

PLEASE FORWARD TO ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED

Dear Montreat Friends:

I am contacting you because Dr. Ron Davis and I, both faculty members in music at Presbyterian College, have accepted an invitation from the Montreat Conference Center to provide musical oversight for the summer Sunday morning worship services at Anderson Auditorium this summer. With Bob Keener's big shoes to fill, we have accepted this challenge with great humility and are proceeding cautiously and deliberately.

We have been charged with accomplishing some of the following:

- To work with the summer liturgical coordinator and summer worship intern and assist with planning, preparation, and execution of the Sunday service
- To assist with and help to provide a consistent musical product from week to week
- To provide musical leadership and creativity from the organ
- To begin the process of producing a Montreat Conference Singers – a choir that will, eventually, participate and lead in worship services
- And, to coordinate visits by a variety of regional church choirs who may be willing to assist in these endeavors

You all know what we are facing in starting a conference choral group from scratch. We'll begin working toward that end this month and attempt to start rehearsals in late May. What may come of it, we cannot predict, but we have aspirations and hopes that it may turn out well. One of the possibilities that may exist immediately, is that a core group of "Montreat" singers may be available immediately to "supplement" church choirs who are interested in singing at Montreat! More info on this later, but assume that will include some help for each voice part.

Meanwhile, we will be looking for help to provide choral music at services beginning May 31st and continuing through August 9th. The first four services are the most crucial and we want to solicit your aid in providing choral music for those Sundays now. If you are interested in bringing a choir to Montreat, please prayerfully consider these first four weeks of the summer.

Part of the challenge of coordinating choirs will be working with the choral directors to provide repertoire for the service that is well-matched with the sermon theme and/or readings for the day.

- It may also be possible to provide you with a working plan for the entire service by as early as mid- to late-April.
- You will know the hymns in advance, be provided with copies of music written specifically for use in the worship service (such as responsorial psalms, responses, etc.).
- We'll work to provide you with as much preparation time in Anderson as is feasible.
- Further, we hope that you will consider a 15-20" pre-service concert that may be broadcast by speakers to the area immediately outside the auditorium.

These are the preachers, themes, and scripture references for the five Sundays through the end of June:

- 5/31 – Pete Peery, *When the Answer Alludes Us*, Ezekiel 37:1-14 (sermon text); John 16:12-15
- 6/7 – Brian Blount, *Not My Area*, Acts 8:26-40 (sermon text); Psalm 28:28-32
- 6/14 – Agnes Norfleet, *Scattered Seas*, Mark 4:26-34
- 6/21 – Chris Chakoian, *Only Human*, Psalm 9:9-20; Mark 4:35-41
- 6/28 – Scott Black Johnson, *Who Touched Me*, Mark 5:21-43; Psalm 130
- Communion may be held on 5/31 and 6/28 – we will be able to confirm that almost immediately

Music for the services:

- Two anthems coordinated with the sermon theme/scripture references for the day
- Leadership on other music as provided
- A choral introit is a possibility
- If communion is being celebrated on your Sunday, perhaps an additional anthem or two during the serving of the elements

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING THIS OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AND COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN INFORMATION FORM (ATTACHED):

- PORTER STOKES, 864.833.8468/8470 OR pstokes@presby.edu
- RON DAVIS, 864.833.8422 OR rdavis@presby.edu

SUMMER IS THE TIME WHEN MANY YOUTH AND BELL CHOIRS TOUR. YOUR YOUTH CHOIR AND BELL CHOIRS ARE ENCOURAGED TO INQUIRE.