

Greetings from FABM President Eric Hobbs

Pondering the Mystery and Miracle

On this “Holy Saturday” between Good Friday and Easter, I’ve been pondering what difference, exactly, the reality of the cross really makes in my life every day outside of Easter Weekend. I believe it was C.S. Lewis (if not, it was someone equally wise and insightful) who said that the mystery and the miracle of Easter is not that Jesus, the God of the universe, rose to life on Sunday. It is that he died, once and for all, that we might be justified, on Friday.

Shouldn’t that mystery and miracle make a huge difference to and through me every day, not just on Easter Weekend? That’s what I’ve been asking myself today, because, I don’t know about you, but while I think pretty regularly of the power of Christ’s work in the resurrection, I don’t think often of the mystery and miracle of his work on the cross. Is it just me?

It’s hard to believe that, in three and a half short months, we all will be gathering in Green Lake for our annual conference. You can be assured that all of our clinicians and coordinators – and your board – are working hard to be sure everything is in place for another fantastic, worship-filled, music-filled, joy-filled, laughter-filled, and exhilarating week. But what will be the significance of such another week if, in between conferences and other than over Easter Weekend, the mystery and miracle of the cross don’t work their wonder in and through us and to the world?

Would you pray for me, that this year I will claim the power of the cross every day and expect God to work in and through me as a result of its mystery and miracle every day? If you suffer the same spiritual infirmity I do, I will pray for you.

I can’t wait for all the planning and decision-making to be behind us and for the week of the conference to be here. It’s going to be wonderful! I also can’t wait to see you all and to see what God has in store for us as he pours himself out and into us through our amazing clinicians ... and each other. If you haven’t registered yet, REGISTER NOW!! And bring one, five or 100 of your closest friends with you!

I will see you in July.

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Conference for Church Musicians July 16-22, 2023



2023 Clinician Information

Anton Armstrong will be our **Adult Clinician**. The 2022-23 season marks Anton's 33rd year as Conductor of the St. Olaf Choir, marking him as the longest tenured conductor in the ensemble's storied 111 year history. He is the Tosdal Professor of Music at St. Olaf College, becoming the fourth conductor of the St. Olaf Choir in 1990 after ten years in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he served on the faculty of Calvin University and led the Calvin Alumni Choir, the Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus, and the St. Cecilia Youth Chorale.

Marty Haugen will be our **Worship Clinician**. Marty is a liturgical composer and musician. He has written over 400 compositions for both Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations. After working as a full time parish musician for 15 years, for the past 35 years he has presented workshops and concerts across North America, Europe, the Pacific Rim, and Asia for church musicians.

Jill Mahr will be our **Handbell Clinician**. Jill earned a Master of Music degree in Flute Performance. In addition to flute instruction at St. Olaf, Jill directs the St. Olaf Handbell Choir, the St. Olaf Chapel Ringers, and oversees the direction of the student-led Manitou Handbell Choir. Jill also directs four youth handbell choirs at her church, Bethel Lutheran in Northfield, ranging in age from 3rd grade to 12th grade.

Heather Potter will be our **Children's Choir Clinician**. Heather is Director of Traditional Music for Covenant Presbyterian Church in Charlotte North Carolina, where she oversees traditional worship music planning, prepares youth singers and conducts two children's choirs. Heather is a Past-President of the Choristers Guild National Board and served on the development team and advisory board for the Choristers Guild Institute.

Kenney Potter will be our **Youth Choir Clinician**. For the past seven years, Kenney has served as Conductor and Artistic Director of the Charlotte Master Chorale. Kenney serves as Choral Conductor at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. He has conducted numerous state-wide festival choirs. He received the Lara Hoggard Award for distinguished accomplishments in the field of choral music and is a published composer.

David Winkler will be our **Instrumental Clinician**. David has served as pianist, orchestra director, and minister of music in churches in Texas, Tennessee, and North Carolina. David is a composer, arranger, and orchestrator with several hundred published pieces. David is currently serving as the music associate at Great Hills Baptist Church in North Austin.

For a full bio on each of the clinicians, please visit our website: www.fabm.com.

A Note from Mindy Phomvisay, President-Elect/Treasurer

Our little 7 year old Ethan said something profound just the other day - a thought that we may have all thought about... "Where's God when you really need him?"

So simple, yet so wise.

This year has been a hard year for many of us, and this question may ring in our ears. In our world that seems to be broken and torn and our hearts that are heavy with trials only God knows, we wonder aloud, Where are you Lord?

Thankfully, this question is answered on Easter Sunday! After the hard days of Holy week we finally get Jesus' resurrection. God is with us! Everywhere and always. He goes before us, and stands beside us wherever we are!

I have never felt the presence of our Lord more fully than when we are gathered at Green Lake for our annual conference. Psalm 139 is a wonderful reminder: "Where can I go from your Spirit or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to Heaven you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there." Jesus is with us. Through our anxiety, through our pain, through our joy. Jesus is there.

I am praying that you will join us in Green Lake for our conference this summer and feel God's presence and peace. His beautiful reminder that Christ is with us now and always.

Love, Mindy Phomvisay

A Message from Cindy & Rob White, Youth Coordinators

What do you like to do? We like to sing. We aren't particularly good at it, but we like it. Music is a vital part of our day-to-day life, and it's so important to our connection to God. We also like to read the Bible, and explore the truths that God speaks into our lives through his Word. We don't always understand all of it. But we trust that God reveals himself through the Bible, and it's an honor to read it. We also like playing games—we play card games, board games, active games, quiet games. Games allow us to relax and find enjoyment in the free times that we have. We also really like to hang out with friends—that builds us up and give us encouragement when we're going through struggles. Well guess what? If you like doing these things, too, FABM is for you!

When we gather with a bunch of other students from all over the country, we get to sing, we get to study God's Word together, we get to play games, we get to build friendships, and all of this combines to give us one of the most powerful weeks of the whole year. We would be thrilled to have you join us at Green Lake from July 16-22 this summer. If you have any questions or want to know about the youth program, send us a message and we will get back to you quickly. If you're ready to sing, grow, play, and have fun, We look forward to spending the week with you!

In the love of Jesus,

Pastors Cindy and Rob White



Deadlines and Other Information

- **Registration:** Conference registrations can be made by returning the brochure you should have received in February, you can make a copy off our website, or you can register on line. There is a convenience fee for each registration done on line. Deadline is June 15, 2023 for the early registration. After that date there is a late charge added.
- **Room Reservations:** Reservations for room and board at Green Lake need to be made by **May 10, 2023**, especially if you have special requests.
- **Meal Tickets:** If you are camping or staying off grounds and want to have a meal in the Dining Hall, you need to request those tickets at least **2 weeks in advance**. They were limiting the number they would sell on site before the Pandemic. Now they want to know much earlier.
- **FABM Scholarships:** Registration scholarships for youth, children, and adults are available through FABM. To apply for a scholarship, please print the appropriate form from the website (www.fabm.com) and have the applicant fill it out. A recommendation by church staff needs to accompany the application. **Deadline is May 1, 2023.**

We have received back many of the Registration Brochures as non deliverable. Please check with your friends, family, and peers to make sure they received one. Also, be sure to invite new persons to join us.

Those on the FABM Board, Clinicians, Accompanists, GLCC, Support Staff, JWPepper, Coordinators, etc. are all working hard to prepare for our week together in July. After Holy Week, I always take a deep breath and decide it's time to take care of all those details. Please be in prayer for all who are facilitating our musical time together to worship the Almighty Creator through his gift of music.

Stay Healthy and Strong. Joyce





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For the past 58 years, FABM has helped church musicians make their ministry meaningful and effective.

FABM Board

President: Eric Hobbs

President-Elect/Treasurer: Mindy Phomvisay

Secretary: Carla Williams

Executive Secretary: Joyce Crowder

**We're on the
web!
www.fabm.com**



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