ABOUT THE MID-EASTERN FEDERATION OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS

The mission of our Greek Orthodox music ministry is to come before God’s presence in liturgical worship, leading the congregation in singing to the Lord with praise and thanksgiving. The Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians was established to provide an organized forum for all involved parties in Orthodox liturgical worship in the Metropolises of Detroit and Pittsburgh: clergy, chanters, choir directors, choir members, youth musicians, organists, composers, and arrangers.

The purpose of the Federation is to help parishes develop their church music programs by presenting training programs, providing resources, offering assistance, and awarding scholarships.

All the parishes of the Detroit and Pittsburgh Metropolises are members of the Mid-Eastern Federation. We ask each parish to make an annual stewardship contribution. This stewardship covers all church musicians in the parish: clergy, choir directors, singers, organists, chanters, and church school music leaders.

The business of the Federation is conducted by the Executive Board throughout the year. The full Federation Council meets twice a year, once in the Spring and at the July convention to make specific and major decisions. Ideally, each parish should send at least one representative to these meetings.

MEFGOX is the oldest continuing Greek Orthodox church music federation in the Archdiocese of America.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Federation President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Immediate Past President
Metropolis Liaisons
Metropolis Spiritual Advisors
State Representatives:
Arkansas / Tennessee
Indiana / Kentucky
Outstate Michigan
Detroit Metro
New York
Northeast Ohio
Northwest and South Ohio
Central Pennsylvania
Western Pennsylvania
West Virginia

Metropolis Youth Music Coordinators
Scholarship Trustees Chair
Byzantine Echo Editor
Stewardship Chair

MEFGOX.ORG

“MEFGOX” is the acronym for the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, under the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Metropolises of Detroit and Pittsburgh.
THE MID-EASTERN FEDERATION OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS

NEWSLETTERS
The Federation publishes a newsletter, *The Byzantine Echo*, and distributes it electronically via email and the Web. The *Echo* provides updates about Federation activities and upcoming events, articles on musical and spiritual topics, photos of people and events, news from member parishes, and free sheet music.

COMPUTER AND ONLINE RESOURCES
Our Internet website is mefgox.org, offering up-to-date information about the Federation including newsletters, leadership contact information, photo galleries, and web links. The Federation has a Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MERGOX. In addition, MEGFOX keeps a database of all current parishes, clergy, choirs, choir directors, organists, chanters, and members.

MUSIC RESOURCES
MEFGOX serves as a resource for music that may be needed for the Divine Liturgy, feast days, the visitation of a hierarch, various services, sacraments, and other occasions.

CHANTERS
MEFGOX has a network of formally educated chanters who can assist member churches with instruction, resources, and other needs, available in English and Greek, and in Byzantine and modern staff notation.

ANNUAL CONVENTION
The Mid-Eastern Federation has held an annual convention in mid-July since 1948 at various host churches throughout the Metropolises of Detroit and Pittsburgh. Workshops, Church Music Institutes, social events, and fellowship activities are featured at every convention. In addition to the Divine Liturgy, we have celebrated Vespers, Orthros, and Paraklesis services.

CHURCH MUSIC ASSISTANCE
MEFGOX offers assistance and resources to member parishes in the areas of youth music, choir development, chanter training, and other needs. In addition to those offered at the convention, Church Music Institutes and instructional workshops are held at various parishes throughout the year.

YOUTH MUSIC
MEFGOX encourages the development of youth choirs and hymnology instruction in church schools. Workshops are held to assist parishes in forming youth music programs. The youth are invited to participate in our annual conferences.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships are awarded annually to young people who are active church musicians in their parishes and who wish to continue their music studies. Scholarships are also available to adults who want to improve their directing, chanting, vocal, or accompanying skills.

AWARDS PROGRAMS
MEFGOX presents the National Forum’s Patriarch Athenagoras Award to individuals who have given outstanding service to their Metropolis and their parishes. Individual choir members attaining landmark years of service are recognized as well.

NATIONAL FORUM
All church musicians have a voice in the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, which is the official music ministry of the Archdiocese. Our Federation is an integral part of the Forum’s governance, and its representatives attend and vote at annual Forum meetings. The National Forum provides partial funding for the Federation’s Church Music Institutes, helps Federation leadership and parishes, publishes a variety of resources to assist local parishes, and is a direct voice to our Archdiocese in matters related to church music.

STEWARDSHIP AND PATRONS
MEFGOX is primarily funded by annual stewardship contributions from parishes. Also, a “Patrons of the Federation” program has been established as an opportunity for individuals to provide further financial assistance in support of our mission and activities.

For more information and the latest contact list of phone numbers and addresses, see mefgox.org.