



# ADM Newsletter

January, 2015



*Happy New Year!*

Here's hoping that as this New Year began, one of your resolutions was to make plans to be with the ADM family on the campus of William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri from June 23 – 28. Please note that this year's conference is in June and not the typical July. With the administrative changes that have taken place in the DHM Office in Indianapolis, there is still work to be done on the ADM Website, but the 2015 Planning Team and Claire Meredith, our website manager, will have all conference details and registration forms available soon. Check the ADM website, [www.adm-doc.org](http://www.adm-doc.org), often for updates.

Meet our new DHM/ADM Liaison team:



**Warren Lynn**, who is taking Lonna Owens place, is currently the Executive Minister for Christian Vocations at DHM. With educational and professional backgrounds in church ministry and many regional capacities, Warren brings to ADM a wealth of knowledge and experience that will be of benefit to our working relationship.



**Brenda Tyler**, who is replacing Terry McAndrews, will be Warren's assistant and taking care of all the varied and numerous office duties that the council and planning teams need help with throughout the year.

## *Looking ahead to this year's June Conference....*

### **More about Clinicians.....**



Churches. Suanne is a life member of Music Educator's National Conference, is currently president of the Kansas City Chorister's Guild chapter, and is Missouri chair of the Handbell Musicians of America.

**Suanne Comfort**, Handbell Clinician, is a retired elementary vocal music teacher and Director of Music at Raytown Christian Church outside Kansas City. Suanne started the handbell program at Raytown Christian in 1971. The youth choir, The Inspiration Ringers, has toured annually since then in most of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and has attended annual area and national festivals of the Handbell Musicians of America since 1976. The members of the adult ringers, The Chalice Bronze, all grew up through the bell program from the fifth grade, and now their children are ringing at the church. They have rung with the Kansas City Symphony and for national seminars of MENC, Handbell Exploration International, Association of Disciple Musicians, and the General Assembly of Christian



**Jan Kraybill**, Organ Clinician, is Principal Organist for the Dome and Spire Organ Foundation, an affiliate of the international headquarters of Community of Christ in Independence, Missouri; and Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City. She regularly plays and oversees the care of the three largest pipe organs in the Kansas City metro area.

Dr. Kraybill and volunteer staff organists provide music for worship services and present free organ demonstration recitals at the Auditorium and Temple. Jan also co-coordinates the church's Dome and Spire concert series, leads international hymn festivals, teaches workshops, and is a resource person for the denomination's musicians. At the Kauffman Center, she performs and hosts guest organists for both solo and collaborative musical events. Jan has piano performance and education degrees from Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS, and a doctorate in organ performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. In 2010 she earned the Fellow certificate from the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the highest certification available for organists.

Jan has performed extensively throughout her career on both piano and organ in venues in the United States, Australia, Canada, Germany, Poland, Russia, South Korea, and Tahiti; and has undertaken multiple tours of the United Kingdom, including organ concerts at the grand cathedrals of Chester, Exeter, and St. Paul's in London. Outside Community of Christ, Jan is a musical leader in a wide variety of worship styles in many denominations and is very active as a

masterclass and workshop clinician, hymn festival director, and organ consultant. On another personal level, Jan enjoys antiquing, lace making, and riding her Harley-Davidson with her husband, Allan.

## **Additional Conference information will follow soon!**

---

### ***Among Our Members.....***



What a thrill it was to have Gary and Connie Meek back with us in Ft. Worth for our 2011 conference. Since then, they have been dealing with recurring health issues, and it wasn't until this past Christmas that Connie was further diagnosed with aggressive cancer. There were many years during the 80's and 90's when both Gary and Connie were very active and vital leaders of ADM with both of them serving on council and holding the positions of president and conference chair. It is with immense sadness and regret that Connie's death this past Thursday must be announced. (See the following obituary)

Expressions of sympathy can be sent to Gary, his son, Wes, and his daughter, Angela, at the home address: 2276 E. Cadillac Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Angela's email address is: [asledgeterp@yahoo.com](mailto:asledgeterp@yahoo.com)



**Connie L. Meek**

**July 18, 1948-Jan. 21, 2015**

**Connie Lou Meek** passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by family after a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born in Clinton, Ind., to the late Frank R. Skelton and Mary Margaret Cox Skelton, who resides at Lane House. She attended Rockville schools for 12 years, graduating in 1966. She received a BA degree from ISU in 1970 with a MA degree to follow.

She began her 40-year career as an educator student teaching in the Crawfordsville schools, where she continued to teach until her retirement in May 2009. During her career, Connie established and sponsored many groups for students including PRIDE, All-State Chorus, Circle the State with Song, Swing Chorus, Madrigal Dinners, NYC Trips, and judged various musical contests. She spent many hours with students before, during and after school and cherished all of these times. Her legacy of inspiring a love for music will live on forever in the hearts of her students.

She served as the organist and bell choir director at the First Christian Church, and since the mid-1990s, she served as the organist at the First United Methodist Church.

Connie served as president of the Association of Disciple Musicians, the director of music at Myers Dinner Theater in Hillsboro, the accompanist of the Crescendos, the state president of the Melody Makers of Indiana, adjudicator of local and state music contests, as well as a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, Psi Iota Xi, Delta Gamma and Retired Teachers of Montgomery County.

On June 3, 1972, she married Gary S. Meek at Woodland Heights Christian Church.

Along with her husband, she is survived by her son, Wesley Alan (Beth) Meek of Pembroke Pines, Fla.; daughter Angela (Lanny) Sledge; two grandchildren, Zander and Astella Sledge of Greenwood; her mother, Mary M. Skelton; sister, Donna (Jim) Hoffner of Lafayette; brother, John (Darlene) Skelton of Berwick, La.; sister-in-law, Renda Harmon of Peru; three nephews; an uncle and aunt; and many cousins. She was preceded in death by her father, Frank R. Skelton; in-laws, Chester and Mary Meek; grandparents; aunts; uncles; and cousins.

Visitation will be held Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, from 2-7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Crawfordsville. Funeral services will be held Monday, Jan. 26, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church. Burial will follow at the Indian Creek Hill Cemetery, State Road 47 South.

In lieu of flowers, the Meek family requests donations be made to the Connie L. Meek Scholarship fund. Donations may be sent to the Montgomery County Community Foundation, PO Box 334, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Please note 'Connie Meek' in the memo.



We have received word from the Christian Church in Indiana office of the death of **Peggy Wood**, wife of retired Disciples minister, **Tom Wood**, who served many years as a ministry executive of the Division of Homeland Ministries, now Disciples Home Missions. Peggy passed away on Friday, January 16, at Robin Run Village. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, January 21, at 11:00 a.m. at Eastgate Christian Church, 8100 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis, with calling at 10:00 that morning.

Tom was a vital component of ADM for many years, retiring from his position of ADM Liaison in 1992. All ADMers who served on council during Tom's tenure can attest to his leadership and support of ADM and the strength he provided in the relationship between ADM and the office of Division of Homeland Ministries. Messages may be sent to Tom at 5354 West 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Apt. 258E, Indianapolis, IN 46268 or via email at [thomaswood865@gmail.com](mailto:thomaswood865@gmail.com).





For those of you ADMers who go back to the 80's and early 90's, you will remember **John and Mary Lou Kurtz**. Word was received around Christmas that John passed away on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> and a memorial service was held for him on December 28<sup>th</sup> at Central Christian Church in Warren, Ohio. Mary Lou passed away several years ago. John was kept apprised of our ADM activities via the newsletter emails until close to the time of his death.

---

### ***This and That.....***

ADMer, **Wendy Gonzales**, just recently gave notice at her office manager/accounting job of 21 years to start her own business. Wendy will be providing help and guidance to churches and other spiritual communities/organizations on their social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)

Wendy sends word that if any ADMers need the kind of help that she will provide she can do so even by long distance. Her website is: [www.socialgracemediallc.com](http://www.socialgracemediallc.com)



**The Hymn Society of the United States and Canada** is searching for a full-time Director for their newly created Center for Congregational Song. With an application deadline of February 15 they are trying to reach out to as many different church music organizations as possible and to have the widest scope of candidates. For further information, visit their website at: [www.thehymnsociety.org](http://www.thehymnsociety.org) or by phone at (804) 204-1207.

---

### ***What you won't want to miss this summer at William Jewell...***



Classy choral groups that always bring a sense of ensemble, though questionable. They might sing better, if their robes fit!

Those from the area/region who might help host.

