

MUSIC

Music should be a given and developing part of our repertoire. Music is a reflection of who we are and what we consider to be important; it is the *most beautiful and most perfect way...of expressing a sweet concord of the mind according to Jonathan Edwards.*



The best, most beautiful, and most perfect way that we have of expressing a sweet concord of mind to each other is by music.
- Jonathan Edwards

My favorite music is probably folk music: folk music has its roots in Irish/Scottish ballads from the 1800's with stories and legends about people, events, love, war, and a full array of subjects of both human kind and experience. Folk music is taking a verse with possible rhyme and setting it to what I consider to be easily played chords on a guitar. I am sure that both my description and the notion of easily played chords is probably somewhat off, but I accept the error of my understanding and will just play on for the cause of those unsung, *want-ta'-be*, lovers of music.

I recently attended a 5th grade concert where the single instrument was a recorder: the kids are beginning their possibility in music and had prepared four songs for the concert; "Amazing Grace" and "All through the Night" were two of the classic pieces. Supported by a CD of background instrumentals, the recorders sounded fine and the students looked very proud despite momentary nervousness.

Music has a way of triggering a memory or a time or moment in our past lives: when I hear rock-in-roll from the early seventies, my thoughts return to Beaufort and living by the river; music from the late seventies reminds me of High School and that time period; and so on and so forth. In the recent concert, "All though the Night" reminded me of a cassette of baby-time sleeping music that was purchased in the early 90's for my children. Music not only reminds me of such moments but it is also identified with a movie or play for which the composition is a significant part. The classic *West Side Story*, as both a Broadway play and a movie, contained numerous Leonard Bernstein pieces to include: "Maria", "I want to an American", "Tonight" and much more.

Make music in your heart and let it sing and play with every part of your soul.

In a **WORD**