

April 2, 2023

Notes from the Music Department

Our special music today was written by three contemporary American composers starting with Kansas City based Dr. John Leavitt. His arrangement of "**Dunlap's Creek**" is based on a mid-18th century hymn tune that was named after the oldest Presbyterian church west of the Alleghenies, Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church in Merrittstown, PA. Dr. Leavitt's many compositions and arrangements have been performed in over thirty countries.

Our Music Meditation, "**Psalm**" was written by Malcolm Kogut, a native of upper New York State. In addition to writing music meant to be played within the structure of church services, Kogut spends time hiking and exploring in the nooks and crannies of the Adirondack Mountains.

"**On a Dream**" and "**Let All the Earth Cry Out With Joy**" were written by Edward Eicker, the current Music Director of St. Paul of the Cross in Des Plaines, IL. In addition to his work of composing choral, keyboard and instrumental music, Eicker also serves as a school board member in his local school district.

Song leader Kara Hall (thank you, Kara!) will lead you in singing our final hymn of the day, "**Tradition Held Fast**," that you heard just two weeks ago during Jim Scott's visit. Meant to be a closing hymn, Jim based his words on a Native American saying that teaches that once we have shared in a circle together, the circle doesn't break, it just opens. This amazing song defines the ways that our traditions - connection, non-violent protest, interfaith collaboration, trust and belief in our principles - will prevail. Let "**Tradition Held Fast**" be a prayer for strength, for good, for affirmation.

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 nor 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.

