

Eric R. Riley
Organist/Conductor

Eric R. Riley is the Director of Music & Organist at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, a position he assumed in November of 2007. He is also Conductor of the Central PA Oratorio Singers, whose home is Market Square Church. In the summer of 2012 he began duties as Artistic Director of the Wheatland Chorale. Previously, he held the post of Director of Music/Organist at First United Methodist Church, Cleveland, Ohio for fourteen years. While in Ohio, Riley was Associate Artistic Director of Voices of Canton in Canton, Ohio and served as accompanist to the chorus and organist/harpsichordist with the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Canton, Ohio. Riley has held other church positions in Syracuse, NY, Nashville, TN and Richmond, VA.

Riley's recent performances include the Saint-Saens "Organ" Symphony (No. 3) with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra and conductor Stuart Malina, a dedication concert on the re-built organ at Camp Hill United Methodist Church, an all-Mendelssohn program at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Harrisburg, a Messiaen performance for *Market Square Concerts*, and a Bach Marathon performance for Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. The Harrisburg, PA *Patriot-News* called Riley's performance with the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra "...a stirring performance..." and went on to say, "...Riley was spot-on." (Sunday, October 3, 2010)

A veteran of multiple European performance trips, Eric Riley has performed in Italy for the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds, the International Festival of Choral Singing in Castiglione del Lago, the Festival of World Music in Perugia, CoroFest Umbria, the Assisi Music Festival, the Ravenna International Organ Festival at S. Vitale and *VOCIE ORGANI DELL'APPENNINO* in Bologna. Most recently he performed organ concerts in Linguaglossa and at the Cathedral in Caltanissetta on the island of Sicily, and conducted the Market Square Singers in concerts in Assisi, Florence, Lucca and Pistoia. After his concert in Lizzano, *il Resto del Carlino* in Bologna, Italy proclaimed, "Lizzano enchanted by Riley," and went on to say, "...from Vivaldi to Langelais, Riley enchanted the audience with magic at the organ." (Giovedì, 26 Giugno, 2008) In 1993 Eric Riley won Second Prize in the Flint International Organ Competition and was a finalist in the Naples International Organ Competition and the Fort Wayne National Organ Competition (USA). Eric Riley is a First Prize winner in the Arthur Poister Memorial Scholarship Competition (Syracuse, NY) and a two-time Poister Prize winner while at Syracuse University.

Riley is former conductor of Jubilate! Choral Ensemble in York, PA, the Walsh University Chorale in North Canton, Ohio and the Metropolitan Chorale of the Metropolitan School for the Arts in Syracuse, NY. His conducting and vocal instructors include Larry Doebler, G. Burton Harbison, Sandra Willetts, Daniel Pratt and Deborah

Montgomery. At the organ he has studied with Karel Paukert, Robert Parkins, Wilma Jensen and Will O. Headlee.

Riley holds the Master of Church Music degree in choral conducting and organ from Scarritt Graduate School (Vanderbilt University) in Nashville, TN and the Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance from Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY. He and his wife, Christine, live near Hummelstown, PA.