

“SON”SHINE
Newsletter



Special Edition

Celebrating
Brian Conover's
30th Anniversary
As Church Musician

Reformation Lutheran Church
633 S. New York Road
Galloway, NJ 08205
609-652-8431
<https://www.rlc.church/>
8:30 & 10:00 am Church Service
Sunday School 10 am
Rev. Heidi Link, Pastor
Brian Conover, Music Director
Stacie Krouse, Church Secretary

A Little More About Brian...

Brian first started performing at the age of 5, one of those performances being at the Mother-Daughter Banquet of Reformation Lutheran Church at the Dutch Barn (eventually the Ram's Head Inn), where he was paid two crisp, new one-dollar bills (his first "professional" appearance!)

The performing bug continued to grow, and soon he was singing on Al Alberts' Showcase on 6abc in Philadelphia, and spending his summers as part of Tony Grant's Stars of Tomorrow on the Steel Pier in Atlantic City. He continued to sing and act at Atlantic City Friends High School, where he won acting awards at theatre festivals at the Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, PA.

He graduated from NYU with an MFA in Musical Theatre, joined Actors Equity (the professional stage performers union), and toured in many theatre productions early in his career, most notably as Mr. Toad in "The Wind in the Willows".

He acted locally at the Gateway Playhouse in Somers Point, playing The Artful Dodger in "Oliver!" while in high school, and Hero in "A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to the Forum" right out of college. He also became a familiar face as a performer and emcee of dozens of Miss America Preliminary Pageants in Atlantic and Cape May Counties, and even performed several times at the Miss New Jersey Pageant.

He moved back to Galloway from New York to get married and start a family, where he taught private singing and acting at Encore Performing Arts Academy, while playing music at the church he grew up in, Reformation Lutheran! Brian landed a job teaching Drama and Music in the Galloway Township Public Schools, where he has taught for 29 years, having directed nearly 60 drama productions and nearly as many choir concerts at the Middle School!

He also works with the Emanon Players of Absegami as Music Director; has music directed many productions for the New Millennium Players; plays music in restaurants and other venues throughout South Jersey, either solo or with his band, Hawkins Road; works with Cadence Music, a music production facility in Galloway; is the writer and voice of many area radio jingles; has narrated over 2 dozen audiobooks; is the voice of the Capital Area Emmy Awards (Baltimore/Washington Region); and writes and records original music.

Brian's current project is as the music and lyrics writer of a new musical, "A New London Christmas Carol", a modern version of the Dickens classic, that will be produced this December at the Gateway Playhouse in Somers Point. (Bio Credit: www.brianconover.com.)



"Next to the WORD of God, MUSIC is the greatest gift." –Martin Luther

**O God of majesty,
whom saints and angels delight to worship:
pour out your Spirit on your servant, Brian,
who, with the gifts of music,
enlivens our praises and
proclaims your word with power.
Through his ministry give us new awareness
of your beauty and grace,
and join our voices in joy and thanksgiving,
with all the choirs of heaven,
both now and forever;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(“Prayer for Church Musicians” ELW page 74)**



Pastor Glenn saying grace.

30 Years Blessed! Celebrating Brian!

30 years blessed



A Moment of Gratitude...

For those who helped make it a great celebration: Susan Charles, Diane Bianchini, Mary and Al Chamberlain, Ruth & Kirk Bye, Lori and Steve Wilkins, Lila Johnston, Stacie Krouse, Susan Jensen, Curtis Hinmon, Robyn Mayo, Jeff & Ginny Pattison, and Pr. Heidi. Shout Out to Celina's Mulberry Market & Grille for the awesome food!

