

Message from Eileen Guenther:

At Foundry Church, I have seen growth and change in many wonderful ways—like a river, it's not the same today as it was yesterday, and I, too, have grown and changed during my time here. As Minister of Music & Liturgy I have sought to be faithful to the Gospel of Christ, to be a supportive colleague, and to be a warm and supportive presence within the congregation. It has been my goal to lead the choirs in ways that have enabled them to deepen their spirituality in the same way we hoped to deepen the congregation's faith through our music.

After much prayer and consideration, I have accepted the opportunity to increase my teaching responsibilities at Wesley Seminary and to explore other avenues of ministry. I am resigning as Minister of Music at Foundry as of June 30, 2007. June will provide a period of transition as I look to my final worship service at Foundry on June 24.

There are many fond memories from my work here that I carry with me:

- The wonderful **Casavant organ** that we all worked to install a little over 20 years ago and which has led worship so powerfully, and the creative redesign of the chancel that has also enabled us to worship more fully;
- The **Foundry Choir** which has been an important part of worship each Sunday at 11:00 and for other services. The choir has recorded compact discs, commissioned anthems and a hymn, sung at General Conference and at the White House, raised substantial sums of money for HIV/AIDS in Washington and southern Africa, and brought to worship major works of classical sacred music with orchestral support;
- The vibrant spirit, dedication to worship, fine singing, and collegiality of **Jubilate** that has contributed its leadership to the 9:30 service;
- The singing of the **Foundry congregation**, and its willingness to worship by song in multiple languages and numerous styles;
- **Weekly services** for which I was privileged to plan the liturgy and music for many years--and special services that have held particular meaning in the life of the congregation. The warmth of the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols and the vibrant joy of Easter Sunday will remain with me always;
- **Weddings and funerals** of church family and friends from the congregation and choirs;
- My daughter **Christina's baptism**, development of faith, and growth in love of music;
- And much, *much* more.

I thank Foundry for the opportunity to be in ministry with this warm, embracing, and diverse congregation. For the songs we have sung, the services we have shared, the tears we have shed, I give thanks. This significant portion of my life has been a blessing that has meant more to me than I can possibly say.