

The Cleveland Chapter of the National Pastoral Musicians Association Newsletter November 2007

****UPDATE ON NEXT SUMMER'S NPM REGIONAL CONVENTION IN CLEVELAND**

July 8-11, 2008
Renaissance Cleveland Hotel



CORE COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS

Ruth Novak – rmn_wendelin@yahoo.com

Jean McLaughlin – ringjeanmac@aol.com

Lynn Frey – freyl@stsebastian.org
(exhibits, showcases, publicity)

Richard Gullion – rikard34@aol.com
(liturgy, space & musical environment,
instrumentalist scheduling)

Jason Lewis – jasonlewis@clevelandnpm.org
(registration, program booklet)

Meg Matuska – mmatuska@churchofresurrection.org
(special events)

Mary Pachuta – mspachuta@earthlink.net
(secretary, office manager)

Terri Pastura – tapjoa@yahoo.com
(hospitality, shuttle bus, convention newsletter)

Jim Riedy – jcapelli51@sbcglobal.net
(facilities, equipment and musical instruments)

“Do Not Let Your Hearts be Troubled!” [JN 14:1]

We are in the midst of many changes: new texts, new music, assemblies comprised of a diversity of peoples and cultures, and understandings of ministry, to name a few. Change is a part of life. While change can be exciting, change always entails letting go of something in order to embrace something else. Most often the facilitator of liturgical change is the pastoral musician, the liturgist, and/or the clergy. Explore what we need personally, communally, spiritually, and theologically, in order to help those with and to whom we minister negotiate the changes we face without letting our hearts be troubled or afraid.

KEYNOTE: A COLLABORATIVE HEART

Dr. Doris Donnelly

Facilitating change requires an openness to change ourselves. This means that we, who lead with other

pastoral leaders, need to be open to conversion. Conversion involves dying to self for the good of all, a willingness to be taught the truth of another, a willingness to embrace the cross, and collaboration. Collaboration is about helping me to help you, that is, an element of win/win, lose/lose, or both/and living. Explore how we can pray: “Change our hearts” both personally and communally.

PLENUM ADDRESS:

CHANGE: A PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY

Christopher Walker

Facilitating change requires personal spirituality. We know we need it, but we tend to put personal spirituality last on our “to do” list. If we strive for a deeper spiritual life, it can lead to: a collaborative heart, a willingness to embrace the cross, and a greater ability to serve our people. Because of this, personal spirituality is one of the competencies for lay ecclesial ministry. Explore how to make this presumption a more conscious part of our lives, so that, rooted in the Word we can find greater balance.

PLENUM ADDRESS:

NAMING THE CHANGES WE FACE

Mary Bendyna, RSM

What are the changes we face: the new missal, the musical changes the new missal will require, demographics, generational attitudes, styles of prayer and music, parish structure, parish membership, and burgeoning info systems, name a few. Change also includes a constant that doesn't change. What are the constants that root us, so to speak? Explore the “what” of change in this session.

PLENUM ADDRESS:

NEGOTIATING THE CHANGES WE FACE

Msgr. Ray East

How do we negotiate change? Discover how we can lead through a period of change by taking a community where it is and respecting it's ways and by naming the fears we have and what excites us as we face those fears. Discover the support we can have in developing unified approach to change based on respect, listening, and communication.

NPM CONVENTION VOLUNTEER POLICY

Preamble

Thank you for volunteering to help with the National Convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians! Volunteers form the backbone of an NPM convention. Without your generosity and commitment to the work of the convention, it would be impossible to create this event to bring together pastoral musicians, clergy and other leaders of worship for prayer, education, and mutual support.

Because NPM is a charitable and educational organization, we do not offer compensation for volunteer services. We hope that as an NPM member or as a friend of pastoral musicians, you want to support the convention. While we cannot offer free registration to volunteers, we do want to recognize your important contribution to the convention by offering a deeply discounted rate.

Volunteer Policy

*Those who volunteer 4 or more hours for a *National Association of Pastoral Musicians* Convention, whether before, during or after the convention, are entitled to a 50% discount for the entire convention or a certain day of the convention.

*When those hours occur on a day during the convention, the volunteer may also attend any event on that day.

Any choir member who sings for part of prayer or ambient music can register for the entire convention or the rest of that day at a 50% discount.

Notes from the Director



Greetings!

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, especially as we bring this liturgical year to a close and prepare for the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

As an earlier mass email stated, we would like to spread the word about next summer's NPM Regional Convention in Cleveland. It has been 11 years since the last NPM Convention in Cleveland, so it is not often that we have the opportunity for so many of our local people to attend part or all of a convention that is in our own area. This will be a convention that choir members, cantors, instrumentalists etc. can attend for one day or all four days without the necessary expense of hotel or air fare. And, I believe the theme and focus of the convention is very timely in light of the clustering process in our Diocese.

The convention will be held July 8-11, 2008 at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel on Public Square of downtown Cleveland. That's the hotel connected to the Terminal Tower and Tower City. The noontime organ recitals and one evening event will be held at Old Stone Church – a short walk across Public Square. The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Cleveland will be the site of an evening event featuring Todd Wilson, and will also be the worship space for Convention Eucharist. Another evening event will be held at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church on the west side of town just off of I-90.

Besides the major addresses described on the first page of this newsletter, there are many breakout sessions, concert events, exhibitors, and opportunities to connect with other pastoral musicians, etc.

Because we will need many volunteers especially for the week of the convention, we would like you to pass on the information to all in your parish who might possibly be interested in attending or volunteering. It is good for them to know the dates now so that they can plan accordingly. And take note of the volunteer policy for the “perks” of giving of your time and talent for this convention.

There is still a need for volunteers on some of the sub-committees working on pre-convention tasks, as well as many volunteers needed for the week of the convention itself. In case you were wondering, you do not need to be a pastoral musician to volunteer! If you have skills that would be helpful in putting the program book together, let us know. If you would like to help gather music stands and instruments to be used by presenters in various sessions, let us know. If you would like to help pass out materials at publisher showcases or be welcoming to those visiting our city for the convention, let us know. Perhaps you do not have time to spare, but might have the means to help financially toward the cost of putting on the convention by way of an ad in the program book, or sponsoring an event. In other words, there are MANY WAYS to volunteer your time, talent and treasure. We will do our best to match volunteers to tasks that suit them best. Just contact any member of the Core Committee to let us know that you are willing to be a volunteer.

Enough for now on the convention. There is more in this newsletter, so, read on...

Yours in Christ,
Ruth Novak, Cleveland NPM Chapter Director

Treasurer’s Report
Bobbi Wason



Our current chapter account balance is \$267.18. This past summer, our chapter spent \$195 toward the Ohio dinner at the National NPM Convention to make it more affordable for those in our Diocese to attend. Sending in your dues for this year along with your membership form will help build up our account, and enable us to present programs for your benefit.

Chapter News

ELECTIONS POSTPONED In light of the upcoming convention and the ongoing changes in the Diocese stemming from the Vibrant Parish Life initiative and in the interest of continuity, it was decided to keep the current officers in place until next fall when elections can again commence.

It’s time for the annual membership drive and to send in your dues for the year 2007-2008. Note that individual memberships are \$10 and parish memberships are \$25 for three or more people.

**HELP
WANTED**



From the editor

As Ruth has noted above, this should be an exciting year for the Chapter. There has already been a lot of work in the preparation of the Regional Convention here in Cleveland the week of July 7, 2008 and there will be much more to do. YOU are the key to making the convention a success. Don’t hesitate to let us know your talents and how we may utilize them. We need your HELP!

Our Web Site

Have you been to our web site lately? Did you know we have links to some of those “hard to remember” sites like various music publishers and local societies and events? We also have a “Job Available” page and a “Talents Available” page for members to let others know of their availability.

We will be adding a section on the upcoming Convention and you will be able to check there for the latest news.

Check it out at <http://www.clevelandnpm.org/> and let me know what you think. You can email, write or phone me. If you think we should change, add or delete things, let me hear from you.

Dan Bergen, Editor editor@clevelandnpm.org

Cantor Express Institute Review

Editor’s note: The following article was received earlier this year and has been edited to fit the space available in this news letter. For the full article, see the posting in the Newsletter section of our website.

“Cantor Express? What’s that all about?” “I’ve been a Cantor for 10, 20, 30 + years, what could I possibly have to learn?” “As a pastor, why should I budget money to send one or more of my music ministers to a Cantor Express Institute?” “My free time is limited, why should I go on a Cantor Express Weekend?” These are the type of questions I have fielded since I registered an NPM Cantor Express Institute Weekend at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. So, for you considering that leap of faith and for you “Doubting Thomas” types, here’s the breakdown.

First things first: who goes to Cantor Express? Most of the participants were local to the Pittsburgh area. Kudos to some parishes that sent (and paid for) six or more of their music ministers to attend. There were the sparse few of us who came from farther out and were the sole representatives of our communities. Going around the room, people introduced themselves as new Cantors looking for a solid foundation, Cantors returning to the Institute for another great experience, more experienced Cantors of a decade or two (or three), and music directors looking for how they can better support the musicians of their parish.

Each day had a vocal lesson. There was a lot of good information to be attained by those who hadn’t studied voice, but for those who had, it was a great opportunity to add some new exercises to our warm-up and posturing regimens and reconnect with how important those extra 10 or 15 minutes before an early Mass can be.

As a group we attended lectures on the historical origins of the Cantor ministry, basic psalm study and preparation, what church documents say about the role of Cantor in Liturgy, and how to best use our role as Leaders of Prayer to affect an assembly at a challenging level.

In smaller groups, each of us had 20 minutes to receive personal feedback regarding our presentation, with focus on either vocal or psalm interpretation. Those who were beginners received well-worded constructive feedback on being comfortable in front of an assembly, vocal production, diction and gestures. More experienced Cantors were able to receive objective feedback on bad habits we may have picked up over time and new insights to current thinking and

technique. We were coached on how to break down walls that may be keeping us from truly engaging with an assembly and connecting more deeply with our text. We received affirmation that, “No, Virginia, performance is not a dirty word in music ministry. It is the art of honing your natural skills for effective ministry.” Other hands-on learning opportunities came in the form of music reading/sight singing basics or a chance to learn/ practice a language foreign to Post-Vatican II babies: Chant.

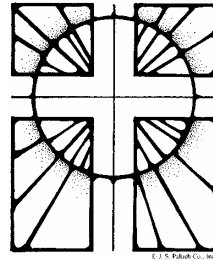
During the day, breaks and meal times encouraged questions and story sharing and night prayer wrapped things up each evening (in nice weather, under the stars). After hours is when staying on campus came in handy for some extroverted types. Smaller groups took in local sites and cuisine as newbies dove deeper into conversation with the more experienced. Conversations evolved around topics like “Has This Ever Happened to You?”, “Keeping a Prayerful Presence amid the Unexpected”, and the burning question, “What is the BCC and Why Should I Care?”

So, in case I didn’t answer your question clearly,” What did I get out of my Cantor Express Institute Weekend?” “Who is it for?” Cantor Express is for everyone. I was motivated by the enthusiasm of our facilitators, Joe Simmons and Joanne Werner, and of the Cantors just starting their ministry. I have returned with a deeper, fuller meaning of my role as Cantor that we do not always have time to learn at the parish level. I have been validated that I am far more than a singer and have an awesome opportunity and responsibility to embrace my role as Catechist, Minister of Hospitality, Minister of the Word, and Leader of Prayer. I am proud to say, “For more information on Cantor Express Institute or the BCC, feel free to contact me, Catherine Benskin, Career Cantor, Liturgical Geek.”

Catherine Benskin is a Cantor at St. Rose of Lima in Gaithersburg, MD and St. Raphael’s in Potomac, MD. She also serves as a Cantor on Call in the DC/MD/VA area. Mentored and inspired by Jeanne Cotter, Catherine has a self-produced CD with other local music ministers and hosts fundraising concerts and coffeehouses for Gabriel Network. For more information on Catherine Benskin, visit www.catherinebenskin.com.

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

For the beauty of the earth,
 For the glory of the skies,
 For the love which from our birth
 Over and around us lies,
 Lord of all, to you we raise
 This our hymn of grateful praise.
 --Folliot S. Pierpoint



Office for Worship – Cleveland Diocese

Greetings from the Office for Worship!

This time of year, as we know, is when the weather and landscape begin to change.

This fall there is also a change with the face of liturgy in the Diocese of Cleveland.

On October 1 the Office of Pastoral Liturgy received a new name – the Office for Worship. On the same day I became its new Director.

The new name for the Office draws our attention to the purpose we gather for liturgy – to offer praise and thanks to God. Although the name has changed, the office will continue to provide support for liturgical ministries throughout the Diocese of Cleveland so that, formed by word and sacrament, we can encourage and promote vibrant liturgical celebrations with full, conscious and active participation by everyone.

I was born and raised in Kitchener, Ontario in Canada. I hold a Masters Degree in Liturgical Studies from St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN and for most of the last seven years I served as the Director of the Liturgy Office for the Diocese of London, Ontario. Before that I served as a Director of Liturgy in a parish.

My love of liturgy developed through participation in liturgical song during my elementary school years. I have served as an instrumentalist (clarinet), cantor, choir member and choir director in a variety of parishes in both Canada and the United States.

I am delighted to be in the Diocese of Cleveland and in the days to come I look forward to the opportunity to get to know you and to join together with you in offering God thanks and praise.

You are always welcome to call (216) 861-5311 or to send an e-mail (cronzio@dioceseofcleveland.org)

Christina Ronzio

Editors Note: Welcome from all of us Liturgists. We look forward to working with you.

Cleveland Area Concerts and Events

Friday, November 16, 2007 7:30 pm. Concert in Honor of St. Cecilia featuring the massed choirs of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Holy Family Parma at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Macedonia.

Sunday, November 18, 2007 at 3:00 pm Concert in Honor of St. Cecilia featuring the massed choirs of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Holy Family at Holy Family in Parma

Sunday December 2, 2007 at 4:00 pm, Hudson Community Chorus, Jason Lorenzon, Director, performing works by Vivaldi, Handel, Taverner and others in a Holiday Concert at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Macedonia.

Sunday, December 2, 2007 at 7:30 pm at St. Ladislav Church in Westlake: Choirs of St. Ladislav, St. Bernadette, St. Ignatius of Antioch and St. Clement Church present Lessons and Carols. Contact: Sr. Mary Joan at St. Ladislav for more information.

Sunday, December 16, 2007 3:00 Advent Lessons and Carols Service at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Macedonia featuring the Magnificat Choir, OLG Schola and the Hudson Community Chorus Chamber Choir.

For a complete listing of current events, see the main page of our website at www.clevelandnmp.org

Keep in Mind: Lucien Deiss, C.S.Sp.

Father Lucien Deiss, C.S.Sp., biblical scholar, composer, and liturgical pioneer, died on Tuesday, October 9 and celebrated what he often referred to as “the most joyful day of my life.” Father Deiss is perhaps best known for the dozens of psalms and biblical canticles that he set to music with fresh and engaging melodies, such as “Keep in Mind,” “Grant to Us, O Lord,” and “All the Earth.” A tireless advocate for liturgical renewal, he refused to be discouraged. In 2001 he sent a message to the NPM national convention which included this admonition: “The church must progress; we cannot turn back. Keep going for the Lord! Keep your spirit!”

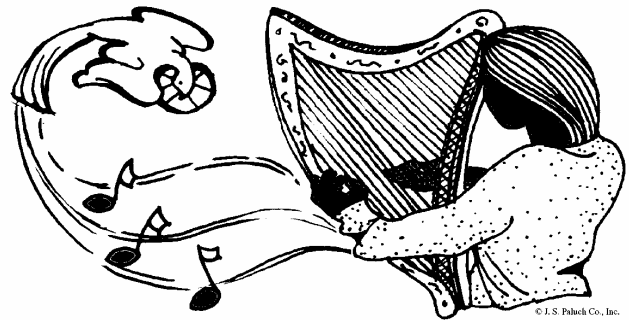
[View obituary on the WLP website](http://www.wlp.jspaluch.com/wlp/)
<http://www.wlp.jspaluch.com/wlp/>

Lucien Deiss, C.S.Sp.

1921—2007

This Newsletter is published by the Cleveland Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Address all inquiries to: Editor, ClevelandNPM, 79 Bowhall Road, Painesville OH 44077

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Thanksgiving Day is also the Feast of St. Cecilia.
Let us give thanks to God for music!

Membership in the local Cleveland Chapter may be had on an Individual basis or on a Parish basis. Dues for individuals which include voting rights in local affairs are \$10.00. Parish membership is a non-voting membership for as many people as the parish wishes to include in the list for only \$25 per parish. Parish memberships are non-voting but do include “member discounts” at local events. Make checks payable to National Assoc. of Pastoral Musicians Cleveland Chapter.

I wish to become **Individual Member** of the ClevelandNPM. Enclosed are my dues for 2007-08 in the amount of \$10.00.
 Parish Member of the ClevelandNPM. Enclosed are my dues for 2007-08 in the amount of \$25.00 and attached is the list of other members from my parish.

My name is: _____ NPM Nat’l Member _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of Home Parish: _____ We are in the _____ district of the Diocese.

I wish to receive my newsletter by email only. Keep the “snail mail” coming.

My email address is: _____

Please mail to: Roberta Wason 751 McRoberts Ave. Aurora, Ohio 44202 or Ruth Novak, St. Wendelin Church, 2281 Columbus Rd., Cleveland, OH 44113

The Basic Purpose of NPM Chapters:

1. To deepen the spiritual life of each pastoral musician.
2. To encourage social interaction among pastoral musicians.
3. To provide an educational forum on current issues affecting musical practice in the parish, both for the musicians and the clergy.
4. To improve the skills of every pastoral musician: musical, liturgical, pastoral, and leadership.

For more information on NPM, check out the web site for the national organization at www.npm.org

Fold Here

Return Address
Editor ClevelandNPM
St. Wendelin Church
2281 Columbus Road
Cleveland, OH 44113