

REPORT OF THE ORGANIST-CHOIRMASTER

Organist-Choirmaster's Report

The Sesquicentennial year at Emmanuel Church packed in a lot of excitement. We celebrated the **dedication of the new organ console and the Zimbelstern** with a service of Evensong and a dedicatory recital, which featured an improvisation on *King of Glory, King of Peace*, one of Father Mark's favorite hymns. It was a packed house with good fellowship afterwards.

The 150th anniversary celebration itself was filled with great music and a brass quartet to provide an extra flourish to the service. We also heard the premier of a **new anthem** *I Was Glad* by Kenneth Lowenberg, commissioned for the choir for the occasion. We were proud to have a full choir for the service and lots of hearty singing by the congregation.

I am particularly thankful to the many, many people who contribute to the rich fabric of music in this church. **Emmanuel's choir** freely offers many hours of their time in leading the congregation in song. The many people who work with the **children's choir** are instilling a love of music early on, which is important as the arts continue to receive less of a focus in schools today. The **Third Saturday Band** continues to lend their talents to leading the congregation through music. Thank you so much to **Debbie, Peter and Chris** for the time you devote to the worship of the Lord. Thank you especially to **Bernie** who played through a broken hand to make sure we had great music on Christmas Eve!

Emmanuel Church embraces a wide variety of styles and traditions of music ranging from Gregorian chant to modern-era composers. We take every opportunity to raise the bar and enhance our worship with strong singing and beautiful song. The Choir of Emmanuel Church meets for practice on **Sunday mornings at 9:15** and **Thursday evenings at 7:00** in All Saints Chapel. We welcome all who have a passion for music to join us!