

CROSSACCENT

JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSICIANS

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

The Abiding and Enduring Word

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ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Many of Martin Luther’s reforming efforts were aided by the work of printers and their presses. The ability to quickly disseminate translations, sermons, songs, and ideas in the vernacular helped foster a particular “intellectual” tradition in the new Lutheran church—a practice perhaps best glimpsed in the parish school curricula established by Luther and Philip Melancthon founded on Classic liberal arts models. These broader currents—many of which are summarized in studies such as Carl Schalk’s *Music in Early Lutheranism* (Concordia, 2001) and Andrew Pettegree’s *Brand Luther* (Penguin, 2015)—were reflected in the work of church musicians whose training and sense of vocation were also expressed in careers as pastors, poets, lawyers, doctors, mayors, secretaries, and more.

It seems fitting, then, that *CrossAccent*’s thirtieth-anniversary year should begin by exploring ways in which church musicians continue to engage with intellectual currents of today, as well as ways in which ideas are circulated.

Our own “digital revolution” has, in particular, opened avenues for both remembering and rethinking how faith is expressed in print and on screen, and how these expressions are received or interpreted alongside or against cultural values. This invites consideration of such questions as:

1. In what ways have digital technologies changed our approaches to worship, singing, preaching, and planning, or even our basic ways of processing or retaining information?
2. What is the value of memory and repetition in an increasingly fast-paced digital milieu? How do we encourage formation beyond merely liking, sharing, or pinning?
3. In what ways can vocation be distinguished from occupation, especially in a transaction-oriented society?
4. How are faith communities continuing to balance post-pandemic needs among physically gathered assemblies and those who desire to gather online?
5. How do we go about determining what is “accessible” and what may be too “academic”? How do church musicians hold both poles in balance while teaching and leading assemblies?

6. What does the future of publications, communication, information sharing, and community engagement look like in church bodies, local congregations, or organizations such as the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians? What is at stake? What principles and applications might guide our vocational discernment?

Prospective contributors are invited to consider these and related topics or questions through any lens that helps nurture and equip those who plan, lead, and serve the church's song.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

CrossAccent publishes both scholarly articles (of up to approximately 5,000 words) and shorter essays, reflections, sermons, reviews, conference reports, and other writings (approximately 1,000–2,000 words) that explore theological, ritual, musicological, hymnological, cultural, linguistic, sociological, and related topics pertaining to the history and practice of Lutheran church music. The journal is circulated to more than 1,900 individual and institutional subscribers and is indexed in the American Theological Library Association Religion Database.

As a publication of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM), the journal is committed to representing an array of pieties and practices from within and beyond Lutheran perspectives including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), and many ecumenical partners. Contributions from non-ALCM members are especially encouraged.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS

Manuscripts should be submitted in .doc(x) format and are reviewed by an editorial advisory board consisting of pastors, musicians, theologians, musicologists, and invited readers with specific topical expertise. Prospective writers are encouraged to review the journal's Contributor Guidance before submitting manuscripts:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/uxilw1bg6tum3em/CrossAccent%20Contributor%20Guidance%202020.10.12.pdf?dl=0>.

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