

ADULT CHOIR FLYER

The official rehearsal aid of the Adult Choir, Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, Cary, NC



From the Director

Meditation for the Day: Vital

Uselessness

As good capitalists, we value the good use of time. Time is money, and money is... well, money is all important to our survival and comfort. Wasting time is inefficient, and inefficiency means loss of money, and loss of money is ultimately a threat to our future. The harder and smarter and longer we work the more money we have and the more our future is guaranteed.

Acclaimed author and lecturer, Randy Pausch, who became famous for his *Last Lecture* at Carnegie-Melon University actually wanted to be remembered for a lecture that he gave at the University of Richmond on time management. "Time is all you have," he said. "And you may find out one day that you have less than you think" -- a particularly poignant quote from someone facing imminent death from pancreatic cancer. We all have limited time, and it might actually be worth more than money, it might be all we have left - truly the most precious commodity.

Given the extreme importance of time, how do we reconcile the worship of God as a use of our time, and specifically music in worship? In terms of productivity worship is a great waste of time, and therefore so is the time spent in rehearsal. Being a church musician is a waste of time as is all music in our church.

And exactly why is our music in church a waste of time? After all, we choose the most excellent music we can find, we craft our skill and develop ourselves as musicians, we practice until we are absolutely ready... how is this a waste of time? It is a waste of time because God will not love us even one whit more because of our efforts. God already loves us infinitely and blesses us abundantly. Singing well will not add another star to our eternal crown - our crown is already full of stars, just because God put them there. Even if we were to pour out our very lives for God, it would not cause God to love us more. It is a waste of time!

In Colossians 3 there are instructions to "Let the word

Rehearsal Order

- ▶ *Sinnuh Man*, Potter (830), March 7
- ▶ *Find in Me*, Hinnant (748), March 14
- ▶ *Beautiful Savior*, Christiansen, (895), March 21
- ▶ *Ride On, King Jesus*, arr. Robert DeCormier (578), March 28

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

- ▶ *Litany for Easter*, Gordon Young, (241)
- ▶ *Alleluia*, Ralph Manuel (922)

Announcements

Prayer Concerns

TENEBRAE, GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

A Service of Darkness:

- ▶ p. 5, *O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile*
- ▶ p. 30, *Behold the Lamb of God*
- ▶ *Ah, Holy Jesus* (run off sheet)
- ▶ *Ah, Holy Jesus*, Petrich (671)

of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God." We are formed by the Word in which we dwell, and which clothes us in compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Everyone in the congregation can in all wisdom teach and admonish one another in the Christian community. Dwelling in the Word (read "wasting our time") allows us to bear with each other and become a community which cares about each other, clothed in love and bound together in harmony.

As church musicians we engage in music that enfolds the congregation in the grace of God, as witnessed by the dancers leading us in *We Cannot Measure How You Heal* -

no, more than that, in every anthem and hymn that we sing, in every solo sung or played.. Through our music we instill in the congregation an understanding of what it is to worship God.

Marva Dawn writes, "Our music will instruct, educate, nurture, cultivate, rebuke, exhort, discipline, warn, delight, enlighten, edify, develop. We waste our time so that others in the Christian community can be more profoundly immersed in the Word." What a fantastic way to glorify God!

And that, my friends, is why we sing.

Peace,

David

Choir Prayer

Almighty and loving God, You have given us eyes to see the light that fills this room; give us inward vision to behold You in this place. Dear God, we like to sing, and we know that You like it too. We pray that Your Holy Spirit will help us all to sing well today so that You will be honored, and help us to remember Christians around the world as we all sing together this day. We pray that it sounds very beautiful to You. Amen

Prayer Concerns

David Early's daughter-in-law, Robin

Elizabeth Norris' aunt's fiancé

Laura Crook

Jay Miller

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

Terron Teander

Today's Quotes: Efficiency and Monty Python

Efficiency:

While you can think in terms of efficiency in dealing with time, a principle-centered person thinks in terms of effectiveness in dealing with people. -- Stephen R. Covey (from *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*)

Practical efficiency is common, and lofty idealism is not uncommon; it is the combination that is necessary, and that combination is rare. -Theodore Roosevelt

Reorganizing can be a wonderful method for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency, and demoralization. --Petronius Arbiter

Monty Python:

*NOBODY expects the Spanish Inquisition! Our chief weapon is surprise...surprise and fear...fear and surprise.... Our two weapons are fear and surprise...and ruthless efficiency.... Our *three* weapons are fear, surprise, and ruthless efficiency...and an almost fanatical devotion to the Pope.... Our *four*...no... *Amongst* our weapons.... Amongst our weaponry...are such elements as fear, surprise.... I'll come in again.*

And the Lord spake, saying, "First shalt thou take out the Holy Pin. Then shalt thou count to three, no more, no less. Three shall be the number thou shalt count, and the number of the counting shall be three. Four shalt thou not count, neither count thou two, excepting that thou then proceed to three. Five is right out. Once the number three, being the third number, be reached, then lobbest thou thy Holy Hand Grenade of Antioch towards thy foe, who, being naughty in my sight, shall snuff it.

Jesus did. I was hopping along, when suddenly he comes and cures me. One minute I'm a leper with a trade, next moment me livelihood's gone. Not so much as a by your leave. Look. I'm not saying that being a leper was a bowl of cherries. But it was a living. I mean, you try waving muscular suntanned limbs in people's faces demanding compassion. It's a bloody disaster.