

Symphony Newsletter



Our choir newsletter is to inform and encourage as we get to know each other and work toward our main purpose.

**Proclaim the Gospel in Song
Glorify God through Music
Assist the Church Ministry**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SANCTUARY CHOIR

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2008

Lanny Allen
Music Minister



Lines from Lanny



The following definition and application for our own “musical family” is from the devotion book by Jack Coleman entitled “Crescendos and Dimenuendos”. I felt it to be greatly needed at this point in our new year of service.

ATTACCA - a musical term meaning “begin the next movement without a break or pause.

Balanced movement in music is dependent upon an understanding and knowledge of all the factors involved; harmony, rhythm, dynamics, melody, text. The disciplined use of these factors will result in a cohesive tapestry of beautiful sound by which the worship of the Lord can be enhanced.

Sometimes when finishing one section the word ATTACCA will occur meaning that we do not stop but immediately go on. There is no time for respite but a continuation of concentration and energy in the flow of music.

In church choral organizations the drop off in attendance after Christmas, Easter or any large choral presentation is a fact that will break the heart of a choral director. The drop off is directly related to spiritual motives - and spiritual conditions.

We should consider seriously the word ATTACCA in our service to the Lord. As Christian musicians - beginning the next movement without a break or pause. But, it demands diligence.

Diligence denotes faithfulness. Faithfulness has no room for sporadic commitment. In the Psalms, David spoke of diligence. “Thou hast commanded Thy precepts to be kept diligently.” *Psalm 119:4*

Half-hearted effort must be grief to the Savior. The antithesis of diligence is mediocrity. Too many deal with commitment in a mediocre way.

Webster defines “diligence” as “perserveringly attentive, assiduous, industrious.” He further defines “mediocre,” “of moderate excellence, ordinary, from a Greek word which is interpreted, “middle of the peak.”

ATTACCA indicates, “keep on.” In *John 5:17* we read, “My Father works unceasingly and so do I.” This allows no room for partial commitment.

“Oh, that my ways may be steadfast in keeping thy statutes!” *Psalm 119:5*

May the ministry of the Sanctuary Choir of the First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas continue to be Christ-centered with the keen awareness that each member is more than a volunteer. They are called by God, empowered in their commitment to lead in worship and example of service in the Kingdom of God. ✠

Happy
Valentine
Day

Feb 14



Happy
St. Patrick's
Day

Mar 17

This is the link to the on line calendar.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2008

17 - Music Makers & Young Musicians 6:30 pm

24 - AABA Children's Choir Festival, 2:00 pm
First Baptist Church, Amarillo

MARCH 2008

16 - Palm Sunday

17-21 - Spring Break

19 - No Sanct Choir Rehearsal

21 - Good Friday Service, 6:30 p.m.

23 - Easter Sunday
Combined Choir at 8:30 & 11:00

Presentation date for
IN HIS OWN WORDS
will be scheduled for
End of April or First of May.

WELCOME

New Member (Returnee)

Mike Lee
(Alpha Bass)

Michelle Longbine
(Omega Soprano)



Thank you for all your hard work and years of dedication!



Linda Renegar



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Music Secretary



Typos can change the meaning of things totally. Here's some examples!

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.	Eight new choir robes are currently needed
The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water."	Due to the addition of several new members
The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."	And to the deterioration of some older ones.
Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.	Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.	Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased Person you want remembered.
Don't let worry kill you off. Let the Church help.	The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.	Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - Prayer and medication to follow.
For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery down stairs.	Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. Is done.
Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.	The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."	The Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.	The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church Basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.	Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

This message is the Real Deal!

Remember to **Sign Out on the Calendar Board** in the Music Suite if you are not going to be able to attend rehearsal or sing for the service. It helps us to be prepared for worship on Sunday.

Everyone in the choir is needed, and each of you are missed when you are away.



FEBRUARY

- 1 Sandy King
- Lynn Lankford
- 3 Darl Finkenbinder
- 4 Don Small
- 5 Jimmy Tak
- 6 Janette Kornegay
- 13 Jerry Don Taylor
- 14 Ronnie Nelson
- 19 Randy Sharp
- James Beckham
- 24 Richard Miller
- 25 Laura Hamilton
- 26 Paul Ackerman
- Marcella Hanna
- 27 John Scott

MARCH

- 1 - David Morris
- 2 - Clarecia Jackson
- 4 - La Faun Ward
- 6 - David Lowe
- 11 - Bill Fomby
- 18 - Genie Murray
- 19 - Ramona Hutchens
- 24 - T.L. Newman
- 29 - Ruth Ann Taylor

Mike Wright

President 2007



Greetings all,

For all those who managed to break away from the hustle and bustle to make rehearsal on the 6th of February, thanks so much. For those who weren't able to make it, you missed a wonderful evening where our very own Linda Renegar was the center of attention; and very deservedly so. Linda has served for 20 years in her position as Music Secretary! After working on Sunday music, we rapidly converted Ye Olde Choir Room into a party palace fit for the occasion. Thank you, Linda, for your many years of faithfully showing your love for all of us. We all know how poorly things would have turned out if you weren't working so diligently behind the scenes.

Onto another topic now. I would ask for those who are acquaintances with choir members who are not singing anymore to touch bases with our lost members and see if we can bolster our roll once again. Lanny is always reading cards and such from members of our congregation praising what we do and I receive words of thanks regularly from folks in the halls. Our choir is a blessing to so many and I would like us all to do our part in making sure that we can always achieve that wonderful sound that helps others to worship. Please invite these folks back to a rehearsal and lets see if we can get them back in the swing of things.

As always, if you have suggestions, feel free to talk with me. I know that I'm not particularly a "people person", but together we can make our choir a place of praise and show all our feelings toward our Lord.

In Christ,

Mike

Top Ten Reasons

You know, we all need to learn to laugh at ourselves. So here's a good start. Have fun with it!

Top Ten Reasons for Being a Soprano

- 10) The rest of the choir exists just to make you look good.
- 9) You can entertain your friends by breaking their glassware.
- 8) Can you name an opera where an alto got the man?
- 7) When sopranos want to sing in the shower, they know the tune.
- 6) It's not like you are ever going to sing the alto part by accident.
- 5) To wear great costumes - - like the hat with the horns on it.
- 4) How many world famous altos can you name?
- 3) When the fat lady sings, she's usually singing soprano.
- 2) When you get tired of singing the tune, you can sing the descant.
- 1) You can sing along with Michael Jackson.

Top Ten Reasons for Being a Bass

- 10) You don't have to tighten your shorts to reach your note.
- 9) You don't have to worry about a woman stealing your job.
- 8) Or a pre adolescent boy.
- 7) Action heroes are always basses. That is, if they ever sang, they would sing bass.
- 6) You get great memorable lyrics like "bop", "bop", "bop," and "bop".
- 5) If the singing job doesn't work out, there's always broadcasting.
- 4) You never need to learn to read the treble clef.
- 3) Whoofers (big speakers) were made for your voice.
- 2) For fun, you can sing at the bottom of your range and fool people into thinking there's an earthquake.
- 1) If you belch while you're singing, the audience just thinks it's part of the score.

Top Ten Reasons for Being a Tenor

- 10) Tenors get high without drugs.
- 9) Name a musical where the bass got the girl.
- 8) You can show the sopranos how it should be sung.
- 7) Did you ever hear of anyone paying \$1000 for a ticket to see The Three Bases?
- 6) Who needs brains when you've got resonance?
- 5) Tenors never have to waste time looking through the self-improvement section of the bookstore.
- 4) You get to sing along with John Denver singing "High Calypso."
- 3) When you get really good at falsetto, you can make tons of money doing voice-overs for cartoon characters.
- 2) Gregorian chant was practically invented for tenors. Nobody invented a genre for basses.
- 1) You can entertain your friends by impersonating Julia Child.

Top Ten Reasons for Being an Alto

- 10) You get really good at singing E-flat.
- 9) You get to sing the same note for 12 consecutive measures.
- 8) You don't really need to warm up to sing 12 consecutive bars of E-flat.
- 7) If the choir sounds really awful, it's unlikely the altos will be blamed.
- 6) You have lots of time to chat during soprano solos.
- 5) You know you are better than the sopranos because everybody knows that women only sing soprano so they don't have to learn to read music.
- 4) You can sometimes find part time work singing tenor.
- 3) Altos get all the great intervals.
- 2) When the sopranos are holding some outrageously high note at the end of an anthem, the altos always get the last words.
- 1) When the altos miss a note, nobody gets hurt.