



Music points us
toward the divine as it
soothes us, inspires
us and makes us
think. In this

tumultuous age, as American
conductor Robert Shaw said,
*“Music is not a luxury but a
necessity, because it is the
persistent focus of human
intelligence, aspiration and
good will.”*

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Announcing the Formation of:

*St. Luke's
Friends of
Music*

*“For the glory of the most high God alone,
and for my neighbours to learn from.”*

— Johann Sebastian Bach
Epigraph to *Little Organ Book*, 1717

Music holds significant meaning in the rich

fabric of worship within the Anglican tradition and in the roots of early Christian practices. Historically, the Church served as a patron of music in both secular and non-secular venues.

Today, St. Luke's honors this tradition with an outstanding choir program and a truly extraordinary pipe organ in an acoustically excellent nave.

With the support of the parish, St. Luke's could further expand on this musical tradition by creating the "*St. Luke's Friends of Music*," bringing more musical programming to our parish family and reaching out to our neighbors in the surrounding communities – communities supportive of music and arts.



Vision for the Program

While it will be up to the formation committee to establish goals, programs and operations, here is an initial vision for the program. The *St. Luke's Friends of Music*:

- Exists to support and provide musical offerings for the praise of God and the ennobling of the human spirit.
- Strives to create concert series that enlighten, entertain, enchant and lift the spirits of all who attend to honor God through the gift of music.
- Provides a local venue for regular musical performances by accomplished artists that enriches the listening pleasure of St. Luke's members and neighbors from surrounding communities.
- Offers programs by choral and instrumental groups or soloists, college touring choirs, vocal and instrumental soloists with organ or piano accompaniment, chamber ensembles, neighboring musical societies and other church choirs of note.
- Provides an opportunity for members of the parish to contribute their musical gifts by performing periodically. St. Luke's is fortunate to have parishioners who are professional musicians that perform regularly in Metro Washington.
- Honors the gifts of music in its parish life and attracts new members of the community to both its music programs and to church membership.
- Provides a revenue stream independent of St. Luke's operating budget to sustain the program and sponsor one or more musically talented youth with insufficient financial means to develop their gift.

What Are the Next Steps?

- Convene a formation committee to provide suggestions, direction and guidance and define program goals and objectives in sufficient detail to create an operating program.
- This formation committee will put in place the operating structure to ensure the program's success and continuity. This would include program content, program governance and management, initial and ongoing funding streams, identification of additional necessary assets to support musical performances, etc.
- Once this is accomplished, the formation committee would transition to a program operating committee. The ongoing program operating committee may consist of previous formation committee members or new participants wishing to participate in operations of the program areas of planning and scheduling, fund raising, docent functions, advertising, etc.

How You Can Help?

- Identify yourself as wishing to work with the formation committee and/or program operating committee to Tom Yoder at (202.258.7955) or via e-mail tpyoder@yahoo.com
- Attend the organizational meeting, bring your ideas, experience and passion for music and share them with fellow parishioners and see what magic happens with the gifts of the Spirit!

We hope you will join us in this exciting new adventure!