**The Synod Senior Band**

   Established by director Emmett Stark in May of 2005, with an initial membership of 19 band musicians, the Synod Senior Band has grown to a symphonic band numbering 95 members. When the band was begun, the Minneapolis Synod agreed to endorse the group as an ancillary organization. As such, the band is financially independently-supported through donations, but enjoys Synod promotional backing and record-keeping.

   The band rehearses during the months of April through October, hosted by Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park. The band then schedules performances from May through October, and is open to invitations for the 2017 season. The band's mission is to "make music with and for seniors," and the band endeavors to schedule programs primarily for senior organizations and churches, in venues which are indoors. Any church or senior organization interested in hosting the band for a program is asked to contact Emmett Stark at charandems@centurylink.net.

   Band membership is open to anyone playing a band instrument, and who has the hours open for rehearsals, which are held on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.. Anyone interested is welcome to join the group; auditions are not required. Simply contact Emmett Stark for further information. Members range in age from 50 to 93, and all ages are welcome.The band plays all styles of music, and membership is very diversified.

   If you are interested in attending one of the band's nine performances during the 2016 season, please contact Mr. Stark for a concert schedule.