

October 30, 2022

## Notes From the Music Department

It is always a special Sunday when we have our UU Choir in-house to share their talents. Thank you to soprano Kara Hall for also taking on the role of song leader. Our congregational sound has improved so much since we implemented this leadership role.

The three songs that the choir is sharing were all written by contemporary, living composers. Like many other composers through the ages, much of their music has been written for their students. Mark Burrows speaks for them all in this quote:

"I believe one of the responsibilities of an artist is to listen to the world - to its joy, pain, wonder, yearning, anger, brokenness - and through music change it into something that is honest and hopeful."

Reno, Nevada resident and retired music teacher Mary Donnelly along with her writing partner George L. O. Strid who currently teaches in Olympia, WA started their collaborative composing careers when they were team-teaching a general music class and were asked to compose a musical. Three decades later, they now have over 100 compositions and 25 musicals in their portfolios including today's "**Homeward Bound**".

### Homeward Bound

Mary Donnelly and George L. O. Strid

Winding road, where will you lead me  
As I wander all along?  
Western wind, sing me a melody,  
And someday you will take me home.  
And I'm homeward bound, I'm homeward bound.  
Home is calling to me.  
Yes, I'm homeward bound, I'm homeward bound,  
That's where I long to be.

Golden moon, on the horizon,  
Oh, shine on me and light my way.  
Silver stars, high in the heavens,  
Guide me so I will not go astray.  
And I'm homeward bound, I'm homeward bound.

Home is calling to me.  
Yes, I'm homeward bound, I'm homeward bound.  
That's where I long to be.  
That's where I long to be.

Mark Burrows is an educator, composer and conductor. He is currently serving as the Director of the Children's Ministries at his church in Ft. Worth, TX. He composes for children's choirs, adult ensembles and intergenerational festival choirs.

## **A Light of Hope, A Song of Peace**

Mark Burrows

We light a candle, and we remember  
There is hope in the world, there is hope.  
We sing our heartsong, and we remember  
There is peace in this world. There is peace.

The days are getting colder,  
The nights are growing long,  
But there is warmth and wonder,  
A candle and a song.

And so we shine and so we sing  
Till doubt and sorrow cease.  
A light of hope,  
A song of peace.

A single candle will light another,  
Spreading hope through this world, spreading hope.  
We'll share our heartsong with one another,  
Singing peace to the world,  
Singing peace.....

Husband and wife team, Sally Albrecht and Jay Althouse, have combined their talents for years, producing hundreds of compositions suitable for singers of all ages. Their composition, "I Hear America Singing," was performed during the Presidential Inauguration Ceremonies in 2009.

## May Sunshine Light Your Way

May sunshine light your way  
As you move on toward tomorrow  
May laughter fill your days  
With you instead of sorrow.  
May you have the strength to soar  
As on eagles' wing.  
And may your heart be filled  
With joyous songs to sing.

May your days be filled with love.  
May your dreams be never ending.  
If you find a lucky star  
May it always be ascending.  
May you have the strength to soar  
As on eagles' wing.  
And may your heart be filled  
With joyous songs to sing.

Go in peace, go in love,  
Go with song.

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The **UU Choir** meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 in our well ventilated atrium. Join us as we prepare music to share with the congregation approximately once a month. No audition is required - just bring your good ears and a desire to be a part of our close knit singing community as we create joyous harmonies.

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. Our time is spent in fairly equal parts of technique and skill building along-side fun drum circle improvisational activities and games.

