

*Singers in Accord with
Dr. David L. Mennicke*



Conflict & Contentment

Saturday, November 12 – 7:30 p.m.

**The Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
University of St. Thomas**

2115 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

Sunday, November 13 – 4:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church

1555 40th Ave. NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Singers in Accord will open its 2011-2012 concert season performing *Conflict & Contentment*, a contemplative journey through choral music that searches for peace and harmony in the midst of life's struggles. The chorale will sing under the masterful baton of Dr. David L. Mennicke, Director of Choral Studies and Music Chair at Concordia University, St. Paul.

"In a community, we find resolution by learning to live together in harmony," says Dr. Mennicke. "A choir is a wonderful living-out of that vision -- a community that struggles together through challenges, and reaches unity, contentment, satisfaction and resolution as a group."

This presentation of classical, spiritual and folk literature will include: Mozart's "Placido è il Mar"; Benjamin Britten's "A Wedding Anthem" (Amo Ergo Sum), with tenor and soprano soloists; "Psalm 90" written by Charles Ives for choir, organ and chimes; David Mennicke's lovely arrangement of "Down in the River to Pray"; and the wonderful King's Singers setting of "That Lonesome Road" by James Taylor. Powerful music by Brahms, Debussy, Monteverdi, Schütz, Kevin Siegfried and Moses Hogan will also be performed. The chorale will be joined by Bill Munson on piano and organ for both performances.

Both concerts are free. Donations will be welcomed at each performance to support the mission of Singers in Accord. For more information, please visit www.singersinaccord.org.

Singers in Accord CD Release!

Ignite the Spirit

Our first CD will be arriving very soon! People are still talking about the amazing collaboration of Singers in Accord with J.D. Steele, the MacPhail Community Youth Choir and Suzuki String Ensemble. If you missed this inspirational concert, or want to re-live the experience, you will soon have the opportunity to own this special recording.

Watch your email for complete CD release details. If you preordered a copy of *Ignite the Spirit*, you will be contacted soon for delivery options. CDs will be available for purchase at the *Conflict and Contentment* performances.

Singers in Accord Auditions

If you are a singer looking for a fun and welcoming ensemble to share your talents with, audition for Singers in Accord! SIA will conduct auditions upon request. Visit www.singersinaccord.org and click on the "Request an Audition" button for more information.

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Dr. David Mennicke

Dr. David L. Mennicke is in his 23rd year as Director of Choral Studies at Concordia University, St. Paul, where he is also Music Department Chair. During his tenure, the Concordia choirs have performed at state and regional conventions and with the Minnesota Orchestra. In 2000, he led Concordia's Christus Chorus at *Gaude Mater*, the annual international sacred music festival sponsored by the Polish government. In 2004, the Chorus was the choir-in-residence for Pentecost at the *St. Thomas Kirche* in Leipzig, Germany. They performed in the 2006 F. Melius Christiansen concerts at Minneapolis' Orchestra Hall along with four other Minnesota Lutheran college choirs. They held a concert/service tour of Ghana in 2008, and performed for the national conference of the College Music Society in 2010. They will be touring in South Korea in 2012.

Mennicke's degrees are from St. Olaf College and the University of Arizona. He has directed the Senior, Men's and Youth Choirs at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis since 1996.

He has been guest conductor/clinician for over 200 choral/vocal festivals, including the 1998 Minnesota All-State Children's Choir and the 2009 Minnesota All-State Men's Choir. A tenor soloist, he was in the Grammy Award-winning Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and is a section leader in the Minnesota Chorale, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorus, and the Minnesota Beethoven Festival Chorus. He has choral arrangements and articles published by Concordia, Morningstar, ALCM and AGEHR.

Singers in Accord

Singers in Accord is uniquely organized as a singer-led choral ensemble dedicated to exploring our humanity through performances of culturally diverse choral music. The group collaborates with a new conductor, performing artist or artistic ensemble in each concert to create distinctive concert experiences for its singers and audience members. Singers in Accord strives to enrich the cultural life of the community through outreach, education and innovative performances.