

# THE MORAVIAN MUSIC FOUNDATION

## Barbara Jo Strauss

You have made exceptional contributions to Moravian musical history and culture over more than four decades. Most recently you have served as Project Manager for GemeinKat, the Music Foundation's multi-year project to convert our catalog to online records. For twenty years prior to its realization, you held this up to the Foundation's board and staff as not merely a dream but a "big, hairy, audacious" goal. You have guided the process of the project; supervised the staff members; worked effectively with catalogers at Backstage Library Works and RISM; presented talks at regional and national library and musicology conferences as well as churches; and "blogged" about the project. Your extensive research on the Collegium Musicum Nazareth, has been an invaluable source for researchers for more than 40 years, continuing to the present day.

You served as Moderator for the Music Section of the Interprovincial Hymnal Committee from 1987 to 1995, working with the committee, the Hymn Society, and the wider church; making presentations at meetings of the Hymn Society, Moravian Music Festivals, the Music Library Association, and throughout the Northern and Southern Provinces. You were Chair of the 14<sup>th</sup> Moravian Music Festival and Seminar in Waukesha, Wisconsin. You served as a trustee of the Moravian Music Foundation from 1995 to 2000 and 2001 to 2009, steering the Foundation into the 21<sup>st</sup> century in technology as well as research.

Beyond the Moravian Church, in addition to online publications, you have published print articles in *Journal of Methodist History*, the *Moravian Music Journal*, *The Hymn*, and *Arizona Music News*.

For your passionate dedication to Moravian music past and present, your countless hours of humble service, and the joy you bring to the preservation, sharing, and celebration of Moravian musical culture, the Board of Trustees takes great pleasure, with heartfelt thanks, in presenting to you the

### MORAMUS AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO MORAVIAN MUSIC



President  
October 21, 2018



Director  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

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## Rebecca Lepore

You have been Director of Music and Organist at Central Moravian Church since 2002. You serve as Adjunct Faculty at Moravian College, and Organist and Choir Director for Moravian Theological Seminary, and you are a former University Organist at Lehigh University. You were previously Senior Organist at nationally televised Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, as well as an Assistant Grand Court Organist at the Wanamaker Organ in Philadelphia. You hold music degrees with distinction from the Curtis Institute of Music and Moravian College.

You have recorded 5 CDs at Central Moravian Church, three CDs with Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass, and one CD with the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church Choir.

Your compositions and arrangements for organ are published through Alfred Music Publications, MorningStar Music Publishers, and the Moravian Music Foundation. You are author and editor of *Praise & Thanksgiving for 275 Years of Music at Central Moravian Church*, published in honor of the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bethlehem Congregation.

You are a former Trustee of the Moravian Music Foundation and you were an effective and gracious Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 24<sup>th</sup> Moravian Music Festival in Bethlehem, July 2013.

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President



Director

May 6, 2018 Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

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## Susan Keck Foster

You have held numerous professional positions as accompanist, concert and church organist, and harpsichordist. You are a former faculty member at Shenandoah Conservatory, where you founded the Winchester Baroque Ensemble. You have accompanied many soloists and ensembles, including Magnolia Baroque, the Winchester Musica Viva, BachChor Ortenau in Germany, the Danville Choral Arts Society, and the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra Chorus. You have performed extensively in the eastern United States, Europe, and Mexico.

Your studies included degrees in organ and harpsichord performance and additional study in early music. You also hold the American Guild of Organists Colleague certification. While you are an acclaimed specialist in early music, you accompany gospel songs and play new music with confidence and panache.

As organist at Home Moravian Church, your musical activities go far beyond church music. You serve on the Board of the Greater Greensboro chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and on the Music@Home Concert Series planning committee, often accompanying guest soloists. You are a regular performer on the 1800 Tannenberg organ. You served as Rehearsal Accompanist and Festival Organist for the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Moravian Music Festivals. As pianist on the Moravian Music Foundation's recording *A Loving Home's a Happy Home*, you collaborated joyfully and beautifully with the singers.

You are known to be a gracious, encouraging collaborator, as a sensitive, open-minded person and accompanist, always seeking excellence and providing the precise levels, voicing, and balance to the singer or instrumentalist. Your service playing is very "Moravian" – it is foremost and always about the text.

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President



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July 28, 2017      Winston-Salem, North Carolina