

## Notes from the Music Department

Our recorded Prelude and Postlude selections today were chosen to acknowledge both Irish and Scottish music under the larger umbrella of Celtic traditions.

"**Farewell to Govan**" was the theme song for the stage production of *The Big Picnic*, a play about World War I. The play tells of young men from the Govan section of Glasgow, Scotland who enlisted into the British army after hearing from their friends that there was no fighting. The experience was a big picnic. Unfortunately, most of these recruits never came back to Govan. Paul Winter's version of the music found on his 1999 *Celtic Solstice* album featured his ensemble, the Paul Winter Consort. In 2000, the album was awarded a Grammy Award for the Best New Age Album. Utilizing his skills as a jazz soprano saxophonist and prolific composer, Winter has created an amazing body of work that showcase his wide-ranging experiences in the musical traditions and natural environments of the Earth. Next Saturday, March 20 at 11:00 a.m. CDT, he and keyboardist Henrique Eisenmann will share a free live stream concert celebrating the Vernal Equinox, marking the equilibrium between daylight and darkness. If you google Paul Winter & Vernal Equinox live stream concert, you will be taken to the site. Information about the event is also on Facebook.

The fun, lilting Irish tune, **Pennywhistle Jig** was written for the movie *The Molly Maguires*. Today's version was recorded by the world famous flute and pennywhistle performer, James Galway. As you listen to his unbelievable technique, think of this quote from him, "I do not consider myself as having mastered the flute, but I get a real kick out of trying."

Happy St. Patrick's Day!