

December 6, 2012

Dear ADM Family,

Well, Advent has arrived. Of course, I don't have to tell you that. I'm sure most of you are up to your ears in rehearsals, stacks of music, bells, candles, singers, and players! Christmas is coming quickly and you have lots and lots to get done by then! Not to mention gifts to buy, cards to mail, children to entertain, food to prepare, trees to decorate...

Stop. Take a moment. Breathe.

In the middle of the chaos this season brings, there is baby sleeping in a manger. He is the thread that connects us to each other. He is the reason we sing, praise, and worship. The burdens and sins of the whole world will come to rest upon his shoulders. It seems impossible that such a tremendous responsibility would fall to one so innocent.

So when your soloist gets sick, remember that baby. When the horn player writes the wrong time down, remember that baby. When someone plays the sharp bell instead of the natural, remember that baby.

During this time that requires much from church musicians, work to keep Christ at the heart of it all. The music God gave to us, we return with humility and gratitude.

I know we will all be praying for each other and looking forward to seeing each other once more when we meet next July in Fort Wayne, Indiana. 2013 is an exciting year for our ADM Family. Our conference promises to be a great one, with exciting clinicians and many opportunities to worship our God in a variety of ways.

Our ADM website has been updated, and I hope you will take some time to check it out ([www.adm-doc.org](http://www.adm-doc.org)). It is easy to navigate and, along with Facebook, will be a "go-to" source for information.

Registration is open. Your council has set a goal to have at least 150 people in attendance for the 2013 Conference—and I believe we can exceed that number. But only if YOU attend, and encourage OTHERS to attend.

Blessings on you and yours for a wonderful Advent and Christmas!

Shannon Moore  
ADM President