

## **Welcome to the FUMCOG Chancel Choir for our 2008-2009 Season!**

*They who sing, pray twice* (St. Augustine)



The following is a pamphlet for policies, a schedule/list of repertoire, and a choir enrollment form (this is available with hard copies from the Director of Music, or downloadable from the music pages on the website). Please take time to peruse this from time to time, and put it some place prominent (it is fridge-magnet friendly!). I look forward to making music with you all in the coming year!

### **Contact Information**

Kevin J. O'Malia, Director of Music

Church phone: (215) 438-3677

Mobile phone: (609) 933-4232 (please call this number only in emergencies, please)

Church e-mail: [omalialia@fumcog.org](mailto:omalialia@fumcog.org)

### **Weekly Schedule**

We will meet generally in the following times on a weekly basis:

Thursdays: 7:30-9:30PM

Sundays: rehearsal at 10AM, service at 11aM.

### **Attendance**

Attendance at weekly rehearsal is crucial for all to not only merely learn the notes, but to blend as an ensemble, and take notes and markings given by the director. It is also my hope that we will form closer bonds of friendship in this weekly regimen.

At the same time, I understand that we all lead busy lives. I therefore ask the common courtesy of timely notification of any absence. If you know ahead of time that you cannot attend any rehearsal (Thursday, Sunday or otherwise), please sign diary in the library room. If there is no chance to do this, please send an e-mail (contact information above).

### **Promptness**

It is also essential that every choir member be exactly on time. Every contribution is very important to the production of the whole ensemble. Please arrive mentally prepared and vocally ready as well. Choir is a place where we can forget about the stresses of our busy lives, and come to sing as a community of faith. When we enter the choir room or sanctuary, we leave these all behind!

**Section Leaders**

We are blessed to have wonderful musicians giving us support and guidance in the learning process:

Serina Quinsland – Soprano

Mimi Lanseur – Alto

Elliot Smith – Tenor

**Choral Scholars:**

This year, we are privileged to welcome two choral scholars from the Penn Charter School. This program, under the joint supervision of Joseph Fitzmartin of the Charter School and Kevin O'Malia at FUMCOG, will offer instruction, both as part of the Chancel Choir, and solo voice lessons. They will fully take part in all musical offerings performed by the Chancel Choir.

Please join me in welcoming them to our family! Our section leaders are also knowledgeable in vocal pedagogy. I encourage you to see a section leader for some coaching or singing lessons!

**Attire**

For all services we will vest in our choir robes and stolls. Please come in light and comfortable clothing, as the church can get hot if one is layered too much!

For all concerts (Candlelight and otherwise), dress is as follows:

Men: Black button-down shirt, black slacks, black socks and black shoes.

Women: Black skirt/blouse, or black shirt and slacks; black shoes.

**Borrowing music:**

Yes, this is encouraged! Attached, you will find the schedule with all music listed for the semester. I encourage you all to take copies home with you to learn notes. This will make our rehearsal process even more fun, and we can devote more time to making music and not just realizing those little dots on the page! Please, please, please, just remember to bring it to rehearsal, as we do not have many extra copies.

Also, please fill out the sheet, with all pertinent information requested when taking out a copy of music.

**Returning music:**

For every rehearsal, you will have all necessary copies in your folder. Following Sunday services, please remember to take out any used music and put it into the recycling bin in the library room.

\*a note about anthologies: Volumes such as *The New Church Anthem Book*, *Anthems for Choirs I*, the Fauré *Requiem* and the Vaughan Williams *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* should be kept in your own cubby and not returned until the end of the year.