



University of  
Notre Dame

“Singing with a  
Choir Angels!”

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## Office Board 2013-2014

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## Year in Review:

- |                  |                                                                                        |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>August</b>    | Opening School Year<br>Mass                                                            |
| <b>September</b> | Beginning of the<br>School Year dinner                                                 |
| <b>October</b>   | Choir Retreat<br>Five Guys<br>Fundraiser                                               |
| <b>November</b>  | Concession Stand at<br>BYU game<br>Mozart Concert                                      |
| <b>December</b>  | Advent Lessons and<br>Carols at the Basilica<br>of the Sacred Heart                    |
| <b>January</b>   | Tour<br>Five Guys<br>Fundraiser                                                        |
| <b>February</b>  | Junior Parents<br>Weekend Mass<br>Vespers Concert                                      |
| <b>March</b>     | Mardi Gras Party<br>Annunciation Mass                                                  |
| <b>April</b>     | Anonymous 4<br>Concert<br>Stations of the<br>Cross<br>Palm Sunday<br>Mass at St. Marks |
| <b>May</b>       | End of the<br>Year Dinner                                                              |





The Women's Lit Choir took Cleveland and Pittsburgh by storm! Tour was very successful, and we thoroughly enjoyed sharing our ministry with the people of Pittsburgh and Cleveland!

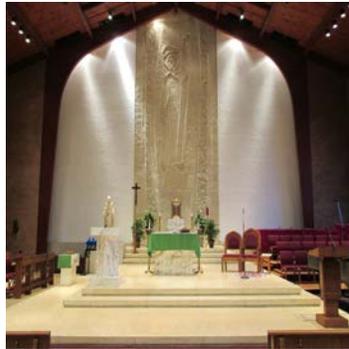
This past January we embarked on a cross state tour that took us from Notre Dame to Cleveland, OH to Pittsburgh, PA and back! We started our tour by performing a practice concert Thursday evening at Holy Cross House, followed by a short social where we met and talked with the retired priests and brothers who live there. The following morning we were on our way to stop number one, Cleveland, OH. After grabbing some lunch and exploring downtown we performed a concert at The Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus. After staying overnight with our wonderful host families we drove to Pittsburgh, PA and spent the afternoon riding the Monongahela Incline, eating giant sandwiches at Primanti Brothers, exploring the city, and enjoying the unusually warm weather. That evening we sang at the Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Paul Cathedral and then enjoyed a wonderful dinner prepared by our very own Aubrey Zielinski's family! The following morning we bid our host families adieu and headed to St. James Catholic Parish in Sewickley, PA to sing at Sunday morning Mass. Afterwards we had a delicious lunch prepared by the Pittsburgh Alumni club, and then headed back to Notre Dame. We had a wonderful time singing beautiful music in beautiful churches, visiting new places, meeting new people, and getting to know each other better. Thank you to everyone who helped make this tour a resounding success!



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We would like to extend our congratulations and blessings to our long-standing member Mary Liz (Walsh) Kaltenbach and her family after welcoming the newest addition to their family Peter Irenaeus. **CONGRATULATIONS!**
- We would also like to extend our congratulations to two of our members Beruchya Dao-Bai on her Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion, as well as, Samantha Zuba on her Confirmation. We are very proud and extend our support for you on your faith journeys!





## Director's Cut: A Message from Daniel Bayless

Greetings from Notre Dame! This has been another busy year for the Women's Liturgical Choir. In addition to our regular schedule of services and events at the Basilica, the basilica choirs joined forces to sing a concert comprised solely of music written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Members of the WLC sang the "Alleluia" from *Exultate Jubilate* and joined the Liturgical Choir and the Folk Choir to perform Mozart's *Coronation Mass*. This was quite an undertaking, but it was certainly a wonderful experience to hear the music of Mozart resounding in

the Basilica.

On our tour this year, we journeyed by bus to Cleveland, OH and Pittsburgh, PA. Friday evening, we were delighted to sing a concert in Cleveland's historic and beautiful Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus containing relics of Blessed John Paul II and a stunning rendition of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Saturday, we loaded the bus and traveled to St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh to sing the Vigil Mass for the

(continued)

Feast of the Presentation. This stunning cathedral houses a history-making organ built by the German organ builder Rudolph von Beckerath. We sang one final Mass at St. James Parish in Sewickley, PA after which we ate lunch with the local alumni before bussing back to Notre Dame.

The evening of April 4, 18 members of the WLC ventured to the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel where we met up with two alums of the choir to hear the world-renowned Anonymous 4 perform. The program featured music exclusively from the Montpellier Codex, a collection of motets devoted to Mary and monody compiles in Paris around the year 1300. It was a wonderful learning opportunity for choir members to hear a professional women's ensemble perform this hauntingly beautiful early music in such a beautiful setting.

In addition to these featured highlights and our usual schedule of Masses and rehearsals, the WLC sang the Opening of the School Year Mass, the annual Red Mass for the Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend with Bishop Rhoades, Advent Lessons and Carols, a Vespers Concert, Junior Parents Weekend Mass, Solemnity of the Annunciation Mass, several Vespers services, and will

sing at St. Mark's in Niles, MI for Palm Sunday.

It is a privilege and an honor to work with such a talented group of young women and to watch them grow during their time at Notre Dame. In addition to their musical talents, they are talented in so many other areas of their lives from senior thesis projects designing cathedrals to working with young children to editing student campus publications and many other things involving science labs, computers, and research that this musician can only begin to understand. This year, we have had two choir members preparing for and receiving the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. I am most grateful to this year's officer board for their excellent student leadership of the choir and spearheading efforts to raise funds, create bonds of friendship, and deepen the spiritual life of the choir.

Thank you to all the alumnae and friends of this choir for your ongoing support of our work and ministry at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and beyond. Please let us know if you are ever on campus!

Sincerely,

Daniel Bayless

Director, Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir



“When man comes into contact with God, mere speech is not enough. Areas of his existence are awakened that spontaneously turn into song. Indeed, man's own being is insufficient for what he has to express, and so he invites the whole of creation to become a song with him.”

-Pope Benedict XVI



## President's Commentary -Aubrey Zielinski

In my eyes, the 2013-2014 school year has been a particularly successful one for this choir. In addition to the exciting football Masses, the frigid though profitable concession stand, and Sunday Vespers, we had the opportunity to be part of a unique project during the fall semester. In celebration of the end of the Year of Faith, we joined ranks with the other Basilica choirs to master and perform Mozart's Coronation Mass along with several of his other pieces. The score was as difficult to learn as it was beautiful to hear, and I know I am not alone in saying that I very much enjoyed learning it and was particularly proud to have been a part of the celebration.

The other large success that stands out in my mind is our annual tour. This year, we traveled to Cleveland and then to Pittsburgh, my hometown. Anyone who knows me knows how much I like to talk about my hometown and its various charms, so naturally I was ecstatic to show off my city to the rest of the choir. Disregarding my obvious bias however, this tour was arguably the most musically-sound of the past four. Many of our members opted to go on tour and our younger members in particular helped bolster our sound. Much of the music we performed, including three Hebrew Psalms, was initially difficult, but we persevered, much to the delight of the very appreciative, hospitable congregations.

I have no doubts that this choir will continue to succeed in its ministry for years to come, though it saddens me that the other seniors and I will no longer be an active part of that ministry. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the president of this choir for the past year. I am unabashedly proud of each and every one of our members and the fantastic work we do as a whole. Thank you for putting the icing on the cake that is my senior year. I will dearly miss you all!



## 2013-2014 WLC Choir Retreat



Retreat this year took place on campus at the Sacred Heart Parish Center. After singing the Saturday Vigil Mass, the girls gathered at the parish center for dinner, playing their favorite songs and chatting about anything and everything. Once everyone had finished eating, the retreat opened with Vespers outside in the fading light. Then a series of icebreakers had everyone laughing and storing away inside jokes for later.

Afterwards, the girls wrote letters to themselves regarding their hopes and expectations for choir. These letters have been returned to those who participated in the retreat, which will allow them to reflect on all that has happened this year. Then it was back to fun and games including a singing battle between sopranos and altos, as well as the traditional Apples to Apples competition. After an evening of both recreation and reflection, the girls headed home to rest up for the next week of school and choir.

## Choral Social Events:

This year, the members of Women's Lit participated in a variety of social events and activities outside of choir, which helped form friendships and memories that show no signs of ceasing! Some consistent time spent together came in the form of Choir Dinners, which took place on the first Monday of each month in the glorious South Dining Hall. After walking over together from CoMo, everyone grabbed their chosen grub (which, in a pleasant turn of events, often included Indian food and mozzarella sticks options) and headed to the "Jesus table" at the "right right" end of the dining hall. Choir members bonded over broken bread throughout the year, as festive cupcakes and cookies sweetened the occasion of December's "Advent Gift Exchange" and some baklava livened up November's "GreekFest," which also included a screening of the modern-day cinematic classic *Mamma Mia!* In March, many of the choir members gathered to celebrate Mardi Gras with some King Cake and authentic decorations sent straight from Louisiana. A group also traveled to the University of Chicago in April to see and hear the acclaimed a capella group Anonymous Four perform live. All in all, this year saw many smiles and laughs come forth from the Women's Lit Choir. We're all looking forward to the end of the year dinner, when we can enjoy each other's company one last time and look back on all of the fun times we've shared together!

We do more than just sing together as a choir; rather, we foster the idea of community and camaraderie represented at Notre Dame.



## 2013-2014 WLC Graduate Assistants



Joseph Ciskanik studied music at an early age and began taking organ lessons at Woodberry Forest High School with the organist and choirmaster Wallace Hornady in Woodberry's St. Andrew's Chapel. He has earned a Bachelor's Music Degree in Organ Performance at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Professors Jeffrey Smith, Bruce Neswick, and primarily Janette Fishell. During that time, he has held church positions at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Fredericksburg, VA, Broadway United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, IN, First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Fredericksburg, and Trinity Episcopal Church in Bloomington, IN. Joseph also enjoys playing jazz, working with young learners, and singing in choirs. Currently, he is working on his Master's Degree in Sacred Music at Notre Dame University while playing organ for the Sacred Heart Basilica's Women's Choir and for First United Methodist Church in downtown South Bend.



Benjamin Stone is a student of Prof. Craig Cramer in the Organ Performance concentration of the Master of Sacred Music program. He holds a B.A., *summa cum laude*, from the University of Notre Dame where he majored in Organ Performance (Honors) and Theology, as a student of Profs. Cramer and Paul Walker. He was a finalist in the 2013 Arthur Poister Organ Competition in Syracuse, NY, and is a two-time recipient of the Dr. Gail L. Walton Memorial Scholarship for an undergraduate organist in the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir.

Ben currently works as a graduate assistant organist at Basilica of the Sacred Heart, where he is placed with the Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir, and sings in the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir, Basilica Schola, and Gregorian Chant Schola. A native of Potsdam, NY, he has served as organist at St. Mary's Church in Potsdam for the past six years, and as a staff accompanist at the Crane School of Music's annual summer youth camp, Crane Youth Music, for the past five.

In addition to his organ studies, Ben has worked extensively with early music. He frequently edits sacred vocal literature from original manuscript and printed sources, including a complete edition of Giacomo Carissimi's famous oratorio *Historia di Jephte*. He has also worked as an assistant with Prof. Mary Frandsen on her edition of sacred works by Vincenzo Albrici and Giuseppe Peranda for the German publisher *Denkmäler der Tonkunst in Dresden*, and on a forthcoming edition of the complete works of Sebastian Knüpfer with Prof. Paul Walker.

### Newly Elected Officer Board 2014-2015

- President: Morgen Anyan
- Vice President: Libby Wright
- Secretary: Alyssa McBride
- Treasurer: Beruchya Dao-Bai
- Tour Director: Emma Nalin
- Liturgical Commissioner: Erin Kolasinski
- Alumni Relations Commissioner: Yiji Zhang

Congratulations and best of luck! We know the choir is in capable hands, and we trust our new officers to lead WLC through a successful and productive year.



# Alumnae: Then and Now

We want to wish all of our seniors the best of luck in all their future endeavors! Though our time here at Notre Dame is coming to a close, we know that we have made memories to last a lifetime. The Women's Liturgical Choir will forever be in your debt for your service and dedication, and we hope that you will carry what you have learned from our ministry out into the world wherever you may be.



Marissa Bulso will be attending the Masters in Theological Studies Program here at the University of Notre Dame.



Nicole Creehan will be working for the William Heyer Architect firm in Columbus, Ohio where she will primarily be designing churches and other religious work.



Monica Rhee will be attending Pharmacy School in the San Francisco Bay area in California for four years.



Meghan Nicholas will be attending a one-year post-baccalaureate masters program. Afterwards, she plans to continue on to medical school.



Julia Steiner has been accepted for a summer internship in Dublin, Ireland to work in the online sport department at RTE, Ireland's national public broadcaster. Afterwards, she plans on finding work in the media industry in either the Chicago or Seattle areas.



Starting this September, Aubrey Zielinski will be working as an Application Developer at Technology Services Group in downtown Chicago, Illinois.



Teresa Gorman will be getting married soon after graduation. We extend her and her family congratulations and happy returns! Following the wedding, she will be living in Chicago, Illinois, where she will be looking for a job working with children that have special needs.

We were also fortunate enough to touch bases with one of our alumni Helen Padden, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame Class of 2012. Helen was kind enough to offer her words of wisdom regarding Women's Lit and share how being a member of WLC has impacted her life thus far:

“Looking back at my time at Notre Dame, I can say with certainty that singing in the Women's Liturgical Choir was one of the best, if not my absolute favorite experience of my four years at ND. Every week, I got to spend at least 5 hours doing what I love – singing – and I got to do it with a great group of ladies. Through all the rehearsals, Masses, Vespers, and football Saturdays, and the occasional extra services, I learned liturgical music and made many lasting memories and friendships. In addition to figuring out how to decipher all those squares and squiggles in the weekly Eucharistic chant, my four years as a member of the NDWLC taught me many

lessons that I take with me today.

Like any time-demanding club would, NDWLC taught me a lot of practical life lessons. For instance, by finding a way to show up, focused and ready to sing, to those Vespers services that were sandwiched between an already demanding week of choir and an upcoming week full of exams and/or papers, I learned the critical lesson of time management and the importance of following through on commitments. This skill is certainly helping me get through medical school. Still, the lessons I hold most dear from my time with the ladies (and Daniel) of WLC are those most closely intertwined with our ministry.

I learned that helping provide music at Mass is a truly valuable service to a church community, not just something I happen to enjoy doing. It is worth all the time spent practicing as a choir and all the anxiety inherent in singing alone to provide the congregation with quality

music that may enhance their experience of the Liturgy. In regards to ministry in life after Notre Dame, I know that leaving ND and the WLC can be tough. We've been so spoiled with great liturgy! Unfortunately, we cannot physically take the beautiful view from the choir loft or the sound of the entire choir with us after graduation; but, we can each bring our dedication, perfect Latin vowels, excellent diction, count-singing skills, and most importantly, our love of liturgical music and share it with our new communities, spreading the greatness of the Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir wherever we go. With this lesson now firmly planted in my heart, I have been volunteering as a choir member and cantor in my local parishes since graduation. I plan to be a life-long liturgical musician, and I hope some of you will do the same and help me spread the beauty of the NDWLC far beyond the confines of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.”

# Join us and learn more about the Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir!

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to everyone that contributed to the Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir this year, especially our alumnae. Without your support, NDWLC would not be nearly as successful, and we would have not been able to accomplish everything this past year. As always, we are very grateful for all donations contributed to our ministry, as they are necessary for us to share them with the community here, and around the country on tour. Donations can be sent to the Development Office at:

1100 Grace Hall  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

You can make checks payable to "Notre Dame Women's Liturgical Choir". Also, if you fill out an application for the alumni ticket lottery, you can specify that your donation be made to the choir.

Another way to support the choir, while enjoying angelic voices at the same time is by purchasing our CDs. We have a special offer on an edition of our CD "Lift Thine Eyes" composed of a variety of songs including Latin canticles. Order now and get a 50% rebate off our CD for an affordable \$7.50. We also have Albums with other Notre Dame Basilica choirs, namely, "Ave Maria", "Cantante Domine" as well as a remastered version of our CD "Lift Thine Eyes" available for \$15.

To purchase, please visit us at our website [wlc.nd.edu](http://wlc.nd.edu) under "Recordings"

We are always looking for new members to come and be apart of our organization! So, if you know anyone interested that can carry a tune and attends Notre Dame or St. Mary's, then please invite them to come and audition for the choir. Please contact Daniel Bayless at [dbayless@nd.edu](mailto:dbayless@nd.edu), as he will be accepting auditions year-round and there are plenty of open robes! You are also welcome to enjoy this video, compliments of Notre Dame Campus Ministry, highlighting the choir and its members, where you can really get a feel as to what being in NDWLC is all about!



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