



# The Journal

November / December 2007

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### Building Visionary Leadership for Authentic Worship.

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## PRESIDENTIAL PERSPECTIVE

### David Feit-Pretzer, President



When November arrives, it comes with a renewed emphasis on giving thanks. I Thessalonians 5: 18 says:

“Be joyful always; pray continually; GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

That is a difficult passage to live up to...most often ‘pray continually’ seems most appropriate, especially as the Advent and Christmas seasons approach and there are so many notes to be taught and learned.

Please note that Paul says to give thanks IN all

circumstances...not FOR all circumstances. Times may be difficult...the work load more than you can sometimes handle, the cold and flu season will shortly begin and your singers are a delicate lot...but the admonition is to GIVE THANKS.

We can certainly give thanks for the gift of choral music with which we bless the congregation each week, and as the Advent season approaches we can give thanks for the gift of salvation brought to us through the incarnation of Jesus Christ. I urge you to not let yourself get so caught up in the preparations for Christmas that you forget to take time to ponder the wonderful gift of eternal life God gave to us.

GIVE THANKS! ♦

## WINDOW ON WORSHIP

### by Dr. Wallace Horton

“*Ordinary OR Extraordinary?*”



For those who use the “Liturgical Year” to help guide and shape the worship life and experiences of their congregations, we are rapidly approaching the conclusion of that time of the Church year known as “Ordinary Time.” Previously,

the time of the year following Pentecost until the Season of Advent was known as the “Sunday’s after Pentecost.” Regardless of the name, it has been that time when there are very few observances that relate to the life of Christ. It is about a five month period that tends to focus on a week to week, Sunday to Sunday predictable worship experience. In the true sense of the word, it is a very “ordinary” time.

With the four Sundays prior to Christmas, comes the Season of Advent. It marks the beginning of a new “Church Year” that focuses on the life and ministry of Christ. It highlights those deeds and actions that set Him apart from any other man whoever lived! It is a time when we prepare for His coming, we celebrate His birth, we witness unique events and miracles, we watch with him in His suffering and death, we sing our alleluias at his resurrection, and we gaze into heaven as He ascends. It is truly an “Extraordinary” time

of the Church Year.

The categorization of Ordinary Time vs. “Extraordinary Time” has been developed to help the Church as it goes on its journey week after week, year after year. It is a helpful tool and designation that helps us to compartmentalize our 52 week liturgical year.

However, as those who develop and plan worship week to week, season to season, year to year, we must not allow ourselves to be tempted to think that one Sunday may not be as important as another. Granted, there are festivals that really do dictate the cycle not only of the Church, but of the culture as well. Easter and Christmas are two that obviously come to mind. They truly are extraordinary.

Yet as we plan worship, we must try to do so with an understanding that every Sunday can and should be “Extraordinary.” There is nothing more important than what we do when we are planning and developing a worship service where individuals have the opportunity to come face to face with the God of the Universe and our Savior, Jesus Christ. There is nothing ordinary about that. Listening for God’s voice, being led by His Spirit, and being mindful of our high privilege to help others know the Lord through worship should help us and reassure us that there is nothing “Ordinary” about what we are doing. It’s just the opposite. Every Sunday is an “Extraordinary” opportunity. Don’t miss that opportunity. ♦

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**CHORAL MUSIC REVIEW**
**by: Dr. William Lock, review editor**


**“By His Grace”** arranged by Antony Baldwin for SATB, flute and piano; Oxford University Press, 2006. Originally from Deep-Fried Music, English composer Baldwin has made the words and melody of Steve Fry into a simple unison song with a four-part coda.

**“Hark, Ten Thousand Harps and Voices”** by Craig Courtney for SATB, Keyboard and optional Brass Sextet, Percussion and 4-5 Octave Handbell Choir; Beckenhorst Press, BP1498, 1996. An 1804 text by Thomas Kelly which repeats the phrase "Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again" is treated in an exultant manner with a stirring "Amen."

**“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”** arranged by Alice Parker for SATB divisi, acappella; Morning-Star Music Publications, MSM-50-6058, 2005. The amazing Alice Parker has done it again. This is an arrangement for the developing choir ready to tackle superb choral writing.

**“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”** by David Cherwien for Congregation, SATB, Soloist, Organ, Optional flute and Cello; MorningStar Music Publishers, MSM-60-9027, 2005. Based on the familiar 17th century chorale "Wer Nur Dem Lieben Gatt," this is a quite singable version of the original.

**“Jesus is Calling”** by Aaron David Miller for SATB, a cappella; Augsburg Fortress, 0-8006-2382-7, 2006. The old gospel text "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling" of Canadian Will Thompson is wonderfully wedded to new music by one of Augsburg Fortress' finest newer composers.

**“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”** arranged by Michael Burkhardt for SATB, Congregation, Brass Quintet, Timpani, Optional Handbells and Organ; Birnamwood Publications, MSM-60-9022, 2005. Organist, conductor, composer Burkhardt has appropriately brought together the familiar, well loved Charles Wesley text and the equally well known and loved Prichard tune 'Hyfyrdol'.

**“Praise and Honor and Wisdom and Thanks”** edited by Karle Erickson for SATB acappella with Optional Two Trumpets, Two Trombones, and Organ or Piano; Birnamwood Publications, MSM-50-5001A, 2007. This is an outstanding composition by the Baroque composer Georg Gottfried Wagner set to a text of verses from the book of Revelation and the book of Psalms.

**“Saved by Grace”** arranged by Robert Sterling for SATB and Keyboard or CD Choraltrax or Orchestra; Word Music, 0-80689-57327-9, 2003. The words and music of Melodie Tunney, the arrangement of Robert Sterling and the publisher Word, says it all to those who know these names.

**“Sometimes a Light Surprises”** arranged by Mark Hill for SATB, Piano and Oboe; Brookfield Press, 08745017, 2005. William Cowper's meaningful text and Gustav Holst's magnificent tune 'Thaxted' make up a truly wonderful musical message.

**“Who is He?”** arranged by Vicki Wright for SATB, Piano and Violin; Beckenhorst Press, BP 1776, 2006. If you know any of Wright's works, you know the sensitive manner in which she treats texts and tunes. Here the Hassler "Passion Chorale" tune is given to the violinist and the choir part is based on the not so familiar Banby text covering major events in the entire life of Christ, along with the memorable tune "Lowliness."

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**
**70TH ANNIVERSARY NACM CONVENTION**
**JULY 17-19, 2008**
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORANGE**
**191 N. Orange St.**
**Orange, CA**
**CONVENTION HEADLINER: HAL HOPSON**

**JAMES' PERSONAL POSTINGS OF POSSIBLE POSITIONS****James Person, Executive Administrator**

Please send open listings to James Person, [nacmhq@dc.rr.com](mailto:nacmhq@dc.rr.com). Be sure to include the title, name or the group, the location, salary, requirements and contact information including phone number.

**Director**

Chancel Choir Director  
Also Praise Worship Director  
(separate positions)  
First UMC San Gabriel, CA  
[fumcsg@earthlink.net](mailto:fumcsg@earthlink.net)  
Tom 626-286-3111

Conductor  
KITKA Professional women's vocal ensemble in  
Oakland, CA  
Contact: [kitka@kitka.org](mailto:kitka@kitka.org)

Director of Music  
Church of Our Saviour (Episcopal)  
San Gabriel, CA  
email: [kpetersen@churchofoursaviour.org](mailto:kpetersen@churchofoursaviour.org) or  
Tim Alderson - COS 535 W. Roses Rd.  
San Gabriel, CA 91775

Music Director  
First Baptist Church of Los Angeles  
Rev. Carlton Rhoden  
213-384-215

**Organist**

East Whittier Presbyterian Whittier, CA  
562-698-9948. Paula Cowan [sonesfam@att.net](mailto:sonesfam@att.net)

part time Sundays only  
St. Theodore's Episcopal Church,  
Seal Beach, CA  
Nancy Sinclair [nsinclair@surfside.net](mailto:nsinclair@surfside.net)  
714-642-3313

Church of Our Saviour (Episcopal)  
San Gabriel, CA  
email: [kpetersen@churchofoursaviour.org](mailto:kpetersen@churchofoursaviour.org) or  
Tim Alderson - COS 535 W. Roses Rd.  
San Gabriel, CA 91775

First Church of Christ, Scientist  
Palos Verdes Estates.  
Joyce Harrington 310-530-6414

Westchester United Methodist

Dale Van Natta 310-670-3777  
[wumcoffice1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wumcoffice1@sbcglobal.net)

First United Methodist of Ontario  
Ruth Zwissler, 909-986-6641  
[rnzwiss@aol.com](mailto:rnzwiss@aol.com)

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(joint or separate)  
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Heather Hensley [hhensley@socal.rr.com](mailto:hhensley@socal.rr.com)

Music Director / Organist  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Orinda, CA  
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[www.ststephensorinda.org](http://www.ststephensorinda.org)  
[Brenda@ststephensorinda.org](mailto:Brenda@ststephensorinda.org)  
925-254-3770 x10

Director/Organist  
St. Edmund's Episcopal, San Gabriel, CA  
Bob Parker [bparker@ljdfa.com](mailto:bparker@ljdfa.com)  
626-449-3961

Choirmaster/Organist  
Westwood Hills Christian Church  
Los Angeles, CA  
Chauncey Isom 818-307-1538 or  
[icesome@msn.com](mailto:icesome@msn.com)

Choirmaster/Organist  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Ontario, CA  
Ed Velasco 909-563-8310 or  
[edbvelasco@yahoo.com](mailto:edbvelasco@yahoo.com)

**Soloists and Miscellaneous Positions**

Assistant Professor -  
(Soprano or Mezzo-Soprano.)  
San José State University full time  
Letter of Application, vita, transcripts by 12/15.  
Dr. Edward Harris, director  
San José State University  
One Washington Square San José, CA  
95192-0095

**Baritone**

Calvaary Presbyterian Church  
S. Pasadena, CA  
Mike Wilson [muscjob@juno.com](mailto:muscjob@juno.com)

**OUR  
PURPOSE:**

To encourage  
higher standards  
of church and  
choral music;



To create and  
foster a finer  
understanding  
between ministers  
and directors of  
the ministry of  
music;



To encourage  
development of a  
musical program  
that will result in  
the widest  
participation  
possible among all  
age groups in the  
church;



To stimulate  
interest in choral  
festivals and  
workshops;



To promote  
awareness of new  
developments in  
choral music;



To work for the  
greater  
cooperation  
between church  
and school  
musicians.

**NEW DEADLINES**

Journal items must be submitted to NACM headquar-  
ters by the first of the month for inclusion in that months  
issue.

Next issue deadline:  
**January 1st, 2008**

## OUR HISTORY:

NACM was founded in 1938 as the Choral Conductors Guild of Southern California. Founding members include: Frank Cummings, Charles Hirt, Allen Lannom, Raymond Moremen, Edward Qualen and Howard Swan.

By the 1950's the organization had grown to include geographical chapters, each with regular meetings. Our inaugural Convention was held in the summer of 1950.

We obtained our 501(c)(3) non profit status in the early 1990's and in 2003 the "CCG" name was changed to the National Association of Church Musicians.

## IN MEMORIAM . . .

The National Office of NACM has been informed of the death of Allen Lannom. Allen is the last of the "founding fathers" of the Choral Conductors Guild which is now the National Association of Church Musicians. The following is taken from an obituary written by Richard Dyer for the Boston Globe in March 2006 and some facts from our archives.

Allen Lannom was born June 30, 1917 in Johnson City, Illinois and moved to California where he met other directors (young men in their 20's and 30's) who were choir directors in large churches around Los Angeles. They began to meet on the last Friday of the month in the voice studio of Joseph J. Klein and formed a group called the "Rumpslump". This group was made up of Frank Cummings, Charles Hirt, Frans Hoffman, Ralph Lyman, Edward Qualen, Raymond Moremen and Howard Swan.

Allen wrote: "...one of the most educational experiences I had in my life. We would sometimes

bring a quartet each and make a choir. Several would conduct this fine group and then, after we had sent the singers away, we began to light into one another as to what we did and why. It was a tremendous helpful experience just to get somebody else's evaluation of what we were doing."

In 1951, Mr. Lannom became director of choral activities at Boston University, a position he held for 31 years. Mr. Lannom also served a term as president of the American Choral Directors' Association. In Allen's commitment to contemporary music, he prepared the chorus for the American premier of Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana," which was led by Leopold Stokowski in 1951. Allen believed that: "a man's reach should exceed his grasp" recalls Marillyn Zachais who sang with Allen for 30 years. In person, Mr. Lannom was peppery and opinionated but kindly... and he always reflecting applause from himself and directed it to the soloists, orchestra, chorus and the music itself. Allen Lannom died March 20, 2006. He was 88.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Greater DC/Northern Virginia Chapter

Thirteenth Annual Adult Choir Festival  
Sunday, 24 February 2008.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Springfield, Virginia

Dr. William Lock, professor of music at Biola University of Los Angeles, California, will be the guest clinician. Festival anthem rehearsal begins at 3:30 p.m.; the Festival itself will begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Ron Duquette at [ronart.assoc@cox.net](mailto:ronart.assoc@cox.net) or at (703) 362-5373.

### San Fernando Valley Chapter

Adult Choir Festival  
Sunday, April 27, 2008  
4:30 p.m.

Guest Conductor: David Feit-Pretzer

Festival Works:

"Gloria" from the Twelfth Mass by Mozart

"Praise God" by Fred Bock (Sacred Music Press, S-113)

"To Love Our God" by Mark Hayes (Hinshaw, HMC-1576)

First Presbyterian Church, Granada Hills

10400 Zelzah Ave.

Northridge, CA 91326

For information, Ken Rappe (818) 887-5328.

### Orange County Chapter

Adult Choir Festival  
Saturday, May 17, 2008  
8:30am-6:00 p.m.

Guest Conductor and Clinician: Mark Hayes

First Presbyterian Church of Orange - 191 N. Orange - Orange, CA 92866

Flat Fee: \$25/choir - Interested choirs should send a video tape or CD attn: Francisco Calvo at the above address. Due to the popularity of this clinician, there will be a 10 choir limit for performances only. Please check the next Journal for more information or contact:

Priscilla Silver, Festival Chair at [priscilla.abby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:priscilla.abby@sbcglobal.net), 714-893-5183

continued on next page

**CHAPTER NEWS continued . . .****San Diego Chapter**

We held our annual fellowship dinner at past president Sue Caldwell's house on June 11. The current slate of officers was re-elected to serve another year: President, Lea Ann Walker; Vice President, Myron Tweed; Secretary, Esther Jordan; Treasurer, John Howard. Other chapter positions include: Membership Chair, Keith Whitlock; Placement, Keith Pedersen; Newsletter Editor, Shelley Nelson. The board has decided to hold by-monthly fellowship breakfasts for all members to attend. Notices of these events are sent by email to each chapter member.

**HOLIDAYS and HAPPENINGS . . .*****O magnum mysterium - A Christmas Concert***

Sunday November 25, 2007 4:00 p.m.  
The Anglican Chorale of Southern California  
Featuring Alchemy Handbell Choir  
First Baptist Church  
75 N. Marengo Ave., Pasadena, CA 9101  
[www.anglicanchorale.org](http://www.anglicanchorale.org)

***Amahl and the Night Visitors***

November 30, 2007 7:30 p.m.  
and Sunday, December 2, 2007 5:00 p.m.  
First Lutheran Church of Temple City  
626-447-9506

***O magnum mysterium - A Christmas Concert***

December 16, 2007, 7 p.m.  
Anglican Chorale of Southern California  
Episcopal Church of the Messiah  
614 n. Bush St., Santa Ana, CA 92071  
[www.anglicanchorale.org](http://www.anglicanchorale.org)

***A Big Band Christmas***

Sunday December 23rd, 2007  
1st Presbyterian Church of Orange  
191 N. Orange St., Orange, CA  
A Glenn Miller-style Christmas celebration featuring our sanctuary choir along with soloists and of course - a big band!  
[frans@firstpresorange.org](mailto:frans@firstpresorange.org) 714-538-2341 X104

***Let Your Joy Be Known***

Sunday, February 17, 2008 - 7pm  
Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 W. Temple Street,  
Los Angeles, CA  
1,000-voice Festival Adult Choir: Sir John Rutter and Eric Dale Knapp, Conductors  
105-stop Dobson Pipe Organ: Frederick Swann, Organist  
350-voice Festival Children's Choir: Sir John Rutter, Conductor  
The Cathedral Choir: Frank Brownstead, Conductor and Samuel Soria, Organist  
Paulist Choristers and Singers of the Chapel Royal: Luke McEnderfer, Conductor, Stuart Neill, Tenor, Mark Thallander, Organist, Jan Sanborn, Pianist

**A CHORAL TASTE OF LOS ANGELES**

A reading session of music by L.A.'s finest composers  
Saturday, January 26, 2008 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Westwood United Methodist Church / 10497  
Wilshire Blvd., Westwood, CA  
\$45 registration in advance - \$55 at the door.  
Send check made payable to NACM to:  
13658 Shablow Ave., Sylmar, CA 91342  
[www.singerselite.com/choraltaste](http://www.singerselite.com/choraltaste)

**MID-WINTER SEMINAR**

Co-sponsored by the Long Beach Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists

**Saturday, January 19, 2008 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**607 E. 3rd St., Long Beach, CA 90802**

Send your pre-registration of \$20 by January 10, to: NACM,  
67805 Reed Circle,  
Cathedral City, CA 92234 (lunch included)  
Registration at the door \$25. Info: 760-992-7947 or  
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