

Soli Deo Gloria

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Nick Bergin Promoted to Full-Time Organist

by Rhonda Swanson



Congratulations to Nick Bergin on his promotion to Organist, a full-time position on the FPC staff; the advancement was ratified at January's Session meeting. Nick joined FPC's staff in July 2012 as Interim Organist and quickly became known as a thoughtful, positive collaborator in worship and music activities.

In addition to music department and liturgy meetings, Nick's normal week consists of daily organ practice, rehearsals with the Sanctuary Choir as well as Doxology and Psalmody choirs and preparations for Sunday worship and memorial services. The son of musical parents, he credits earlier internships at large churches with molding his work expectations and adapting to his new role.

Nick graduated in May 2012 with a Master's degree in organ performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Janette Fishell and was awarded the prestigious Barbara and David Jacobs Fellowship. In 2011, he served as the Interim Assistant Organist at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis and during the fall of 2010, he worked as the Organ Scholar at the Church of St. Michael and St. George in St. Louis, Missouri. He served for a year as the Dean of the Indiana University/Bloomington American Guild of Organists chapter, where he led monthly meetings and helped to organize a number of concerts and social events. Nick is a graduate of Baltimore's Peabody Conservatory, where he studied organ with Donald Sutherland and piano with Seth Knopp. While growing up in Houston, Nick studied piano with Timothy Hester and attended the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

We caught up with Nick recently at a local Mexican restaurant, where he shared some additional information:

Favorite hymn: "For All the Saints" or any other Vaughan Williams hymn

Other instruments he plays: Accordion and bagpipes

First piano teacher: His mother

Favorite karaoke song: "Blue Monday" by Fats Domino

Honoring his heritage, a favorite Swedish hymn is "Prepare the Way," #13 in the Presbyterian Hymnal. Nick expressed his appreciation for the friendly people he's met and the opportunity to lead hymn singing.

Congratulations, Nick!

SPRING MUSIC SCHEDULE

March 17, 4:00 P.M.
FPC Sanctuary
Music City Baroque
performs *Handel*

March 29, 7:00 P.M.
FPC Sanctuary
*Tenebrae...A Service
of Darkness*

Sunday, April 21
4:00 P.M.
Stanford Chapel
FPC Youth
Instrumentalists Recital

Sunday, April 28
3:00 P.M.
FPC Sanctuary
Nashville Chamber
Singers in Concert

Music Ministry Staff

■ Dr. Raphael Bundage

Director of Music
Phone: 298-9540 Email: rbundage@mtsu.edu

■ Nicholas Bergin

Organist
Phone: 298-9420 Email: nbergin@fpcnashville.org

■ Daphne Garey

Administrative Assistant for Worship & Music Department
Phone: 298-9517 Email: dgarey@fpcnashville.org

■ Susan Kirby

Administrator of Worship & Music Ministries
Phone: 298-9540 Email: skirby@fpcnashville.org

■ Carol McClure

Director of Children's and Youth Music Ministries
Phone: 298-9517 Email: carolmcclure@carolmcclure.com

■ Dr. Keith Moore

Director of Sanctuary Chorale
Phone: 298-9517 Email: keith.moore@belmont.edu

■ Carolyn Naumann

Director, Hosanna I
Phone: 298-9517 Email: carolynnaumann@gmail.com

■ Mark Naumann

Sound Coordinator
Phone: 594-9167 Email: naumann_m@comcast.net

■ Kelly Posey

Director, Cherubs
Phone: 298-9540 Email: kelly_posey@hotmail.com

■ Rhonda Swanson

Assistant Organist
Phone: 298-9516 Email: rwsanson842@comcast.net

■ Lara Woodward

Director, Hosanna II
Phone: 298-9517

In the Loft



In January, I spoke with Camille Fohl about her involvement with the music program at First Presbyterian. Camille has been singing with the Sanctuary Choir for five and a half years, and she brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to this ensemble. I hope you'll enjoy learning more about her.

NB: What brought you to singing and who has influenced you?

CF: Music and musicians were an important part of my family heritage. My grandmother, who graduated from Valparaiso University with a degree in piano, made music a very real part of our lives. I majored in voice while in attendance at Cincinnati Conservatory and graduated from Peabody College in Nashville with a BA in English. I've sung in church choirs since my childhood, including 25 years as a soprano soloist at the First Congregation Church of Winter Park, Florida. While there, I also participated in local opera productions and was a member of the Bach Choir of Winter Park for 18 years.

NB: What is your favorite anthem? Favorite hymn?

CF: There are so many! The first hymns that come to mind are "Morning Has Broken" and "Lord of the Dance." I love just about anything by Bach, as well as the Brahms Requiem and Mozart Requiem. The list goes on and on.

NB: What is your favorite aspect of singing in the choir at First Presbyterian?

CF: I've sung in many choirs, and I must say that we are very blessed to sing with Raphael. His ability to communicate with the choir is exceptional, and what we accomplish under his leadership is outstanding.

NB: How does singing relate to your spiritual life?

JW: Singing has added dimension to my spiritual journey. Because I've sung in church for such a long time, it has become an essential part of worship for me. I feel blessed to have it in my life.

— Nick Bergin