

Nominations

Eileen Johnson for Secretary (second term)



Eileen M. Johnson has degrees from Westminster Choir College and Concordia University River Forest, with further studies at Bethany Theological Seminary. She holds the Colleague certification from the American Guild of Organists and is a life member of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

Johnson was on the editorial team for the hymnal supplement *Spirit Anew: Singing Prayer and Praise* (Woodlake Books, 1999). She has written Hymn Performance columns and reviews of hymn-based music for THE HYMN. With her husband, Dan Damon, she co-led the opening hymn festival of the 2008 Conference of the Hymn Society in Berkeley, California, and prepared a plenary address on the topic of justice in hymnody for the 2010 Conference of the Hymn Society in Birmingham, Alabama. With Damon, she recently authored articles on the USA social gospel hymn and jazz in hymnody for the *Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology*.

Johnson has served for over twelve years as Music Director at El Sobrante United Methodist Church, El Sobrante, California, playing the organ/piano, directing an adult choir and handbells, and directing the Praise Band (while playing electric bass). Previously, in the Chicago area, she served as musician for Peace Memorial UCC, Palos Park; First UMC, Oak Park; and York Center Church of the Brethren, Lombard.

Benjamin Brody for Member-at-Large



Benjamin Brody is Professor of Church Music and Director of Campus Worship at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. His responsibilities include teaching courses in church music, music history, choral literature, and music appreciation, and mentoring teams of student musicians who plan and lead three campus worship services each week. Prior to coming to Whitworth, Ben spent four years as Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church of Seattle.

For the past twenty years, Ben has planned and led worship services for the Whitworth Institute of Ministry, an annual conference for pastors and other ministry leaders held on the Whitworth campus each July. As Director of Worship for the M.A. in Theology program at Whitworth, he developed an innovative program, crafting worship services which integrate with the curriculum for each course. Ben has presented interest sessions and planned and led worship services for a variety of regional and national church conferences. He is a life member of The Hymn Society and serves as chair of the program committee for the 2016 Annual Conference. A hymn tune composer, Ben's tunes have appeared in several collections published by GIA.

Ben studied music education and church music as an undergraduate at Whitworth and went on to complete graduate degrees in choral conducting from the University of Washington, studying with Abraham Kaplan and Geoffrey Boers.

In addition to his work at the university, Ben is Director of Music at Colbert Presbyterian Church, in Colbert, Washington. Ben lives with his wife and two sons in Spokane, Washington.