

October 2, 2022

## Notes from the Music Department

Welcome back to our UU Choir! It is always a very special Sunday when we get to hear the results of their Wednesday evening practices. (We meet weekly in the atrium from 6:30 to 8:00 and share our music with the congregation every three to four weeks. Interested? Bring your good ears and a desire to participate in creating beautiful and harmonic music. The ability to read music is welcomed but not required.)

"Singing is the most human, most companionable of the arts. It joins us together in the whole realm of sound, forging a group identity where there were only individuals and making a communicative statement that far transcends what any one of us could do alone. It is a paradigm of union with each other.

Alice Parker, *Melodious Accord*

\*\*\*\*\*

Our **Drum Club** meets Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Drum Haven located at 1005 Steuben St. Wausau. No previous percussion experience or musical background is necessary and all drums and other small percussion instruments are furnished.

Adam Podd and twin brother Matt are Vermont-bred musicians who now live in Brooklyn, NY where they are making their mark on the music industry's top institutions as music directors, performers, composers, and arrangers. They have worked in nearly every major performance space and concert hall in New York City with choirs, orchestras, and popular artists across all genres. Adam is presently the music director at a Unitarian Universalist Church in Brooklyn.

During a coming together of like-minded souls for a recent Thanksgiving celebration, "We Choose Love" sprang into life.

## **We Choose Love**

As we gather together and we hold in our hearts,  
The spirit that unites us,  
As we gather together and we hold in our hearts,  
The spirit that unites us,  
As we gather together and we hold in our hearts,  
The spirit that unites us,  
We choose love, we choose love,  
We choose love.

We choose love, Love chooses us.  
We choose love, Love chooses us.

Pat DeSimeo lives and writes in Las Cruces, New Mexico where he works to improve his part of the world by living a life woven through with song. Pat also weaves words into plans and funding for work in education, the environment, and bridge-building cooperation. He describes himself as a troubadour with roots, sending out songs like cottonwood seeds while using the songwriter's tools of language and storytelling to make a difference where he's planted himself.

## **SO We GO**

Come as the summer turns t'ward autumn,  
Come as the long night stars climb high'r.  
Come as time's unceasing turning  
Wheels us 'round, 'round the harvest fire.  
So we go from daylight t'ward the night.  
So we go, turning on through life.

Come as the summer bearded barley  
From soft green to brazen bronze.  
Come as the sunflow'rs rest their heads  
In peace of sleep while the sun spins on.

So we go from daylight t'ward the night.  
So we go, turning on through life.

Come as mistakes into wisdom,  
Come as the rash become the sage.  
Come as the blooms of youth grow into  
Feast and seed of our autumn days.  
So we go from daylight t'ward the night.  
So we go, turning on through life.

Our choir learned "Take Time in Life" aurally, a method commonly known as learning by ear. Learning music in the aural tradition is the method used by most of the planets' musicians but when you have been "paper trained" like most of us, a project like this requires a huge chunk of bravery. Kudos to the choir!

"Take Time in Life," a folk song from the West African country of Liberia, was arranged by Dr. Will Schmid. Dr. Schmid worked tirelessly to reestablish the importance of active music making in schools and in America at large. Like Pete Seeger, Will always said that "The music is not over until the audience sings!" So when you get the hang of this catchy song, please join us!

## **Take Time in Life**

Trad. folk song from Liberia

I was passing by, my father called to me,  
And he said to me, "You better take time in life."  
"Better take time in life,  
You better take time in life,  
Better take time in life  
'cause you got far way to go."

My mother....  
My friends.....  
The people.....

