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## MUSIC FOR SMALL CHURCHES, PARTS 1 and 2

### **PART 1: PLANNING MUSIC FOR A LITURGY**

We will discuss the tools and information necessary for drafting hymns and service music for small parishes, using lectionary readings and reference guides. Planning resources, online guides and diocesan resources will be outlined.

Assumption: You will be selecting music for weekly liturgy, with hymns and some service music.

1.            What are the Hymns that this community knows and loves? You will never have unanimous agreement about anything related to music.

Poll the congregation (if you will be planning more than one service)

Read previous bulletins from past years in files.

Find someone knowledgeable about the repertoire of the congregation

Bishop Fisher's directive to Small Churches

Bishop Wimberley's directive to me

2.            How are the Hymns selected

Where are the Indices found for the Scriptures and Subjects?

Lectionary readings:

Good resource is [Lectionary Page](#) (Google "Lectionary Page") developed by Kelly Puckett

For an outline of the Liturgy with forms for planning: The Practice of Church Music by Marion Hatchett (Church Publishing)

Sources of suggestions

- Episcopal Musician's Handbook (Church Publ., \$ 25) was the standard planning tool in the past
  - Liturgical Music A, B, C (Church Publishing, \$ 30) Daw & Pavlechko--use this!
  - Previous Episcopal Musician's Handbooks--likely to be found at the parish or mission
- Start an Excel spreadsheet or Cloud storage sheet

3.            How do Hymns for different parts of the service vary? What do the asterisks mean?

Processional/Opening

Gradual/Sequence

Offertory

Communion

Recessional/Closing

4.            How much service music is appropriate in a small parish?

- a. Is there a Choir or Cantor?
  - b. Which mass settings do they know?  
Other mass settings well-suited to small churches
  - c. What about Hymn of Praise rather than Gloria, etc.?
  - d. Psalms  
Metrical settings  
Antiphonal settings (HymnTune Psalter, Church Publishing)  
Simplified Anglican chant  
“Psalms Made Singable” Church Music Services, \$ 75/year
5. What about music not in the Hymnal 1982?
- a. Other Hymnals published by Church Publishing  
[www.churchpublishing.org](http://www.churchpublishing.org) (Wonder, Love & Praise, LEVAS, MHSO, VF)
  - b. RiteSong as part of Rite Brain for drafting bulletins and printing music
  - c. Music of the Taize Community—especially useful in small churches  
[www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr) Order individual octavos from GIA Music [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)
  - d. Other Contemporary Music  
Use discretion about suitability of text  
Giving melody line for ease of learning and participating  
Generational issues
    - 1. How do I purchase a license?
    - 2. Types of licenses ([www.onelicense.net](http://www.onelicense.net) and [www.CCLI.com](http://www.CCLI.com) 800-234-2446)
    - 3. Reporting and proper copyright procedures  
(additional handouts available for copyright procedures)
6. Special Services---Weddings, Funerals, Bishop’s Visit, Easter Vigil (Exultet), Christmas

**Assignment: Create sample plans for two Sunday services--Epiphany 3A, Lent 4A**

**PART TWO ADMINISTRATION OF MUSIC IN THE SMALL CHURCH**

**Review Assignment from Previous Class**

6. Working with the Organist/Musicians  
Expectations—communicate in advance of the service  
Resource--Servant Leadership published by AAM  
“Conflict and Closure”  
Appropriate compensation---how to determine

Adding instrumentalists

What if you need to use a pianist—how is it different?

Simplified Accompaniments: 97 Hymns (Church Publishing, \$ 26)

What about guitar accompaniments?

Tell Out My Soul: Guitar Lead Sheets for Favorite Hymns (Church Publishing, \$ 20)

Cuthbert Praise (Randy Adams) [www.cuthbertpraise.com](http://www.cuthbertpraise.com); his arrangements are for multiple instruments

7. Inviting guest musicians to the parish

Use other instruments available to you

Band students (descant book published by St. James Press or Cuthbert Praise arrangements are the best)

Flute, piano, harpsichord, keyboard, guitars, marimba, etc.

Check with area piano or organ teachers for students that might be able to play or substitute

Use of college students—section leaders for choir?

Use of guest instrumentalists

8. Music Ministry for the Whole Family

Including children in worship--guest page turners

Kindermusik or other outreach to families

After School Programs

Advent/Lenten programs

Intergenerational Choir

Community Chorus

9. Use of Synthesized or Pre-Recorded Keyboard Music, e.g. “Synthia”

Not the best alternative; use ONLY when no other options are available

(“Synthia”, MIDI files at St. Paul’s, Navasota)

Illegality of playing CDs

9. Online Church Publishing Resources

a. Special pricing for 1-50 ASA exists; next category is 50-99

**Ritesong** (music database) \$ 99 per year

**Riteworship** (online bulletin builder with music database) \$ 139 per

year, including license to use the music included on it

10. Diocesan Music Commission [www.epicenter.org/musiccommission](http://www.epicenter.org/musiccommission)

Available to advise on variety of topics, pairing musicians in a larger church with your church

11. Budget Considerations

Organist

Instrument Maintenance

Hymnals and Printing--what should I print? Can service music be seasonal?

Copyright licenses as well as Streaming and Podcast License (addtl.)

Choir Music

Continuing Education/Training for your Musician

Choral Festivals/Music Camp/other ways to build community

SUGGESTED READING: The Practice of Church Music, Hatchett

Liturgical Music, Years A, B & C Daw and Pavlechko

All Things Necessary, Rideout

Music of the Taize Community, published by GIA Music 800-GIA-1358