

## The Ministry of Music

### OUR HERITAGE AND TRADITION

From its founding over 60 years ago, thoughtful, liturgically oriented worship has been a constant in the life of Myers Park Baptist Church. Modeled on the classic style established by Jean Calvin and the Genevan Reformers, the service places in a central position the reading of scripture and the preaching of the Word. The balancing elements of corporate praise and individual confession precede this Service of the Word, and acts of offering and response follow.

Another valued element in the Myers Park Baptist worship tradition is an unswerving commitment to the care, nurturing and creative use of classical church music. From the ecumenical and inclusive congregational hymns, to the richly diverse instrumental, vocal and choral literature, all of the music heard in worship is thoughtfully chosen and well prepared. The congregation's song and many of the choir's anthems are supported by a well-crafted Æolian-Skinner organ, and a recent gift of a new Steinway concert grand piano opens yet another realm of musical possibilities. The superb acoustical properties of the sanctuary and its chancel add an uncommon vitality to all of the church's music.

The musical palate at Myers Park is richly hued and energetically executed. In looking through the descriptions of the various activities and ensembles, please take seriously our invitation for you to become a part of this vibrant musical portrait.

## CHOIRS FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH



### The Chancel Choir

*(Post High School Aged Adults)*

**Weekly rehearsal: Thursday evening**

**7:00 - 9:00 p.m., in Berry Hall**

*Sunday morning: Rehearsal at 10:15 a.m.,  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service*

The Chancel Choir is a large choir of non-paid singers who exhibit a deep commitment to the ministry of music and worship in this church. They lead the worship of the 11:00 a.m. service each Sunday morning, and provide music for the church's festival days and special liturgies. The Chancel Choir begins its season with an annual retreat over Labor Day Weekend. Anyone interested in singing with the Chancel Choir should call the Music Office. Please speak with the music staff if there are child care needs.

In addition to its weekly service leadership, the Chancel Choir, regularly performs major works for choir and instruments. Recent years have seen performances of masterworks by Bach, Brahms, Vivaldi, Faure, Rutter, Schubert, Handel and Dvorak. This fall the Chancel Choir, with orchestra and organ, will present Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Requiem*.



## The Motet Singers

**Rehearsal: Sunday evenings**

**6:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Room: Berry Hall**

The Motet Singers is primarily an *a cappella* ensemble of 16-24 singers auditioned from the membership of the Chancel Choir, who wish to spend extra time devoted to more challenging choral repertoire. This ensemble sings a variety of music chosen from the vast body of standard chamber choir repertoire, ranging from Renaissance motets to intricate and demanding modern compositions. The Motet Singers periodically sing during worship throughout the year and serve as the resident choir for the annual Christmas Eve and Easter Vigil services. The Motet Singers has been invited to perform at the famed Piccolo Spoleto music festival in 2007 and 2008.



### The Youth Choir

*(Grades 6 - 12)*

**Rehearsal: Sunday evenings, 5:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Room: Berry Hall**

The Youth choir is a place for adolescent youth to learn about their newly changed or changing voices and how to use them properly. Music is chosen with specific vocal ranges to allow young men and women to sing regularly and successfully all through the various stages of vocal change. The choir sings in the 11:00 a.m. worship services as scheduled. The choir explores a wide variety of music including classical choral literature, folk-hymns, spirituals, gospel songs, and international ethnic music. Emphasis on creating a musical community is a major priority for this choir. The choir has performed fully staged productions such as *GodSpell*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Cotton Patch Gospel*. The Youth Choir traditionally begins each season with a retreat and culminates each season with a spring program.

## CHOIRS FOR CHILDREN



**CHERUB CHOIR** (*Toddlers through Fours*)  
Wednesdays 4:30 - 5:00 pm,  
Room 29 (formerly Orff Room)

\*Parents participate with their children in this choir.

Utilizing the *Musikgarten* curriculum *God's Children Sing*, our youngest children learn the Bible stories of our faith through movement, songs, instruments, and drama. This program also allows parents and children to make music together, sharing in their musical expression of faith.



**The KinderChoir** (*T-K and Kindergarten*)  
Wednesdays, 5:15-6:00 p.m, Room 8  
**The Carol Choir** (*Grades 1 and 2*)  
Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m, Room 21

The beginnings of a faith foundation and the basic rudiments of music and singing are all a part of each rehearsal for these choirs. Both the KinderChoir and Carol Choir will progress through the curriculum, *Sing, Play, & Rejoice in God*, and will learn spiritual concepts and musical skills as they play instruments, participate in musical games, and sing hymns, anthems, and traditional songs.



**The Chapel Choir** (*Grades 3 - 5*)  
Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m, Room 7

The Chapel Choir is the vocal ensemble for older children in our program that blends together principles of the *Royal School of Church Music*, *Orff-Schulwerk*, and *Kodály*. Each rehearsal provides a creative learning environment for musical development in which children will sing, play instruments, study hymns and continue to develop skills in reading music.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT STAFF

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## MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

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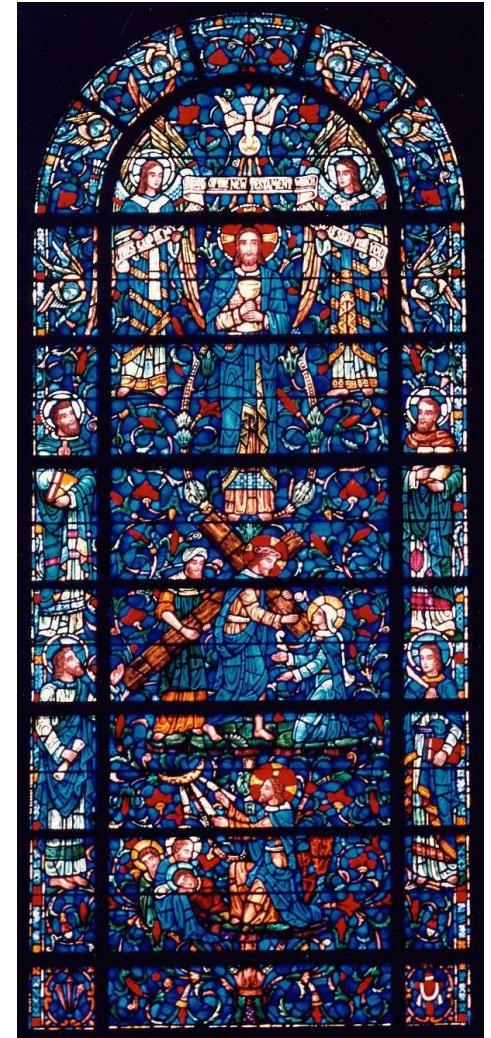
(across from Queens University)

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[www.mpbconline.org](http://www.mpbconline.org)

*Photograph of stained glass altar window  
by Louis A. Shaffner, 1997.*

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BAPTIST CHURCH**  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

2009-2010