September 2014
National Association of Pastoral Musicians, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2900 Noblestown Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205-4227

Next Meeting:
Monday, September 15
7:30 PM
St. Valentine, Bethel Park
Night of Options

2710 Ohio Street
Bethel Park PA 15102
Daniel Kovacic, host
724-880-5418

Amanda Plazek, Technology in music ministry. Did you know that using technology in your music ministry can not only increase musicians’ participation, but also save you time as well? While today’s technology might get a bad reputation, it can be used to your advantage in your music ministry. Amanda Plazek, Music Director at Saint Mary of the Mount Parish, will share some of the things she has learned to make the efforts of a full-time music department possible on a part-time schedule. From online cloud storage to file sharing efficiency, Amanda will share tips on how to make technology work for musicians of all ages.

Daniel Kovacic, Pedals, Pipes, and Praise. The new organ at St. Valentine Church has been a milestone for the parish and the growing Music Ministry program. Daniel Kovacic, Minister of Music, will discuss the parish’s three year project from start to finish that ended up with an entire "makeover" of the choir loft. The workshop will include a discussion for ideas on thoughts of purchasing or rebuilding an organ for worship along with planning an efficient rehearsal and singing space for your choirs and ensembles. Daniel will also demonstrate the rebuilt and enlarged organ and everyone is invited to bring their shoes and scores to play.

schedule: (each session repeats)
7:00 to 7:30 – meet, munch and greet
7:30 to 7:35 - quick chapter meeting
7:40 to 8:30 - 1st breakout
8:30 to 8:40 - reorg, reset, quick drink, bathroom, etc.
8:40 to 9:30 - 2nd breakout
9:35 to 9:45 - evening prayer
9:45 - on our way home
Shari Whitico, Praying “The Mass” Along an Eclectic Musical Pathway. The style of music that worship leaders use throughout the Mass can definitely be a tool in providing a spiritual experience for all who are praying the Mass together. Shari Whitico, Director of Music at St. Bonaventure Parish, will be sharing with us the ways that have helped her successfully create this experience. Her beliefs are as follows.....“We, as music ministers, weave our musical notes throughout the parts of the mass, painting a spiritual picture that portrays and enhances the message of the Gospel.” There are many ways that musicians and worship leaders strive to unite the theme of the Mass through music. Her presentation will assist you in attaining this spiritual experience by using various styles of music from ancient chant, to traditional, to gospel, to cutting edge contemporary music. She believes that “We truly are a church of many souls. Therefore, using many styles of music throughout the Mass can be a tool to connect us all as one Body of Christ.” She will be referencing the book “Rebuilt”, by Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran, the story of their Timonium, Maryland Church of the Nativity's successful experience in parish revitalization and evangelization.

Pipe organs for sale

1977 Wickes, 5 ranks (plus extensions) & chimes, St. Ignatius, Carnegie. Organ in overall good condition. Offers and queries can be directed to Nicholas Will, nicholas.jos.will@gmail.com, 412-276-1011 x219

1957 Casavant, 17 ranks, divided installation behind grille work, St. William, East Pittsburgh. Organ in fair condition. Contact Herb Dillahunt, 412-271-1326, nasard@aol.com
Circa 1946 Wickes, 15 ranks, St. Helen, East Pittsburgh. Organ in poor condition. Contact Herb Dillahunt, 412-271-1326, nasard@aol.com

Upcoming Events

Sep 13 ........Saturday..........8:00 PM ..........Music Plus, at St. James Church in Sewickley, presents Stanton Lanier in a concert of original, scripture-based piano compositions, with visuals and commentary. A master class will take place in the parish hall from 6:30-7:30 that evening for a $25 fee to Stanton Lanier. Concert is freewill. Reception follows. St. James Church, 200 Walnut Street, Sewickley, 15143  412-741-6650.


Positions Available

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Carnegie, Pennsylvania seeks an alto and a tenor section leader for its Parish Choir and Schola Cantorum. The Parish Choir rehearses weekly (Thursdays, 7:00-9:00) and sings weekly for the 11:30 Sunday Mass. Repertoire is comprised of English and Latin chant, English hymnody, and motets/anthems spanning the Catholic-Christian tradition. The Schola Cantorum rehearses and sings approximately once per month for holy days and other liturgies on an as-needed basis. Repertoire is comprised of Latin and English chant and Renaissance polyphony. The successful candidate will possess superior sight-reading skills, the ability to adapt one's voice to the demands of a variety of styles, the ability to demonstrate vocal techniques to other singers, and a professional demeanor. A competitive stipend (per call) is offered for at least two calls per week from September to early June, dependent upon the liturgical calendar. Carnegie is located a few miles southwest of downtown Pittsburgh and is easily accessible by public transportation or interstate routes 376 and 79. For more information or to schedule an audition, contact the Director of Music, Nicholas Will, at 412-276-1011 x219 or music@seascarnegie.org or nicholas.jos.will@gmail.com.

O/D, Holy Rosary Church Muse, Three masses per weekend, sat 4, sun 8:30, 11. One choir, approximately ten people. If anyone is interested please call Fr. Deville, 724-745-3531.
This July, I was fortunate to attend the NPM National Convention in St. Louis, MO. The location was great - the weather was beautiful and the atmosphere was upbeat! As always, it was wonderful to gather with thousands of pastoral musicians from across the country and even from outside the continental U.S! By far the best part of the convention this year was the introduction and welcome from our new President, Msgr. Rick Hilgartner. Msgr. Rick - a priest of the Baltimore Archdiocese - was formerly the Executive Director for the USCCB's Secretariat of Divine Worship. In the Opening Ceremony, he spoke of his background and how he is, "eager for NPM to form, encourage, and support the next generation of pastoral musicians in their commitment to serve the Church and the Liturgy. Everyone present was encouraged by his intellect, presence and humor. Following the Opening Ceremony, we were again blessed by the Plenum Presentation given by Jerry Galipeau. His talk was titled Good News for a Wounded People. His words touched all of us; we felt as if he knew what we were all feeling. All in attendance received his talk very well. During the week, one of my favorite concerts was the Revival presented by Grayson Warren Brown. It has been 5 years since Grayson has given a concert at an NPM convention. He has been missed – judging from the overwhelming attendance at his concert. Speaking of Grayson – it was nice to see Cardinal Daniel DiNardo at the convention again this year. Many of us know Cardinal DiNardo from his days as a Pittsburgh priest. It is always great to see him at NPM Conventions! During the week, I spent much of my time giving voice lessons and adjudicating cantors for the NPM Basic Cantor Certificate. It is wonderful seeing so many cantors who care deeply about their ministry and are willing to work hard and further their skills! The week ended on Friday with Msgr. Ray East give the address prior to the Closing Ceremony. If you have ever heard Msgr. Ray – you know he is amazing! He brings the Gospel to life. The week ended with Msgr. Rick asking Msgr. Ray and the entire Association to "pray him in" as our new President. It was a moving and beautiful way to end the week! Next year's NPM National Convention will be held in Grand Rapids, MI – July 6 -10. The title is “Called to Joy and Hope: Let the Servant Church Arise”. Hope to see you there!