

Jan. 23, 2022

Notes from the Music Department

One of the myriad challenges of the pandemic has been singing while masked - those foggy glasses! Socially distancing, while necessary for our safety, doesn't help either. In response to requests for some assistance, Deb and Mike Wasilczuk are acting as song leaders today. While they will be using microphones, this is not a solo opportunity for them, rather a chance for you in the pews to feel comfortable under their leadership. Happy singing!

Based on the hymn tune, "Repton," written in 1888 by C. H. H. Perry, "**One, Unknown**" was newly imagined recently by Thomas Keesecker, a career church musician and composer.

Paul A. Tate from the Atlanta, Georgia area has written 16 Interludes creatively named Interlude No. 1, No. 2..... What you hear this week is No. 11, now known in our Wausau UU world as "**Thoughtfulness**." Any suggestions for titles for the others in this collection of charming and conveniently short pieces would be gratefully received! Copious amounts of credit will be given.

I love sharing the music of Erik Satie (1866-1925), the French impressionist composer, friend of Debussy and Faure. There are six **Gnossienne** (a word invented by Satie) and six months left in the church year. The current plan for sharing these is rather obvious?

Dave Brubeck of "Take Five" fame was inspired to ask his saxophonist Paul Desmond to write that groundbreaking piece after a tour of Eurasia in the mid-1950's. "Take Five" was the biggest selling jazz single ever. South Carolina's Larry Shackley used that feel of 5 beats divided into 3 plus 2 in his arrangement of two famous spirituals from the Underground Railroad era, "**Go Down, Moses**" and "**Wade in the Water**." Harriet Tubman would be pleased.

If this has left you wanting to revisit the works of Brubeck, you might want to check out "La Paloma Azul," (The Blue Dove). Both Brubeck on piano and Desmond on saxophone are outstanding.

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Music Making Opportunities:

Our masked and vaccinated Adult Choir meets Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 in the well ventilated atrium.

"When we sing together in community - whether in joy or desolation or everyday hope - we affirm our common humanity and build our community through this shared craft. Good singing is not the result of a good community but the forging of it. No other gift connects us in quite this way."

*Alice Parker, **Melodious Accord***

Monday evening meetings of the **Drum Club** (7:00-8:00 p.m 1005 Steuben St) are open to all masked and vaccinated adults who would like to spend time making music on authentic African and Caribbean drums and small percussion. No previous experience is necessary, just a desire to participate in supremely satisfying community music.

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