The Theology and Practice of Congregational Song
An Intensive Ecumenical Course for Theological Students, Clergy, Liturgists and Musicians

Wesley Music Centre and Wesley Uniting Church, Canberra
30 June to 10 July 2011

Course instructor: C. Michael Hawn, BME, MCM, DMA, FHS (Fellow of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada), University Distinguished Professor of Church Music, Director of the Sacred Music Program, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas USA

Description: The intensive course will have two foci: 1) a systematic study of the theology of congregational song with a focus on current trends in the context of their historical antecedents, and 2) the practice of congregational singing with teaching skills needed to encourage participation by local congregations.

Target groups: The full course will be open to theological students, clergy, liturgists and worship leaders of all denominations. Theological students or post-graduate students can apply for academic credit through Flinders University, Adelaide, SA. Those interested in the short course may participate during the second week in workshops and other practical sessions beginning on Friday morning 8 July and concluding on Sunday evening 10 July. Course members will participate in two inspirational public events in Wesley Uniting Church - a Hymn Festival on Sunday afternoon 3 July at 3pm and a Song Festival on the evening of Saturday 9 July at 7.30pm.

Outcomes of the full course:
1) Participants will be able to articulate the theology of various streams of congregational song in the Australian context as found in Together in Song (1999) and other more recent song collections found in Australia.
2) Participants will be able to plan worship drawing effectively upon a broad range of congregational song styles and theological emphases including classical hymns, folk traditions, contemporary Christian music, music from intentional Christian communities such as Taizé and Iona, and music from the broader world church (Africa, Asia, Latin/South America).
3) Participants will develop their vocal and teaching skills in ways that will aid congregations in singing and learning a wider variety of congregational songs.
4) Participants will explore one aspect of congregational song in an assignment paper and provide a plan for implementing this in a congregational setting. If academic credit is being claimed then the paper for undergraduate students will be 4500 words, and 6000 words for post-graduate students.

Full course outline:
1) Course will meet for eleven days. With the exception of Sunday, each day will have six hours of instruction (a minimum of 60 hours).
2) Mornings will be devoted to the theological understanding of current congregational song as represented in Australia and the broader ecumenical world church.
3) Afternoons will focus on teaching skills both in smaller groups as well as group instruction. At the end of each day there will be 20 minute worship sessions involving the participants.
4) The professor and participants will lead the two public events on 3 and 9 July.

Full course evaluation:
1) Participants will prepare a paper that outlines the theological and stylistic practice of congregational song as currently experienced in their setting as well as a plan for broadening the range of congregational singing with reference to specific streams of song and examples that they propose to teach in the next 3-5 years.
2) Participants will each lead a brief (15-20 minute) afternoon worship session during which they will be responsible for teaching the music to the group.
3) Participants will take a lead in the public sessions for the broader community through sharing examples of current congregational song practice.
Course Schedule:

Thursday 30 June: The Heritage of Hymns: Reading a Hymn
Morning: Structure, Poetic Devices, Context
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing of results

Friday 1 July: The Heritage of Hymns: Watts and Wesley
Morning: Biographical, Contextual and Theological Foundations
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing of results

Saturday 2 July: The Heritage of Hymns: Victorian and Oxford Movement
Morning: Biographical, Contextual and Theological Foundations
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing of results

Sunday 3 July: Attend Worship and Hymn Festival (3pm): The Lord’s Prayer: A Global Perspective, Led by Michael Hawn and participants

Monday 4 July: Congregational Singing in the 21st Century: Roman Catholic Contributions
Reading: Chapter One (Manuscript): “The Thunder of Your Cataracts”:
Roman Catholic Liturgical Music after Vatican II by Kathleen Harmon, SNDdeN
Morning: Survey of Roman Catholic Song since Vatican II: Themes, Theology, Liturgical Use
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing results

Tuesday 5 July: Congregational Singing in the 21st Century: Mainline Protestant Contributions
Reading: Chapter Two (Manuscript): “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”:
Classic Contemporary Protestant Hymnody by Emily R. Brink
Morning: Survey of Protestant Song since Vatican II: Themes, Theology, Liturgical Use
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing results

Wednesday 6 July: Congregational Singing in the 21st Century: Folk Traditions
Reading: Chapter Five (Manuscript): “Dance then wherever you may be”:
Folk Influences in Hymnody by Deborah Loftis
Morning: Survey of European/American/Australian Folk Styles since Vatican II
Afternoon: Application in small groups and sharing results

Thursday 7 July: Congregational Singing in the 21st Century: Iona and Taizé Communities
Reading: Section of Chapter Seven (Manuscript): “Through every land, by every tongue”:
The Rise of Ecumenical-Global Song by C. Michael Hawn
Morning: Survey of music from these communities
Afternoon: Experiencing and leading Taizé and Iona Daily Prayers

Friday 8 July: Congregational Singing in the 21st Century: Global Song
Reading: Section of Chapter Seven (Manuscript): “Through every land, by every tongue”:
The Rise of Ecumenical-Global Song by C. Michael Hawn
Morning/Afternoon: An Introduction to Global Song in Africa, Asia and Latin America

Saturday 9 July: Enlivening Congregational Song
Morning: Teaching congregational song in the parish
Preparations for Evening Song Festival: Singing our Faith in the 21st Century
Evening Song Festival Led by participants and Michael Hawn (7.30pm)

Sunday 10 July: Worship
Reading: “Shout to the Lord”: Praise & Worship from Jesus People to Gen X by Greg Scheer
Closing Session: Congregational Song in the Pentecostal Tradition

MAJOR SPONSOR: Wesley Music Foundation
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: Wesley Uniting Church in Canberra, Flinders University, Adelaide College of Divinity, Uniting Church Theological Colleges, NSW/ACT Synod Music Committee and SA Synod Centre for Music Liturgy and the Arts

For all enquiries contact the Wesley Music Centre
Phone: 02 6232 7248 (Tuesday to Friday 10am to 3pm)
Fax: 02 6239 6836
Mailing address: PO Box 3217 Manuka, ACT 2603
Email: wesleymc@bigpond.net.au
REGISTRATION FORM

COURSE ON THE THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL SONG
LED BY PROFESSOR MICHAEL HAWN 30 JUNE-10 JULY 2011

The completed form can be emailed, faxed or mailed to
Wesley Music Centre, PO Box 3217 Manuka, ACT 2603

PERSONAL DETAILS
Title (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rev/Other):
Family name: First name:
Telephone numbers: (W) (H) (M)
Mailing address: PC:
Email address:
Church affiliation:
Congregation:
Special needs or a disability (please specify)?

FULL COURSE 30 June-10 July 2011
Current academic institution (theological students):
If not currently enrolled at an academic institution, please list your academic qualifications and, if employed, your current position:
If ordained, date of ordination:
Seeking academic credit: Yes/No
Seeking assistance through a Wesley Music Foundation scholarship or financial assistance: Yes/No

SHORT COURSE 8 July-10 July
Your current role in congregational singing:
Your qualifications/background:

REGISTRATION PAYMENT (Early bird applies only if fee paid by 31 May 2010)
Fees include course and lunches
Full Course: Early bird $495 Standard $595 (Scholarships or financial assistance up to $250 available. See Application Form below).
Short Course: Early bird $195 Standard $260

Payment amount: $

Payment method:
(1) Direct deposit to BSB 634634 Account No.100023074 WMF General Account using as the reference 110630 and your Surname OR
(2) Cheque or money order payable to Wesley Music Foundation OR
(3) Credit card. Please debit my Mastercard/Visa Card

Card Number: ………../………../………../………/Expire Date: / / Signature ……………………………………………
Application for Scholarship or Financial Assistance to Attend the Full Course on the Theology and Practice of Congregational Song 30 June-10 July 2011
Email to wesleymc@bigpond.net.au, mail to Wesley Music Foundation, PO Box 3217 Manuka ACT 2603 or fax to 02 6239 6836

FIRST NAME: SURNAME:

CONTACT DETAILS:
Email: Phones(s)
Mailing Address:

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES
Describe your circumstances and interest in the course

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Full-time student (e.g. Theological College) Yes / No  Part-time Student Yes / No.

Name of Organisation/ Institution:
Degree or Diploma Course Year of Study
If not a student, reason for application

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TYPE OF ASSISTANCE SOUGHT
Rebate of Course Fee: Yes / No
Travel assistance (detail expected costs)

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Other (specify)

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OWN CONTRIBUTION TO COSTS
Please detail your own contribution to costs of attendance

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CONTRIBUTION BY YOUR ORGANISATION OR INSTITUTION
What assistance can your organisation or institution provide?

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REFEREES
Names and contact details of two referees who are aware of your circumstances and interests
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