



NEWSLETTER

The monthly joint publication of the NPM Arlington and NPM DC Chapters.

Fostering the art of musical liturgy.

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NPM President Shares Vision for the Future

BY EUGENE HARPER

With 2018 just around the corner, Steve Petrunak spent some time recently sharing his views with the Arlington and DC chapters.

The new NPM president and chief executive officer, who officially came onboard May 1, sat down and talked with local members and friends on Oct. 21 and talked about his perspective of NPM – yesteryear leading to today.

“At the national convention this summer I said that I was a hopeful member of NPM. And I continue to be,” Petrunak reminded the estimated 50 people seated in a chair circle in Burke Hall at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington.

“I’m a far more exhausted member of NPM than what I was back then,” he noted, adding that “there’s a lot happening.”

But before going into details, he chronicled NPM from 41 years ago. “Our organization started at a time when there was a lot of buzz in the church – a lot of excitement. We were coming off of Vatican II,” he said referring to the council that brought major Church changes in the ‘60s. There were “all kinds of new things for musicians. We were looking for a new repertoire. We were looking for a new way of worshipping together. A lot had been thrust upon us and we were finding our way through all of that.

“So when (Rev.) Virgil Funk created NPM there was a far greater response created

than anyone could have imagined. The first convention in Scranton, PA, had like five times (the number of attendees) what they were prepared for,” Petrunak said.

He compared those years to the present. “The last few years have been challenging. The church at large has a lot of challenges. We have dwindling numbers. We have parish closings, mergers and clustering and people losing jobs, and full-time musicians now part-time and being asked to do far more than direct music ministry. We’re being asked to run youth ministry and

RCIA and all kinds of jobs are expanding. So it’s a challenging time.”

Yet, “our association is right in the midst of turning a corner and moving forward in our journey,” he said. What does that look like? I don’t have all the answers, but ... we’re finding our way – an exciting time for our association.



NPM President Steven Petrunak, right, with Arlington Chapter Director Eugene Harper, left, and DC Chapter Director Henry Bauer.

“I mention our early years with Virgil because I feel like we’re starting to create that same type of buzz. And that excitement is something that is growing, not just here. It’s growing out and beyond.

“Sometimes that growth presents challenge. Sometimes that growth presents euphoria,” Petrunak said. “There have been times in our office when we can’t believe that something is coming up, happening, and we need to take a step back and breathe a little bit to just comprehend the spirit of God is so at work in our association.”

St. Cecelia, pray for us!

Director's Corner

Emily Mason's excellent organ prelude, Bach's *Wachet Auf* (*Sleepers Awake*) near the end of Ordinary Time, got me thinking.

Emily exuded every musician's happiness as she explained after Mass how *Wachet Auf* was inspired in part by chapter 25 of Matthew's Gospel: "Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour," referring to the second coming of the Lord. Emily, Director of Music at St. Veronica Parish in Chantilly, VA, sustained her enthusiasm with gathering hymn *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*.

This end-of-time theme continues now in Advent with Mark's Gospel warning: "Be watchful, be alert!... You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming... May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping."

We pastoral musicians face that anticipation, that anxiety that wells up every year at this time, inspired by scripture at the end of Ordinary Time and the coming of Advent and Christmas.

Indeed, we stand at this annual crossroads with so

many emotions: Nostalgia at the end of the growing season. Sadness at the approaching gloominess of winter. Vigilance toward the coming of the Lord. Eagerness for the Incarnation of Jesus. Hope for the upcoming new year.

Then there's the extra "piling on" this year with the collision of Advent and Christmas Vigil on Dec. 24th, the first time since 2006. (It happens again in 2022, followed by an 11-year hiatus until 2038.)

But alas, Dec. 25th marks the end of the beginning! Away with all the hustle and bustle of liturgical preparation! We can "pause for the cause" and conjure up the polar opposite of *Wachet Auf* and focus on that newborn Christ Child.

"Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace,

sleep in heavenly peace."

Advent and Christmas Seasons' blessings to all!

Eugene Harper
Director, Arlington Chapter



Your local chapters wish you a
Merry Christmas and a Happy and
Blessed New Year!



See you at our events
in the New Year!

2017 - 2018 CALENDAR of EVENTS



January 27, 2018 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Southern MD Gathering
Ann Duchesne's Home

February 13, 2018 12:00 PM
Arlington Shrove Tuesday Luncheon
Brion's Grille, Fairfax, VA

February 26, 2018 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
DC Cantor Workshop
St. Ambrose, Cheverly, MD

March 3, 2018 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
DC Lenten Retreat with
Fr. Dan Issing, CSC
Mother Seton, Germantown, MD

April 28, 2018
Joint Arlington/DC Event
Singing the Psalms Shapes Who We Are
Kathleen Harmon, SNDdeN, Ph.D.
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Vienna, VA

July 9-13, 2018
NPM National Convention
Baltimore, MD

Be sure to visit the Washington, DC and
Arlington, VA Chapters' websites for the
latest information on Chapter happenings,
registration forms, and events:

www.npmdc.org

www.npmarlington.org

National Association of
Pastoral Musicians

41ST ANNUAL CONVENTION



**PRAISE
GROW
SERVE**

BUILDING ON OUR HERITAGE

Baltimore, MD • July 9-13, 2018

*Click on the Convention Logo above to
see some of the exciting things to come in
Baltimore this summer!*

*Watch out for your January issue of Pastoral
Music for full convention information.*



Local NPM Chapters Contribute to National Fund

BY EUGENE HARPER

The Arlington and DC chapters presented a \$500 contribution to a new NPM fund during their jointly sponsored Oct. 21 Town Hall meeting at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington.

The fund, called the Mark C. Kulyk Fund for Music Ministry, is one of two major money-raising efforts launched since Steve Petrunak became NPM president on May 1.

It was in July that the Kulyk name was applied to a new fund gaining traction throughout the national organization. And more recently, on Oct. 6, the One NPM 2017 Campaign Fund kicked off an annual appeal.

The Kulyk fund was announced at this year's Cincinnati convention and since further detailed in an NPM website article penned by Petrunak. "I have chosen to name this major fund in honor of Mark, to be a witness of God's steadfast love for our NPM membership."

Kulyk was a true "Renaissance man," Petrunak wrote, "a person with many talents and areas of knowledge. He knew a little about a lot of things and continued learning every day." He noted the musician's very active parish liturgical choir and instrument roles over 25 years before he succumbed to a brain tumor in 2016.

"Mark's story is extraordinary — and yet it reflects the journey and calling that so many of us can relate to," the NPM leader pointed out. "It chronicles the role of music and faith in shaping one life in order to shape the lives of the many."

The new fund will support all the ongoing NPM projects, specifically new ones, Petrunak said at the Oct. 21 Town Hall assembly. To date, he said the fund has brought in \$40,000.

He also explained the One NPM Campaign Fund genesis and goals. "The new One NPM campaign was the result of a couple years' work from a finance and development committee, where we have a full-blown development plan in place," Petrunak said. "We have a lofty goal of raising \$100,000. We're doing what we can to strengthen members' sharing."

He said that last year \$84,000 was raised in annual funds, almost double from the prior year. The problem, however, was that only about 300 donors out of 5,000 members took part, only 7 percent of the membership supporting the organization.

"That's not going to work," Petrunak cautioned. "I and staff are not the association; we (around this room) are the association. And if we can't rally together to support our own association, we're not going to be around. It's just that simple."

He said that NPM is working hard to get that message out. "It's not a matter of how large the donations are," the NPM leader noted, "it's a matter of how everybody's participating."

So far, One NPM has netted \$30,000 toward its \$100,000 goal. "If everybody's giving a small amount, we'll be in great shape growing programming we can offer and even more down the line," Petrunak said. "It takes all of us participating."



NPM DC Chapter Director Henry Bauer presents NPM President Steve Petrunak with a \$500 donation to the Mark Kulyk Fund.

New NPM Website Features Member-Only Content

BY EUGENE HARPER

So how many unprintable names has NPM been called since Aug. 3? That's the date the organization moved its widely popular Planning Calendar to a place online where only dues-paying members could access recommended psalms, hymns and anthems for every Sunday, solemnity and feast day.

NPM President Steve Petrunak said word went out way in advance of the move date. "We told the membership that it was coming," he said during his Town Hall session with the Arlington and DC chapters on Oct. 21.

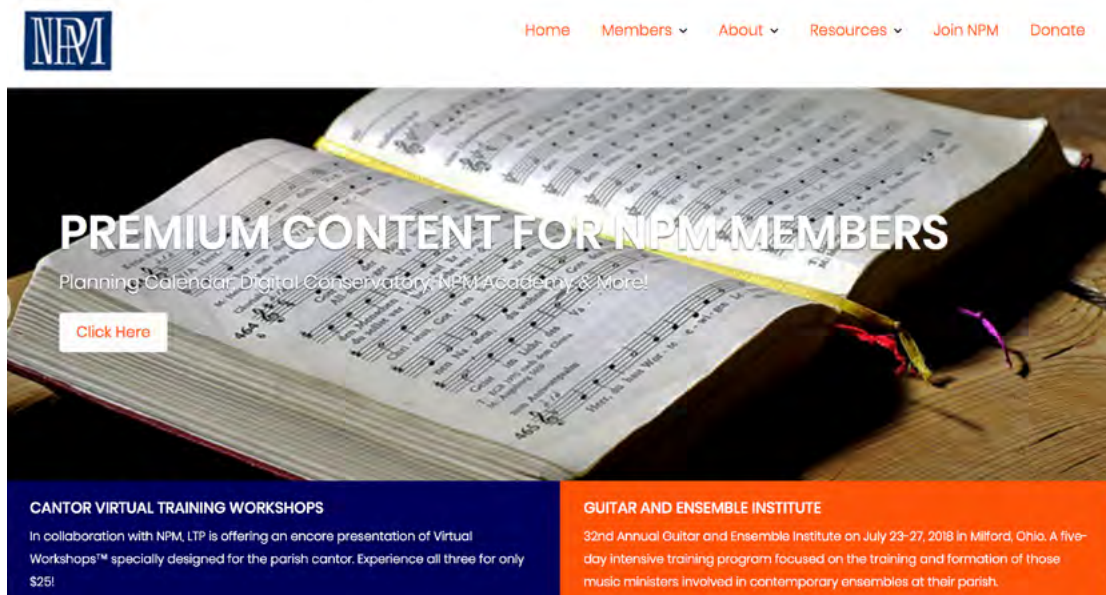
The service had been free to anybody for 10 years, he said. "We made the strategic decision to move it to premium content side, to where you had to be member to use it."

The change has added about 425 new members, Petrunak said. "Many have come kicking and screaming, literally, accusing the association of resorting to extortion. I answered more than 200 emails in the first weeks from people looking for the planning calendar.

"NPM can't keep offering these great resources

for free – maintaining them, offering them without the financial support," he pointed out.

"Just like the Church, no matter how good the preaching is, no matter how good the music is, without the financial support, the church will close," the NPM leader said. "It's the same with us. So, yes, there's been pushback from that, but you can see the benefit."



The screenshot shows the NPM website's navigation bar with links: Home, Members, About, Resources, Join NPM, and Donate. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of an open book with musical notation. Overlaid on the banner is the text "PREMIUM CONTENT FOR NPM MEMBERS" and "Planning Calendar, Digital Conservatory, NPM Academy, & More!". A "Click Here" button is visible. Below the banner are two sections: "CANTOR VIRTUAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS" and "GUITAR AND ENSEMBLE INSTITUTE".

Home **Members** **About** **Resources** **Join NPM** **Donate**

PREMIUM CONTENT FOR NPM MEMBERS
Planning Calendar, Digital Conservatory, NPM Academy, & More!
[Click Here](#)

CANTOR VIRTUAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS
In collaboration with NPM, LTP is offering an encore presentation of Virtual Workshops™ specially designed for the parish cantor. Experience all three for only \$25!

GUITAR AND ENSEMBLE INSTITUTE
32nd Annual Guitar and Ensemble Institute on July 23-27, 2018 in Milford, Ohio. A five-day intensive training program focused on the training and formation of those music ministers involved in contemporary ensembles at their parish.

New NPM Website

The National Office of NPM has launched a new website! This important update includes a members-only section, which includes the popular liturgy Planning Calendar and Choral Anthem pages, video educational resources, podcasts, and more. National members should have received an email with log-on instructions. Not sure if you're a national member? Contact the NPM Office (npmsing@npm.org).

Check out the new [website](#) today!

Upcoming Events

Sacred Music at All Saints Concert Series

presents

An Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 16, 2017

7:30 PM



All Saints Catholic Church
9300 Stonewall Rd
Manassas, VA 20110

WWW.ALLSAINTSVA.ORG
703-393-2146



The All Saints Parish Choir, All Saints Handbell Choir: Resounding Joy, and the Saint Veronica Adult Choir present an evening of Scripture lessons and beloved Advent carols, hymns, and motets to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Featuring music by Jacques Arcadelt, Michael Praetorius, Paul Manz, Claude Gouidmel, Timothy Lewicki and others. The service, based on the Lessons and Carols made famous at King's College, Cambridge, will last about an hour. All are welcome.

Sunday, December 10, 2016 7:30 PM

Lessons and Carols

St. Thomas More Cathedral

3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA 22203

www.cathedralstm.org • 703-524-2815

Everyone's favorite Advent tradition will be held on Sunday, December 10 at 7:30 pm. Please join Bishop Burbidge and our Cathedral clergy and staff, as well as our adult choir, youth choir, and handbell choir for this wonderful tradition consisting of Scripture readings accompanied by carols. A reception will follow the service. Admission is free.



ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7:30pm

A service of Scripture Readings and Music celebrating the Advent Season.

Saint Bernadette Church
7600 Old Keene Mill Road
Springfield VA 22152

For more information, contact David Mathers at
dmathers@stbernpar.org or 703-451-8576. ext 112

Announcements of items of interest to Pastoral Musicians such as concerts, transitions, or special activities are welcome in the monthly newsletter. Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. remains the 15th of each month. Please email Claire Scheppe at clmcaruso@gmail.com.

NPM/DC Cantor Workshop

Monday, February 26, 2018

7:00 - 9:00 PM

St. Ambrose Church

3107 63rd Ave.

Cheverly, MD 20785

Presenters: Amy Massey and Valerie Kopinski

Fee \$10-individual members of either chapter or parish members, \$15-non-members.

*To receive individual attention, participants should
bring two copies of psalm or communion song.*

Watch the website and the January newsletter for more information!!



Annual Shrove Tuesday Luncheon

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

12:00 NOON



Brion's Grille

10621 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032



*Share a meal and relax with friends, old and new,
before we plunge into our Lenten preparation for Easter.*

RSVP via our [Facebook event](#)

Questions? E-mail us at arlingtonnpm@gmail.com





Hats Off!

The following choirs have provided music for the Sunday TV Mass in November. Mass is celebrated in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, and broadcast on WDCW-TV (DCW50) each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Check your local cable or satellite provider's listings. Click the image of the Shrine's dome to view recordings of these masses.

Holy Redeemer Parish Choir, College Park, MD
St. Theresa Catholic Church Choir, Ashburn, VA
St. Hugh of Grenoble Parish Choir, Greenbelt, MD

✕
**KEEP
 CALM
 AND
 LET US
 PRAY**

God of Love,
 Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
 He is a sign of your love.
 Help us walk in that love during the weeks of
 Advent,
 As we wait and prepare for his coming.
 We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.
 Amen.

[Family Advent Prayer](#)

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