

Music Box

— APRIL 28, 2013 —

Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ

Morgenstimmung (Morning)

Op. 46 No 1..... Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Schmetterling (Butterfly) Op. 43

An den Fröling (To Spring)

Song Without Words

Op. 62 No. 6..... Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Frühlingsrauschen, Op. 32 No. 3Christian Sinding (1856-1941)

Beach Spring,

from The Sacred Harp, 1844..... arr. by Gilbert Martin

Spring

Nothing is so beautiful as Spring—

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;

Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush

Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring

The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;

The glassy pear tree leaves and blooms, they brush

The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush

With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.

What is all this juice and all this joy?

A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning

In Eden garden.

—Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

from "Spring," England

Melinda Coffey Armstead



**Painless and
Economical**

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money — here's what to do, Send an email to the office at: cif@mbay.net and ask Sherry to put you on the list. You will receive it early every week!

Address service requested

Church in the Forest
at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
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Monday morning, April 22, 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

Sunday we sang some hymns that probably were unfamiliar to most of the congregation. Except for musicologists who have stratospheric musical standards, the two hymns were enjoyable and, most surprising, happy hymns that came out of tragic events. In fact it is surprising how often hymns were “songs in the night” coming out of tragedy and sadness.

Of the two hymns, the most poignant was the hymn “There’s within my Heart a Melody.” The author and musician was Luther B. Bridgers. He was a young and talented evangelist. Started evangelizing when he was seventeen. In 1910, age 26 with a wife and three sons he took his family to his in-law’s home while on a preaching mission. Fire broke out in the home due to unknown causes and his wife and three sons were killed.

During the long recovery from this tragic event where he battled suicidal depression, he recalled the Bible’s promise that God would provide “songs in the night.” After slowly recovering from his grief, he wrote the hymn, “There’s within my heart a melody Jesus whispers sweet and low ‘Fear not I am with thee peace be still,’ In all of life’s ebb and flow.” The fourth stanza relates to his sadness, “Tho’ sometimes He leads thro’ waters deep, Trials fall across my way, Tho’ sometimes the path seems tough and steep, See His footprints all the way.” He remarried after four years and had a successful ministry as an evangelist for the Methodist Church.

The other hymn, “Sunshine in my Soul,” was written by Eliza E. Hewitt a bright and talented young woman. Born in 1851 in Philadelphia, she was valedictorian of her high school class. With career choices very limited for women, Eliza went into teaching.

While teaching at the curiously named *Northern Home for Friendless Children*, a tough guy student slammed a slate board across her back putting her into a cast for six months. When the cast was finally removed she took a walk on a beautiful sunny day and happy in the final release from said cast, she wrote, “There Is Sunshine in My Soul.” Her injuries had been severe enough to preclude her ever teaching and she wrote many hymns. Her gravestone reads simply “Eliza Hewitt, Hymnwriter, author of Sunshine in My Soul.”

Well, you’ve heard the old saying “When life hands you lemons, make lemonade.” Could rephrase it, “When living tears you up, write a hymn!”

See you in church,



Charles Anker

ANNOUNCEMENT: Just a reminder that the deadline for ordering plaques for the Memorial Garden wall this year is the Spring Breakfast, May 5. For more information please contact: Sherry St. Clair at the church office, Bob Janzen or Carol Sullivan.

Calendar

Sunday, April 28, 2013

8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Charles Anker.

Topic: The Letter to the Hebrews 6: 9-20. The Brighter Side: The Sure Hope

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Acts 14:8-18 ; Psalm 93:1-5; John 13: 31-35

Lector Ken Harrison

Crucifer Lupita Harrison

Flowers Al and Nadine Skonberg

Cookies Marilyn Kren and Mary McCary

Altar Care Martha Jordan

Ushers John Didone and Bob Janzen

Sermon The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title Tough and Tender

Sunday, May 5, 2013 — Spring Breakfast, 8:00 am — Reserve Now!