

Safe Harbor Music Ministry

Core Values

- Christ Centeredness
- Reverence
- Beauty
- Excellence
- Exuberance- Joy, Fun, Enthusiasm, Faithfulness
- Bible Directed (Regulative Principle)
- Renewal
- Encouragement
- Vitality
- Transformation

Purpose Statement – To provide a wide variety of music, readings, prayer and songs that engage the hearts of God’s people to bring forth praises and worship to our triune God.

Vision – To build a ministry of music that equips members at Safe Harbor to use their musical and leadership gifts to draw our hearts closer to God in a variety of styles of praise and worship music

Goals: Develop a Music Ministry Team

Leadership: (Todd)

Worship Planning – (Todd, Dave O., Dave)

Music selection

Congregational Singing (T,D,M)

Hymns/Psalms - (Todd)

Praise and Worship Songs (Dave O.& Todd)

Choral and Special - (Marianne, Karen Butterfield)

Order of Worship- (Todd)

Liturgy

Theme/Coordination with Sermon

Sermon Series/Special Sundays

Special Worship Events (Todd)

Sunday /Wednesday Evening Services

Prayer Services

Hymn sings

Outside performing artists

Choir (Marianne Collins)

Weekly Offertory and Anthems

Christmas and Easter Concerts

Scheduling – (Marianne C., Ginny F., Dave)

Choir – Practices/worship, schedule special events
Praise and Worship Team - Dave
Special Music - Marianne
Pulpit Supply - Todd
Music Librarian –
Choir – Ginny F.
Praise and Worship – Mike Connelly

Development – Paradigm: Mentoring/modeling
Training/retreats
Recruiting - singers and musicians
Planning new music ministries
Equipping musicians and leaders

Instrumentalists: (Marianne C., Louise C.)
Praise and Worship Ensemble (Dave O.)
Choir Accompaniment (Marianne C.)
Special Music (Marianne C.)

Singers: (Marianne C., Karen O., Karen B.)
Choir
Praise and Worship Singers
Special Music/Soloists

Leaders and directors : (Todd, Dave O., Marianne C.)
Assisting in Worship Service – Welcome, prayers, etc
Leading Congregational Singing
Directing Choir
Directing Praise and Worship Teams

Sound: (Dave)
Set Up
Technicians
Recording/Duplicating
Tape/CD Ministry

Children's Choir: (Karen B.)
Recruit/encourage/train/direct children
Recruit parents and helpers
Plan songs and co-ordinate for worship services

Strategy:

Recruit and develop Worship Team to plan and execute musical ministries and worship services at Safe Harbor.

Recruit and encourage musicians to accompany congregational singing, choral practice and performances, and play special music pieces in worship. (Keyboard, Bass guitar, accompanist to Choir are primary needs)

Meet with key Worship Team leaders on a regular basis to plan worship services and encourage leadership and mentoring

Philosophy:

We are a contemporary church that treasures the ancient and traditional heritage of the reformed faith and worship. The music that we will use for worship services each Sunday will be a mix of modern and ancient hymns, new songs, Psalms, and spiritual songs (*“Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Eph 5:19,20; and: “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Col 3:15-17*)

Paul’s use of this phrase, *“Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs”* is intended to indicate a wide variety of musical styles, content and structures. With this in mind it is our goal to provide a variety of musical styles because the body of Christ is made up of a wide variety of individuals. The content that we select will reflect our Reformed and Presbyterian heritage, being thoroughly biblical and true to the character of God. The structure of the music will be more informal and modern, since we are called to bring the Gospel to the age in which we now live, and our personality as a church is more informal, but we will have a fair representation of traditionally and classically structured hymns and songs in deference to those who grew up in the church and learned to love those classic pieces sung in those particular ways. (This wide variety of styles is what we mean when we say “blended” worship).

Psalms: These are the 150 Psalms recorded for us in Scriptures. They can be put to music in a variety of ways. Our denomination has compiled a Psaltery of all 150 Psalms put to famous old hymn tunes. Unfortunately the majority of the hymn tunes are so old they are either unsingable or unrecognizable to most of us. In our context it would be good to sing a few of these ancient tunes (i.e., *The Old 100th*), but the majority of the Psalms that we

sing should be put to singable modern music (i.e. Psalm 73 by Kevin Twit), or familiar traditional hymn tunes.

Hymns: Hymns contain such rich lyrics and significant theology that to stop singing hymns would be to cut ourselves off from our Christian heritage. Some modern praise and worship songs are trite and shallow compared with the significance of hymns. It is our goal that 50% to two thirds of our songs selected on any given Sunday be Hymns. It is also our goal that most of these hymns be sung in a modern style. Our denomination funded a project to re-write over 300 Hymns to folk and contemporary music. This project resulted in the Reformed University Fellowship Hymnal. Most of our ancient hymns will be selected from this hymnal as well as other artists' hymnals like Bob Kufin's *Hymn Project* and Matt Redman's *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. We will also sing Ancient Hymns to their traditional tunes played with modern instrumentation. This will allow those whose tastes prefer the traditional tunes to still enjoy those hymns as a vehicle of their heartfelt worship while drawing younger and newer Christians in to our Christian heritage. Along with these ancient hymns we will sing modern hymns of the faith (i.e. *In Christ Alone*, by Stuart Townend, *Knowing You* by Graham Kendrick, etc.), yet there will be some weeks when we are simply compelled by the Spirit to sing ancient hymns to the traditional tunes with traditional instrumentation (classical piano or organ) because it just fits the theme and goal of the service for that particular week. Regardless of the theme for a particular service, it will always be our goal to sing enough of these traditional hymns in the traditional way so as not to lose our connection to older generations of Christians.

New Songs:

Psalm 33:3

Sing to him a **new song**; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Psalm 40:3

He put a **new song** in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD .

Psalm 96:1

Sing to the LORD a **new song**; sing to the LORD , all the earth.

Psalm 98:1

Sing to the LORD a **new song**, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

Psalm 144:9

I will sing a **new song** to you, O God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you,

Psalm 149:1

Praise the LORD . [**149:1** Hebrew [Hallelu Yah] ; also in verse 6] Sing to the LORD a **new song**, his praise in the assembly of the saints.

Isaiah 42:10

Sing to the LORD a **new song**, his praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.

Revelation 5:9

And they sang a **new song**: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Revelation 14:3

And they sang a **new song** before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the **song** except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

New songs, fall into two categories, 1.) Those that are current and fresh, written within the last few years, and/or 2.) those songs that are new to us as a congregation, therefore becoming fresh new songs for us to sing, allowing us to discover his mercies new every Sunday morning. We will make it our goal to continue to sing new songs on occasion, as well as intentionally add new songs to our congregation's repertoire.

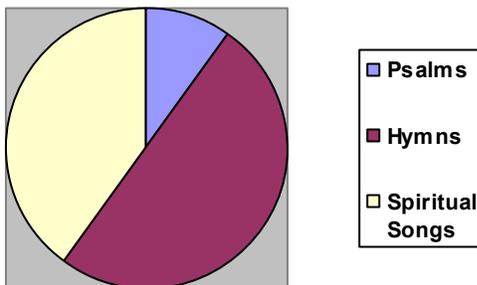
Spiritual Songs:

These songs are typically simple in their content and musicality and repeated to re-enforce the simple beauty and power and profundity of their lyrics (i.e. *I Love You Lord, Awesome God*, etc.) The danger of singing these songs too often is that they lack the depth and richness of hymns. These are best sung right after the reading scripture or some theological writing or standard, and placed between other deeper songs, Psalms, or hymns.

Goals for Weekly Song Selection:

Structure :

Psalms – 10-25% Hymns - 50-67% Spiritual Songs - 25-40%
1 song 3-4 songs 2-4 songs



Classical Style

Finally, classical (traditional) musical style will be selected for songs because of its beauty as well as its ability to connect with emotions and memories of those who are accustomed to the contemporary music of the 18th and 19th century Christian church. This music is more difficult to sing, so we will try to select classical pieces more familiar to the congregation. Classical style music is best suited to orchestras and string and brass ensembles but is most traditionally played on organ or piano. Our goal would be to use the piano with a few other instruments including guitar, brass and woodwind instruments, and sometimes synthesizer to accompany the singing.

Leadership:

The leading of the congregation in song will be the responsibility of the Praise & Worship team as well as the pastors who will be praying and speaking during the service. We do not feel that a music director “conducting” the congregation as a choir fits with the more informal contemporary style we have in our worship services, and feel a small group of singers is the best way to lead our people in exuberant worship.

Choir:

It is our desire to have choirs and praise worship teams representing a broad and diverse group of people. It is our prayer to have youth choirs and children choirs and well as an adult choir. It is also our prayer to have youth praise and worship bands/teams and well as more than one adult praise and worship band/team. The role of the choir will be to bring a more classical and formal element to our variety of worship and will primarily sing during offertories, introits and anthems, as well as for special concerts and cantatas.

Musical Concerts:

To broaden our horizons we will also strive to host concerts of sacred music here at our church, or encourage our congregation as a group to attend such concerts in other places. These concerts should represent all styles of music. Our own choir should sing classical cantatas, and perform concerts and we should bring in contemporary bands and Musical talents to our congregation so we can be exposed to a variety of musical styles that bring praise to our God and learn as his children of a diverse family of faith to appreciate things to which we may not be normally accustomed.