

WORSHIPPING WITH MUSIC AT NRUMC



Starting a new church is a very large undertaking with many aspects, and one of these is worship. An important part of worship, of course, is music. We were fortunate that two of our Charter members, Bernie and Wilma Junker, had experience in that field. Around 13 people formed a choir that practiced in the Junkers' dining room until we moved into our first building.

When the Junkers moved away, Betty Jo Farrington was hired as Choir Director. She served in that position for 19 years. Harriet Turner was our organist, followed by Jim Fogel, Bill Shelton, Cindy Wagner, Karen Reardon, Tom Fielding, Phyllis O'Keefe, Julie Florin, and Candace Bailey. We are fortunate to have a custom-built Allen organ with 70 ranks and 11 pipes.

Our handbell program was started in 1994, with two adult choirs and two quintets. Next came children's choirs, Belleplates, Kid Chimes, and Youth bells.

Michael Glasgow was hired in 1998 as our full time Minister of Music. Associate Ministers of Music include Kathy Aspenwall, Brett Pardue, and Amber Hitchcock.

In June of 2017, the Chancel Choir went to New York City to perform Michael Glasgow's *Requiem* in Carnegie Hall. Then, in 2019, they traveled to perform the same work in Austria at Minoritenkirche Church.

Presently, there are 21 active music groups at North Raleigh. How wonderful it is that so many people are willing to share their talents with us every Sunday in the worship of Almighty God!

- Polly Smith

