December, 2000

Dear Readers,

As we hope you know by now, the Institute and several other entities at Yale have planned a major event for January 20-23, an event centered around the Psalms, as discussed by Biblical scholars, historians, theologians, health care professionals, and specialists in the arts and worship, and as performed by a variety of musical and worshiping forces.

One event in particular will combine both the scholarly and the musical dimensions of the project and I wish to direct your attention to it: on Monday evening, at United Church on the Green, theologian Serene Jones (Yale Divinity School) and historian Carlos Eire (Chair, Department of Religious Studies) will present lively discussions of John Calvin’s understanding of the Psalms and on life in Geneva during the his time. This will be followed by what will be an EXTRAORDINARY musical event: at 8:00 PM Mark Brombaugh, Music Director at United Church (YSM 77), will join forces with guest artist and organist William Porter of the New England Conservatory to lead a rousing community sing-in of metrical psalmody in the Dutch Reformed tradition. Here the congregation will be the choir, and the requirement is to make the walls of this beautiful sanctuary resound with the strains of this venerable tradition. Through an oversight, our last PRISM mailing left this event out, and yet it is particularly suited to the interests of our constituencies. Please make sure you mark it on your calendar of events, and that you use the updated pullout schedule enclosed. The United Church event is prominently featured on the conference brochure mailed earlier to you as well. I also want to take this opportunity to encourage early registration for the Psalmody conference, especially if you are planning on joining in our mealtime conversations. Limited seating is available! This is where our crunch, if we are to have one, will occur, and hence this appeal for early registration.

Please help us get the word out on this event! Please post the brochure in your churches or wherever it will attract attention. Please register and attend the conference! And please come to the public events and lend your voices to the joyful noise!

Warm best wishes for the Christmas season,

Margot E. Fassler, Director
PERFORMANCES

Saturday, January 20, 2001
8:15 pm, Woolsey Hall
The Yale Camerata and the Heritage Chorale
AMERICAN PSALMODY
Stephen Paulus, composer
Jonathan Buryman, conductor
Marguerite Brooks, conductor
featuring the premiere of a new psalm setting by Stephen Paulus commissioned for the occasion.

Sunday, January 21, 2001
8:00 pm, Battell Chapel
Musicians from Yale University and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH PSALMODY
Simon Sargon, composer
David Connell, conductor
Joyce Rosenzweig, conductor
Martin Iest, organist
featuring the premiere of a new psalm setting by Simon Sargon commissioned for the occasion.

Monday, January 22, 2001
8:00 pm, United Church on the Green
Congregational Psalm Sing in the Dutch Reformed Style
Mark Brombaugh, leader
William Porter, guest organist/improviser

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION:
ISSUES AT THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTHCARE AND FAITH

Tuesday, January 23, 2001
2:45 pm, United Church on the Green
Discussion by an Interfaith Panel of Hospital Chaplains
PSALMS IN LIFE AND DEATH
Kristen Leslie, chair, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling Yale University Divinity School
Rev. Peg Lewis, Director of Religious Ministries, Yale New Haven Hospital
Rabbi Steven Steinberg, Chaplain, Yale New Haven
Rev. Sandy Belcher, Chaplain, Hospital of St. Raphael

WORSHIP

Friday, January 19, 2001
8:15 pm, B'nai Jacob, Woodbridge
WORSHIP
Joshua Konigsberg, Cantor

Saturday, January 20, 2001
5:00 pm, Joseph Slifka Center
SE'UDAT SHELISHIT (Third Sabbath Meal) with SHIUR (Homily)
Margaret Moers Wenig
Sharon Cohen Anisfeld
followed by HAVDALAH (Ceremony marking the close of the Jewish Sabbath)

Sunday, January 21, 2001
10:00 am, Center Church on the Green
MORNING SERVICE FEATURING SHAPE-NOTE PSALMODY
Stephen Marini, leader

11:00 am, Christ Church
CHORAL WORSHIP
Robert Lehman, Music Director

12 noon, Church of St. Mary - Dominican Friars
SOLEMN MASS
Nicholas Renouf, Music Director

2:00 pm, Sacred Heart Church
SOLEMN MASS
Britt Wheeler and Nicholas Renouf, Music Directors

5:30 pm, Trinity Church on the Green
CHORAL EVENSONG
ellen Davis, preacher
Walden Moore, conductor
Thomas Murray, organist

10:00 pm, Christ Church
SUNG COMPLINE SERVICE (Night Prayers)
Robert Lehman, conductor