

The Standing Commission on Church Music

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A. MEMBERSHIP

- The Rt. Rev. Robert Hargrove, Jr., Alexandria, Louisiana (1997)
- The Rt. Rev. Jeffery W. Rowthorn, Paris, France (1994)
- The Rev. Herbert G. Draesel, Jr., New York, N.Y., *resigned, replaced by*
The Rev. Elizabeth Morris Downie, Fenton, Michigan (1994)
- The Rev. Henry I. Louttit, Jr., *Vice-Chair*, Valdosta, Georgia (1994)
- The Rev. Catherine M. Nichols, *Secretary*, Middlebury, Vermont (1997)
- The Rev. Curtis Sisco, New Orleans, Louisiana, *deceased, replaced by*
The Rev. Canon Margaret Sue Reid, Indianapolis, Indiana (1997)
- Sr. José R. Chávez, San Salvador, El Salvador (1997)
- Tolly Estes, Fort Thompson, South Dakota, *resigned, replaced by*
Marilyn Haskel, Walnut Creek, California (1997)
- Dr. Marilyn J. Keiser, Bloomington, Indiana (1994)
- Sr. Bernardo Murray, Panama City, Panama (1997)
- Betty Carr Pulkingham, Burlington, North Carolina (1994)
- Dr. William Bradley Roberts, *Chair*, Tucson, Arizona (1994)
- Dr. Carol Doran, Rochester, New York, *Consultant*
- Raymond Glover, Alexandria, Virginia, *Consultant*
- John Williams, Stratford, Connecticut, *Consultant*

Representatives of the Commission at General Convention:

The Rt. Rev. Robert Hargrove, Jr., House of Bishops, is authorized by the Commission to receive non-substantive amendments to the report. The Rev. Henry I. Louttit, Jr., House of Deputies, is authorized to receive non-substantive amendments to the report.

B. SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK

Meetings During the Triennium

The Standing Commission on Church Music met twice each year in this triennium. These meetings were usually at an Episcopal seminary, which served to facilitate our communication with and understanding of the Church. In addition to the meetings of the full commission, the three committees of the Commission met once a year on average. Each commissioner served on a committee with a specially focused task. These committees were: Liturgical Worship as Evangelism, Music in the Small Church, and Supplemental Music Materials.

The Focus of the Commission's Work

Members of the Standing Commission on Church Music have sensed strongly that our vocation for this triennium was to be serving the small congregation. On the basis of surveys, as a result of our listening to the concerns of seminary communities where we met, and in conversations we had with the Standing Commission on the Church in Small Communities, we were convinced that it was the congregations with small numbers and modest resources that were in dire need of practical assistance with their music. It seemed to us that medium size and large congregations often have both the leadership and the resources to implement effective music ministries. Moreover, statistics indicated to us that the Episcopal Church comprises predominantly small congregations, and we discovered that it is this segment of the Church that most often feels that materials and programs do not address their needs. Therefore, in each area of our work during this triennium we have endeavored to respond to the concerns of the small congregation.

Liturgical Worship as Evangelism

This committee originated in the last triennium as a result of joint work with the Standing Commission on Evangelism. The Chair of the Standing Commission on Church Music appointed Betty Carr Pulkingham Chair of the Committee on Liturgical Worship as Evangelism, and Robert Hargrove and Henry Louttit served as members of the committee. Responding to a need for more helpful communication with the Church at the local parish level, a need underlined by the Commission's visitation to seminaries, the Committee on Liturgical Worship as Evangelism sponsored a series of articles to stimulate the laity's thinking about music, to draw attention to new resources, and to encourage and facilitate the use of *The Hymnal 1982*. The articles, listed by title and author, follow:

- Singing the Good News*, Betty and the Rev. Graham Pulkingham
- Singing the Full Life of Faith*, Dr. Carol Doran
- With Psalter, Pipe and Organ*, Dr. Marilyn Keiser
- Music for Worship: Where to Find It*, Dr. William Bradley Roberts
- On Singing Psalms*, Kevin Hackett, S.C.C.
- What is Your Appendix Good For?*, The Rev. Carl P. Daw, Jr.

The series of articles was sent to the editor of each diocesan newspaper, to the chair of each diocesan music and liturgy commission, and to the resident musician-liturgist of each Episcopal seminary.

The committee also conducted a “musical practice” survey of twenty churches already noted for their effectiveness in evangelism, and featured in the publications *To Seek and to Serve* by Anne Rowthorn, and *Faith, Focus and Leadership* by Peter Stebinger. The survey is on file in the office of the Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music at the Church Center. Findings from the study included the following:

- Ethnic churches employ music as an effective expression of corporate life.
- A critical need for music leadership was voiced by small churches (See the report of the Committee on Music in Small Churches.)
- Several of the clergy interviewed expressed concern about the level of sophistication required to use *The Hymnal 1982*, and requested that the music commission “de-professionalize” church music so that small churches can have broader access to it.

The work of the Commission during this triennium has reaffirmed our belief that music and liturgy are effective tools of evangelism for the Episcopal Church.

Supplemental Music Materials

The SCCM Chair appointed Jeffery Rowthorn Chair of the Committee on Supplemental Music Materials. Upon his move to Paris, Bishop Rowthorn was succeeded by Elizabeth Morris Downie as chair of the committee. Serving as members were Marilyn Haskel and William Bradley Roberts.

Resolution A139 of the 1991 General Convention called for “a series of supplements to *The Hymnal 1982*, to provide the Church with additional service music, inclusive language hymnody, additional texts in languages other than English, additional hymnody related to the lectionary and rites of the Book of Common Prayer, and texts and tunes written since the compiling of the present Hymnal.”

As a response to the overwhelming need expressed by bishops and others in the Church who are sensitive to the musical conditions in small congregations, the Committee on Supplemental Music Materials prepared the first of these supplements, *Simplified Accompaniments*, during this triennium. John E. Williams of Stratford, Conn., served as the editor of this volume, and the Commission expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude for his musical, organizational, and editorial skills, and the excellence of his work.

This collection is designed to assist congregations in using *The Hymnal 1982* by providing keyboard arrangements suitable for a third-year piano student for 98 hymn tunes, and guitar chords for most of them. The great majority of the tunes might be described as standards of Anglican hymn repertory in this country, but a number of newer hymns are also included. Care was taken that there be hymnody available for the entire liturgical year and the rites of the Prayer Book. The collection also includes numerous suggestions of other Hymnal texts that may be sung to the tunes included. This project was given priority because of the great volume of comment the Commission received about the need for such a book, particularly in smaller congregations.

So that subsequent supplements meet the actual needs of congregations and include materials that people are already finding useful in worship, Bishop Rowthorn enlisted the aid of the members of the House of Bishops in identifying congregations across the country that "put their limited choral, instrumental and financial resources to imaginative, creative and effective use in their services of worship." These congregations received questionnaires that asked them to identify areas in which they felt the need for additional resources, and to list settings of liturgical texts which worked well in small or medium-sized congregations. The response to these questionnaires was substantial and heartening, and is guiding this committee as it searches for materials for the second supplemental volume, which will contain music in all the categories mentioned in the resolution quoted above. Materials are being received, and by June 1, 1994, the committee and an editorial consultant will have begun work on the next supplement.

Our continuing concern is identifying the musical needs of congregations in the changing Church, and providing materials to meet those needs.

Ecumenical Spanish Hymnal

A new project that has been initiated during this triennium is to create a hymnal in Spanish. This is a cooperative venture among Episcopalians, Presbyterians and the United Church of Christ. The General Editor of the hymnal is Raquel Achón of Bell, California (Diocese of Los Angeles). The Chair of the Standing Commission on Church Music appointed commission member Bernardo Murray of Panama as representative to the *Comité ecuménico del himnario Español* (Ecumenical Spanish Hymnal Committee). Clay Morris, Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music at the Episcopal Church Center in New York, also serves on the board. A sampler of the ecumenical Spanish hymnal is to be available by the spring of 1994, and it is hoped that music from the new book will be incorporated into the worship at General Convention in Indianapolis.

Music in Small Churches

Marilyn Keiser was asked by the Chair of the Standing Commission on Church Music to serve as Chair of the Committee on Music in Small Churches. Other members of the committee are Catherine Nichols, Sue Reid, José Chávez, and Bernardo Murray, with Carol Doran and Raymond Glover serving as consultants.

For many years the Standing Commission on Church Music has discussed and dreamed of developing a training program designed to assist musicians who serve in small churches throughout this country and beyond. During the previous triennium, a group of musicians and clergy met in Indianapolis to discuss the possibility of initiating a "certification program through Episcopal seminaries" (Blue Book, 1991).

In January 1992, the Committee on Music in Small Churches began to discuss in earnest a program "...to help small parishes in the[ir] church music endeavors..." (Blue Book 1991, p. 349). The Committee, composed at that time of Marilyn Keiser and consultants Carol Doran and Raymond Glover, began to develop a Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Churches, which will lead to the awarding of the Presiding Bishop's Diploma in Church Music. The Diploma will be awarded to participants who complete six areas of study in:

Basic Music Leadership

Teaching New Music to the Congregation

Service Playing and Accompaniment (for keyboard players and guitar players)

Survey of *The Hymnal 1982*

Liturgy Planning

Fresh Approaches to Developing an Effective Music Program

The Leadership Program will be taught in each diocese by gifted and specially trained musicians and liturgists within the diocese. Bishops from 42 dioceses have nominated leaders from their own dioceses to participate in the first Leadership Training Conference to be held at Virginia Theological Seminary from July 2-8, 1995. It is our hope that eventually every diocese of the Church will have at least one experienced, pastoral leader prepared to develop a Leadership Program at the diocesan level.

All of the 42 nominees have responded with enthusiasm and anticipation to the start of the project. Only the lack of sufficient funding has necessitated the rescheduling of the first Leadership Training Conference to July 1995 instead of June 1994 as originally planned.

The Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Churches is committed to the following principles:

- Clergy as well as musicians are welcome to participate in all courses. Instructors will be attentive to speaking of and to modeling healthy musician-clergy relationships.
- Spiritual development of church musicians is understood to be one goal of this program.
- The Program will seek to develop student imagination and encourage creativity in the use of available resources in the local church.
- The role of music in evangelism and music's ability to transform liturgy and parish life will be made explicit.
- Young musicians should be identified and invited to participate in the Leadership Program.
- Worship at the diocesan sessions will be planned in ways that will build community and model appropriate and effective liturgy.
- Applied music (singing and playing) as well as verbal instruction and discussion are to be a part of each area of study.

The curriculum for the six areas of study has been written and is being refined and integrated. The writers include:

William Bradley Roberts: *Basic Music Leadership*

Carol Doran: *Teaching New Music to the Congregation*

Marilyn Keiser: *Service Playing and Accompaniment for Keyboard Players*

Mimi Farra: *Service Playing and Accompaniment for Guitar Players*

Raymond Glover: *Survey of The Hymnal 1982*

Edward Kryder: *Liturgy Planning*

Marti Ridout: *Fresh Approaches to Developing an Effective Music Program*

Consultation with the Standing Commission on Church in Small Communities has begun to determine additional ways to meet the needs of smaller congregations.

C. FINANCIAL REPORT

	1992	1993	1994
Income			
Appropriated by General Convention for the SCCM	\$39,758	\$43,150	\$44,600
Expenses			
Meeting expenses	\$17,799	\$24,100	\$18,000
Black Hymnal	7,232		
Conferences	1,210	1,367	1,300
Editor, Expenses-Supplemental Musical Materials (Resolution A139)	<u>1,826</u>	<u>5,582</u>	<u>6,400</u>
Total	\$28,067	\$31,049	\$25,700*

*budgeted

D. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION

Resolution #A089

Hymnal Supplements

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, **That the Standing Commission on Church**
 2 **Music be directed to continue preparing supplements to *The Hymnal 1992* which**
 3 **provide this Church with additional service music, inclusive language hymnody,**
 4 **additional texts in languages other than English, including texts printed in more than**
 5 **one language, additional hymnody related to the lectionary and rites of the Book of**
 6 **Common Prayer, and texts and tunes written since the compiling of the present**
 7 **Hymnal; and be it further**
- 8 *Resolved*, **That the sum of \$39,100 be appropriated for this triennium toward the**
 9 **expenses of the editor and committee preparing these supplements.**

EXPLANATION

In the previous triennium the Standing Commission on Church Music began producing a series of supplements to *The Hymnal 1982* in response to the mandate of the 70th General Convention (Resolution A139). [For an explanation of the work completed in accordance with this mandate, see above in this Commission's report.] In nearly ten years of use *The Hymnal 1982* has proven to be both serviceable to this Church and enriching to its worship. During the same period, however, needs for additional music have been

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identified. The increasing diversity of the Episcopal Church calls for expanding the musical styles of our hymnody and service music. Furthermore, musical material of superb quality has been created since the appearance of *The Hymnal 1982* that needs to be made available to the Church. In the interest of conserving budget resources the amount requested is nearly \$6,000 lower than that of the previous triennium.

Resolution #A090

Seminary Musicians

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, **That the 71st General Convention request all**
- 2 **seminaries of the Episcopal Church to include at least one musician on their full-time**
- 3 **faculty.**

EXPLANATION

The canons of the Church require clergy to assume responsibility for music in congregational worship. The largest portion of preparation for this task is expected to take place in the Church's seminaries and requires the presence, talents and skills of a competent pastoral musician. This musician's full-time appointment is essential in order to express to seminarians the importance of music in the life of the Church and to assure adequate preparation for the musical leadership which will be expected of them.

Resolution #A091

Theological Parameters for Hymns

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, **That the House of Bishop's Committee on**
- 2 **Theology, in consultation with the Standing Commission on Church Music, be asked**
- 3 **to determine appropriate theological parameters to be used in the selection of texts of**
- 4 **hymns and religious songs for collections of music developed for use in the Episcopal**
- 5 **Church.**

EXPLANATION

In this last triennium the SCCM received a request for theological guidelines for use in evaluating texts from the *Comité ecuménico del himnario Español* (Ecumenical Spanish Hymnal Committee) [See above in this Commission's Report for a description of this project.] and about guidelines and procedures for developing local collections of songs from the Standing Committee on Church in the Small Community.

Resolution #A092

Leadership Program for Musicians Serving in Small Churches

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, **That the 71st General Convention authorize**
- 2 **the establishment of the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving in Small**
- 3 **Churches, leading to the Presiding Bishop's Diploma in Church Music, to provide**
- 4 **musicians who serve small Episcopal churches with continuing education in**

- 1 leadership of music in Episcopal liturgy, the Program to be administered through
- 2 funding provided to Virginia Theological Seminary; and be it further

- 3 Resolved, That the sum of \$27,000 be appropriated for this triennium towards the
- 4 expenses of an administrator and consultants to continue the development of this
- 5 Program.

EXPLANATION

Many of the musicians now serving in churches with under 100 in attendance on Sunday mornings have little formal musical training and none in the area of church music. This program would assist these persons and their congregations in developing skills for musical leadership in worship. Many musicians coming from other traditions to Episcopal churches have little knowledge of the Anglican tradition of liturgy. Study areas in the Leadership Program will focus on an understanding of musical leadership as ministry, planning of liturgy, history of hymnody, development of a parish music program, how to teach new music, and skills in service leadership on keyboard, guitar, other instruments or voice. Clergy are encouraged to attend some or all of the sessions to increase their knowledge and skills in these areas. This program will be implemented on a diocesan or regional basis after diocesan leaders have attended a national leadership training conference in July 1995.

Forty-two bishops have submitted nominees to be trained as diocesan leaders. All have expressed enthusiasm for the Program and acknowledge the urgent need for educational opportunities for musicians serving small churches in their dioceses.

E. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Standing Commission on Church Music intends to persevere in its mission to assist small congregations with their music. The publication and implementation of the *Simplified Accompaniments* should serve to strengthen this mission. Upcoming publications will also focus on the needs of the small church. Through surveys conducted during this triennium we have discovered congregations that have highly effective music programs despite their modest resources. After identifying them, we sought to find musical settings of Prayer Book texts being used successfully in these churches. Where possible, we will make those musical settings available to the entire Church in subsequent supplements.

Another manner in which we wish to address the needs of the small congregation is in the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving in Small Churches. Administered on the local level by professionals appointed by diocesan bishops, this program will lead to the awarding of the Presiding Bishop's Diploma in Church Music. The Leadership Program is designed expressly for musicians whose limited musical training or lack of exposure to Anglican tradition makes them less effective in their music ministries than they wish to be. The program seeks to strengthen the skills these persons already have and to equip them with new skills for effective service in their congregation.

The Music Commission's work has been enhanced by our interaction with the Standing Liturgical Commission. The two commissions are required to meet together at

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least once in each triennium. We intend to continue these joint meetings, which foster a better understanding of each other's work and improve our ability to coordinate related projects.

It is particularly gratifying that we have begun in earnest to communicate with the Standing Commission on the Church in Small Communities. Because their constituency, the small congregation, is our primary focus, we wish to maintain our close contact with this commission. Particularly in light of the beginning of the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving in Small Churches, it is imperative that we seek their council and that we support their programs. They have requested that we assist them in establishing guidelines for the creation of a parish hymnal, and this is a specific project upon which we expect collaboration.

The tasks of the Music Commission have been greatly facilitated in this triennium by the presence of a national officer of liturgy and music at the Episcopal Church Center in New York. The Rev. Dr. Clayton Morris is the first Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music of the Episcopal Church. This position was funded in part by a generous contribution from a private donor. These funds will be depleted during the upcoming triennium, thereby requiring that the Church underwrite the support of this position. It is crucial to the work of the Music Commission and the Liturgy Commission that we have a representative at the national level. Indeed, we have been handicapped in our work for many years without adequate staff support. The Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music has greatly improved the productivity of the Music Commission and enabled us to communicate with other agencies of the Church with whom we needed to coordinate our work. In a Church whose hallmarks are its liturgy and music, it is critical that we maintain our ability to function and communicate with this increased capacity.

F. PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE TRIENNium

Meetings	1995	1996	1997
Full Commission, two per year	\$21,600	\$21,600	\$21,600
Committees			
Worship as Evangelism	2,100	2,100	2,100
Supplemental Musical Materials	6,300	6,300	6,300
Music in Small Communities	10,500	7,000	3,500
Conferences	2,000	2,000	2,000
Incidental administrative expenses	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total	\$43,000	\$39,500	\$36,000

G. PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR BUDGET APPROPRIATION

Resolution #A093

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, **That there be appropriated from the**
- 2 **Assessment Budget of General Convention the sum of \$118,500 for the triennium for**
- 3 **the expenses of the Standing Commission on Church Music.**

Respectfully submitted,
William Bradley Roberts, Chair, SCCM