

MUSIC MINISTRY MINUTE – February 1, 2017

Have you ever wondered how we select music for a worship service? Planning starts with the lectionary readings for the day. Pastor Diane selects the readings on which she will base her spoken words. Then, she and I discuss the service and music that will enhance the word.

Then my work begins. I find anthems, hymns, responses and organ pieces that enhance the service. Anthems from the last five hundred years are considered, both accompanied and a cappella pieces. The makeup of the choir changes depending on the season of the year and this impacts the choice of anthems. Careful attention must be given to the selection of hymns. With a new hymnal, we have several hundred new hymns from which to choose. However, the new hymns need to be mixed with the old favorites. And, we need variety in our music...fast, slow, loud, soft, in varying styles.

The makeup of the congregation also impacts the choice of music. Congregation members of varying generations prefer different music. To attract and retain the next generations of church members, we must have music that speaks to them. This music is not necessarily the music enjoyed by other generations.

The music is all selected to glorify God!

Praise the Lord! Jack