

## **Music in Our Church**

This has not been a good year to show off the musical talents we have in our congregation. Eileen is the only constant at this time. She is there whenever we are open for worship or live-streaming the worship service enhancing our experience with her talents on the keyboard, organ or piano.

It is a joy that we have been able to record our worship services over the last several years. While I used those recordings to pull out the anthems and play them for the choir during rehearsals, I never thought they would become a part of our “virtual” services supporting the message given by the worship leader. I have about 150 of those recordings plus a few from the Community Chorus. Two of the pieces that were in the Christmas Eve service were from a Community Chorus concert. Copyright is always an issue that needs to be considered with any music performance. What you hear are from pieces that we own enough copies for the choir and performed them in a worship service or a free concert. Youtube and Facebook are always checking for possible copyright violations. So far I have only received one inquiry and that was for the Christmas Eve Service “What Child Is This”. We sang from our Hymnal and the music and lyrics are both from the mid 1880’s.

I hope we will be able to continue this part of our worship services for the time being but, can’t wait until we can sing again in person, together. There is nothing better than the human voice joined with others in wonderful harmony!

Dick Stephens