-M

doctoral student Margarete Thomsen who is also a Teaching Assistant in the Music Theory Department. Margarete is also a member of the ACCM Steering Committee. Classes will be on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. February 11 & 18; March 3 & 10. Location: The U-M School of Music, North Campus, Studio 2110. (This studio is near the front entrance to the school, right at the circle drive. Free and lighted parking at night.) Fee: \$10 per session. No text books needed. All materials will be provided for you.

REGISTRATION FORM MASON MASTERCLASS

Please enclose a check for \$20 (payable to ACCM) as a non-refundable application fee which will be credited toward the Class.

RETURN TO:

The American Center of Church Music
3339 Burbank Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

(313) 662-8612

I plan to attend the Mason Master Classes:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____

REGISTRATION FORM SIGHT-SINGING

Please enclose a check for \$10 (payable to ACCM) as a non-refundable application fee which will be credited toward the Class.

RETURN TO:

The American Center of Church Music
3339 Burbank Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

(313) 662-8612

I plan to attend the Sight-Singing Classes:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____

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The
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The American Center of CHURCH MUSIC

An Ann Arbor, Michigan
based non-profit organization
for the promotion of church
music and the enrichment
of church musicians

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Hymns for all Occupations

Golfer's Hymn	There Is A Green Hill Far Away
Dentist's Hymn	Crown Him With Many Crowns
Obstetrician's Hymn	Come, Labor On
Aerobic Instructor's Hymn	Awake My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve
Swiss Cheese Maker's Hymn	Holy, Holy, Holy
Gossip's Hymn	I Love to Tell The Story
Contractor's Hymn	We Would Be Building
Edison Company Hymn	Let There Be Light
Hangover Hymn	Open My Eyes That I May See
Fireman's Hymn	It Only Takes A Spark
Rush Hour Hymn	Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life
Traveler's Hymn	I Wonder As I Wander
Surgeon's Hymn	Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed
Boxer's Hymn	Fight the Good Fight
Senior Citizen's Hymn	As With Gladness Men of Old
Choir Member's Hymn	A Hymn of Joy We Sing
Funeral Director's Hymn	God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again
Landscaper's Hymn	In the Garden