



NOTABLE NOTES

The Electronic Newsletter of the Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox
Choirs and Musicians — October 2008

click on <http://www.sfgocm.org/news>

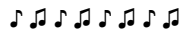
In order for this monthly newsletter to reach everyone, we need your help with news articles, essays, observations or anything else of import to our Federation

NEW PHOTO AND VIDEO FEATURE

We have opened an adjunct site for photos and videos! If you have any pictures or videos, please send them on to leonk@bellsouth.net and I'll upload them onto the site. To view them, **and there are lots from the Greece Trip**, please visit it by clicking on [New Photo Site!](#)

FREE ORGAN TO ANY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Charlotte's church has procured a new organ and would like to donate their former organ to another Orthodox Church. Please see the attached picture and description.



Father James Rousakis of Clearwater's Address at the 2008 Conference

Your Eminence, Father Michael Petrides, host priest and Vicar for Northern Florida; John Mitchell, President of the Choir Federation; Fathers, Presvyteres, Choir members, supporters and benefactors of Church music...

Your theme ends with the words, "...Give thanks in everything." I greet you with, the words sung by Jane Froman, (for those of you who remember), "With a song in my heart." I greet you with a song of the thanks of remembrance. I was so humbled with the honor of receiving, last year, the Patriarch Athenagoras award for my contribution to Church music. How proud I was to wear the medal at the Clergy-Laity Congress National Music Federation reception. I value your remembrance!

I greet you with a song of the thanks of gratitude. How grateful we are to you, who should be honored, also, for your contribution to Church music with your stewardship of time and talent singing in Church choirs. You have dedication! You have spirit! With this dedication and spirit, choirs always have something to say, but in tune with music.

Although your monogram SFGOCM means one thing to you, it means something else to me. Allow me some poetic license, thinking of another song "MOTHER. M is for..." My version goes like this...

S is for the spirit spectacularly sounded.

F is for the fellowship fervently found.

G is for the goodness graciously given.

O is for the Orthodoxy oratorically orated.

C is for the choir correctly conducted.

M is for the magnificent magnificently magnified.

Put it all together and it spells...love.

Shakespeare opens "Twelfth Night" with the words: "If music be the food of love, (of God's love), play on, give me excess of it. Tomorrow you will give us His love and the excess of music playing on with your praise and worship, as the food of love to our Lord. We wait with anticipation for tomorrow that we may join our voices in worship. Keep on singing and may God bless your efforts always!



CD: VIRTUE - THE DOOR OF HEAVEN

This comes from the Philadelphia area Orthodox Musicians' Group on Yahoo!

Sun Aug 31, 2008 8:53 pm (PDT)

Dear Friends,

Several times in the past few weeks, as I've mentioned the Spiritual Songs Project to people, I've been urged to get a copy of the CD, "Virtue - The Door of Heaven," songs and hymns from the annual girl's summer retreats at St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery in Goldendale, Washington.

Today I was chatting with Fr. David Sommer, priest of St. Thomas Antiochian Mission in Snohomish, Washington, and he raved about the recording and said his family had been listening to it extensively on their recent vacation. When he offered to loan me his copy, I readily accepted.

I just got done listening to it for the first time and I was completely drawn into the pure beauty of these clean, high voices, a blend of girls and nuns, singing a cappella, mostly in two-part harmony (or melody with ison). One or two selections break into a sweet three-part harmony.

If you are a parent of young children, I'd urge you to get your hands on a copy of this recording right away. This is the kind of CD I would've put on for my children when they were young to help them get to sleep.

Three selections, "To The Champion Leader," "Awed by Thy Beauty," and the sticheraric (long) version of "To The Champion Leader," are sung in Greek. The Byzantine chant on this latter selection is delightful and sounds like it was sung by native Greek-speakers (which I think most, if not all, of these young ladies are not).

This recording contains several selections, including hymns, prayers, religious folk songs and what I would call a ballad (a song that tells a story) that I could possibly see being incorporated into the Spiritual Songs Project. The melodies are easy to learn, and the text has been rendered eloquently into English, even if it mostly does not rhyme.

I would encourage anyone who has a children's choir, or needs songs for Church School, to get a copy of this recording and begin teaching these songs to their young people. At this point I don't know if there is any sheet music available. I'll need to inquire. But I wanted to tell you about this delightful recording right away.

If you already own "A Treasury of Spiritual Songs," sung by the nuns at St. Paisius Monastery in Stafford, Arizona, this would be an excellent companion.

We are well on our way to having some truly Orthodox music to sing in English at more informal times. Start with your young people and this will be our music of tomorrow! Do yourself and the Church in North America a favor and pick up a copy of this recording.

For more information on this CD, visit the monastery web site at:

<http://www.stjohnmonastery.org/ccp0-prodshow/CD%27sVirtue.html>

Volkert



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC, is interested in donating our first Allen Organ Church Organ to another Orthodox church who is willing to give it a blessed home. We have replaced our original organ with a new Allen 3-manual organ.

The old organ is an Allen 2-manual (keyboard) with a full foot-pedal board.

It has 2 external speakers.

It was built in the mid-late 70's.

It was in the first/second generation of electronic/digital organs that Allen produced.

It was taken out of service on September 29, 2008, currently in temporary storage in Charlotte, NC.

It is being offered on an “as is, where is” basis. Allen Organ said that they will recommission and service the organ when placed in its new church home.

This instrument is in working order, however primarily due to its age it requires maintenance about every 1 1/2 to 3 years with a cost of about \$600-\$800 dollars.

Our Parish Council wishes to find a suitable home by the end of October, within the next 3 weeks, so please contact Nicholas A. Mermigas, organ committee coordinator at (704) 685-3852 or email at nmermigas@bbandt.com as soon as possible. Thank you for your interest.





Orthodox
Youth Choir
Of Tampa Bay

Joanne H. Kambouris,

Music Director jkambouris@kno.org.net

O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. Psalm 96:1

August 16th, 2008

RE: Open audition call for the Orthodox Youth Choir of Tampa Bay

Dear Clergy, Youth Directors, and Parents

Greetings in Christ!

Once again, I have the pleasure of extending an invitation to all children interested in music to audition for the **Orthodox Youth Choir of Tampa Bay** for unchanged voices. Auditions will be conducted at various locations throughout Pinellas County during the next month. They will involve several vocalises and the singing of *America*, *Are You Sleeping*, or another simple song of the child's choice. No musical experience is necessary; however the ability to match pitch is a necessity for successful audition. Although the ages of our choir members range from 10 through 17, younger or older children may be considered for audition under special circumstances.

We embark on our choir's fourth year with intense enthusiasm for what is yet to come, and a wonderful sense of spiritual renewal resulting from our trip to **GREECE in June 2008!** Many of the parishes and generous donors in our area were instrumental in helping fund this trip nearly in **its entirety** for our students. To this effort we earnestly extend our warmest and most sincere gratitude to everyone who helped us!

As Music Director for our choir, I offer your children many years of my experience as a church musician and professional music educator for Pinellas County Schools. This year, we are attempting to "go Green" and try a paperless approach for our recruitment process. We are excited to announce the launching of our new **OYCTB website**, which has all the information available for download online. As a result of this new approach, you **will not**, as in years past, receive a "snail-mail" copy of any OYCTB information unless you request it! Our new website is www.oymb.org and we invite you to visit the site not only for information, but to view the pictures and videos of our once-in-a-lifetime Metropolis Choir Pilgrimage to Greece!

This past year, our choir had the distinct honor of being the subject of a feature story in the Tampa Tribune, and it sang at many churches, events, and even on television. If you are interested in bringing the OYCTB to your home, business, or parish, please contact me as soon as possible through my email above or through the website as our calendar fills up quickly!

I sincerely hope and pray that many of you will take this opportunity to perpetuate the dynamic musical traditions that have enriched our Orthodox faith throughout the past centuries. The time is now to encourage our children to become the stewards of this rich tradition as choir members of the present and future!

In Service to Christ,

Joanne H. Kambouris

Music Director

Orthodox Youth Choir of Tampa Bay

Call Joanne today for further information and audition dates 727-734-7721

**EFFECTIVELY
CONDUCTING THE
ORTHODOX CHOIR**
A CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008
Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta, GA.
2500 Clairmont Road N.E.
John N. Demos Music Suite
Atlanta, GA 30329
Tel.: 404-633-5870

featuring
RODNEY EICHENBERGER

This church Music Institute is sponsored by the
Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox
Choirs and Musicians
in conjunction with the
National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church
Musicians



WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This CMI is open to “those who direct and those who are directed”, including all choir members, directors, youth choir directors, anyone interested in “substituting” for their director or just wanting to increase their knowledge of conducting; those who have attended a previous workshop with Rodney; and those who have never attended such a workshop.

DIRECTIONS

From points south:

Take the exit onto I-75 N
Take exit 156 on the left to merge onto I-475
N toward Atlanta 15.4 mi
Take the exit onto GA-401 N/I-75 N
Continue to follow I-75 N 72.8 mi
Slight left at I-85 N (signs for GA-
400/Greenville/I-85 N) 5.9 mi
Take exit 91 toward US-23/GA-155/Clairmont
Rd/Decatur 0.2 mi
Merge onto I-85 N 423 ft
Turn right at Clairmont Rd NE 0.8 mi

From points north:

Follow I-85 S toward Atlanta
Take exit 91 toward US-23/GA-155/Clairmont
Rd/Decatur 0.1 mi
Merge onto NE Expy NE 0.1 mi
Turn left at Clairmont Rd NE 0.9 mi

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact John Mitchell, johnpm2@hotmail.com
or call 813-962-0551

Program

8:30 a.m. Registration/Sign in

8:55 a.m. Welcome

9:00 a.m. **What They See Is What You Get**

This session investigates the effect of conductor gesturing on pitch, dynamic, rhythmic and other aspects of musical performance.

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. **Enhancing Musicality Through Movement**

This session further explores the use of singer movement to solve pitch, vocal and other problems.

12:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. **The Power of Singer Gesture**

This session explores the natural subtleties that gesture brings to spoken words and demonstrates the value of making use of these phenomena to vitalize singing.

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Questions, Answers, and Application

4:00 p.m. Adjourn



Guest Faculty

Rodney Eichenberger has conducted more than 70 US All-State Choirs and guest conducted or lectured at more than 60 US universities. His international appearances include guest conducting the Pusan City Choir and Korean National Chorus and leading conducting workshops in Brazil, France, Austria, Australia and New Zealand. He has guest conducted and lectured at the Swedish Choral Directors Association in Orebro, Sweden, presented session at the Third World Symposium of Music in Vancouver, British Columbia, the 5th World Symposium of Choral Music in Rotterdam, Holland. He presented workshops at the First International School and Youth Choral Festival in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He has served as guest conductor of the Singapore Youth Choir Festival and International Schools Choral Festivals in London, Vienna, Tokyo and Berlin.



For a number of years he served as program coordinator for the choral conducting division of International Workshops' summer seminars in Stavanger, Norway; Brisbane, Australia; Biarritz, France and Graz, Austria. He annually teaches summer choral conducting workshops at Portland State University's Haystack Festival of the Arts held in Cannon Beach, Oregon and CCIS's Chesapeake Bay Workshop in Georgetown. His instructional video on Choral Conducting with Hinshaw Music, "What They See Is What You Get," is now in its thirteenth printing. In 2001, a second instructional video, "Enhancing Musicality Through Movement," was released through Santa Barbara Press.

Professor Eichenberger holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Olaf College and the Master of Arts degree from the University of Denver, with advanced study at the University of Washington and the University of Iowa. From 1976-1990 he was Professor of Choral Music and Conductor of the Chamber Singers at the University of Southern California and prior to his appointment there he was Professor of Choral Music at the University of Washington in Seattle. He conducted choirs from each of these universities at national conventions of either the American Choral Directors Association or the Music Educators National Conference.



Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

\$20 *All Attendees (includes lunch and materials)*

Make checks payable to: SFGOCM

Complete this registration form (one per person), enclose the payment and mail to:

John P. Mitchell
139 14 Pepperrell Dr.
Tampa, FL 33624

Are there any specific issues you would like addressed in this workshop

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The nearest nearest hotel to the church is the Marriott:

Atlanta Marriott North Central
2000 Century Blvd. NE. 30345
Atlanta, GA 30345
404-325-0000 for reservations.

