



## "The State of the Arts"

TFMC President's Newsletter

Autumn 2017

### Greetings!

I hope that you and your clubs have a great year planned!

With the start of the new Federation year, the NFM website has been updated, with the latest documents, guidelines and forms. This site contains "the info you need to know," so please check it out: [www.nfmc-music.org](http://www.nfmc-music.org)

### TFMC Biennial Convention ~ October 20-21

Are you planning to attend our Convention in Nashville this year? You don't want to miss this special event! The deadline for Registration is rapidly approaching. I am attaching the "Call to Convention" for your convenience.

### "Together We Sing"

Hang on to books you used last year, for a new one will not be published for a while. In the meantime, I have compiled (in consultation with our "TFMC Sacred Song Series" committee members - Elder Bob Gilliam and Reverend David Howe) a list of seasonal, monthly hymns that you and your clubs may use, if you wish to do so.

### TFMC President's 2017-2018 Sacred Song Series

-  September 2017 ~ "Standing On The Promises"
-  October 2017 ~ "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"
-  November 2017 ~ "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"
-  December 2017 ~ "Angels We Have Heard On High"
-  January 2018 ~ "Day by Day"
-  February 2018 ~ "Jesus Loves Me"
-  March 2018 ~ "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (Tune: "St. Columba")
-  April 2018 ~ "The Day of Resurrection"
-  May 2018 ~ "A Christian Home"
-  June 2018 ~ "Children of The Heavenly Father"
-  July 2018 ~ "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"
-  August 2018 ~ "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

TFMC President's Theme 2017-2019: *"Music Speaks To The Heart!"*

TFMC President's Hymn 2017-2019: *"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"*

## Contests, Competitions & Awards

There will be a number of changes regarding the manner in which Contests are conducted this year. More of the forms can be filled out online, and some entries will be uploaded directly to the new NFMC website. Your TFMC State Chairs will e-mail you the pertinent information.

### Chamber Music Message ~ from Simone Parker

Dear Senior Clubs,

I hope this message finds you all well and you had a great start into the new school year!

I am honored to continue my service as the TFMC Chamber Music Chair, I would like to solicit your help in providing opportunities for your junior club members to play chamber music. In my senior club (Monday Evening Music Club in Clarksville), we present an annual 'Afternoon of Chamber Music.' We asked teachers from our senior club and the community to encourage students to prepare chamber pieces/duets etc. On a selected day, we come together for a formal (parents are watching)/informal (main goal – let's have fun in music making) gathering and reception. It was simple to prepare:

- Set a date
- Rent a room
- Invite teachers/students
- Make a program
- Have students bring snacks for reception

It turned out to be a complete success. Last year, we had over 100 people in attendance and more than 30 groups play and this was only 4 teachers participating! Results: students were practicing with metronome, communicated/worked out rehearsal times by themselves and had a really great time playing their pieces. Inspired?

Please share your ideas... Let's make chamber music a priority this year...

So, our 'official' goal is to "promote the performance of chamber music through the federation and in schools and communities." In talking with our national chair, Lorraine Peery Long, we both agreed that chamber music can begin with duets, and range from trios to small groups of instrumentalists.

What to do:

1. Create/support/encourage chamber music events in your senior and junior clubs, schools, and communities.
2. Complete form AR-2-1 and send to me, postmarked on or before April 1

Email: [SparklingKeysAndStrings@SimoneParker.org](mailto:SparklingKeysAndStrings@SimoneParker.org)

Mailing Address: Simone Parker, 442 Bluff Drive, Clarksville, TN 37043

These reports should cover activities from April 1 to April 1 of the following year and must include substantiating materials such as programs and publicity.

Here a few suggested activities:

- Clubs: Include a complete program of chamber music and/or use chamber music on several programs.
- Organize chamber music subgroups within the club.
- Sponsor public performance of area chamber music groups and/or give monetary support to them.
- Encourage student groups to perform. Schools and music camps often develop fine ensembles.
- Organize chamber music festivals and workshops.
- Chamber music organizations; use new and ancient instruments.
- Use unusual combinations of instruments.

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- Perform contemporary works; perform works of women composers.
- Commission new works.

This is by no means a complete list and I always would love to hear from you with other ideas! I encourage you to be creative and invent new ideas to introduce an interest in chamber music. Get parents involved and try to look outside of the box of what professional chamber music is, after all, we are dealing with children of various ages and they do not always fit the description...

Please feel free to forward this email to your senior club members and all junior clubs. I look forward to hear from you with questions, comments or concerns.

Happy music making!

All my best,

Simone Parker

### ♪ *American Music Month*

It's hard to believe but November, "American Music Month," is only a matter of weeks away. I hope that your clubs are planning to incorporate American music into your meetings, not only in November as part of the "Parade of American Music," but all throughout the year.

### ♪ *Dues Are Due*

Just a quick reminder – the deadline for sending in membership dues for both your Senior and Junior Clubs is October 15, 2017. You can find the "Forms" on our TFMC website:

<http://tfmc-music.org/treasurer-forms>

### ♪ *Under Nashville Skies*

We look forward to seeing you at our TFMC Convention!



Musical Blessings,  
Janie

Janie Gilliam, Ph.D.  
President, Tennessee FMC

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