

March 26, 2023

Notes from the Music Department

Thank you, Jimmie Mayer, for taking time away from your medical school studies to share your musical talents with us. In addition to leading the singing of our congregational hymns, Jimmie will finish our service with a gentle Postlude, Billy Joel's "Lullaby (Good Night, My Angel)." This lovely song from his 1993 *River of Dreams* album features Joel's dreamy and contemplative thoughts about the connection with our children, other loved ones and the larger community.

Our Prelude features the music of Chris De Silva, born in Singapore and currently living in Los Angeles. In De Silva's words, this folk song from the Visayan archipelago in the Philippines is a "story of longing, a search for love, a yearning for encountering love. There is a lovely theology embedded within the story of this folk song." It is De Silva's hope that songs such as this will "continue to inspire, guide, strengthen and comfort; that they will enter into our lives in ways known and unknown."

French impressionist Gustave Caillebotte's 1877 painting of "*Skiffs*" was the inspiration for the English composer, Pam Wedgwood, when she wrote "*Drifting By*." Caillebotte's painting suggests a great feeling of relaxation, with flat bottomed boats slowly drifting along with the flow of the water. Wedgwood's instructions advise that the piece should be played peacefully and in a romantic style.

The multi-faceted Floridian composer, Bob Moore, has given us this slow "*Air*." His "*Air*" is marked by the absence of strict rhythms or structures alongside an open ended melody, making it perfect for deep thinking and contemplation.

Music Making Opportunities

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 or the ability to read music is required - just bring your good ears and a desire to be part of our close knit community of singers as we create joyous harmonies.

An additional possibility for group music making happens Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00 in the Drum Haven located at 1005 Steuben St. No previous percussion experience or musical background is necessary for membership in our **Drum Club**. All drums and other authentic small percussion instruments are furnished. Our time is spent in fairly equal parts of hand drumming techniques and skill building alongside fun drum circle improvisational activities and games.

"A good song makes you laugh, it makes you cry, it makes you think.

- Pete Seeger