## Dr. Laura Bell

Dr. Laura Bell has been the principal organist, pianist and accompanist for Montgomery United Methodist Church in Montgomery, NJ, since 2001. She has served as accompanist for other singing organizations including the Princeton Girl Choir and the Starlite Chorale. Dr. Bell has performed with orchestras and choirs, chamber music and solo concerts in Boston, Los Angeles, France and all over New York and New Jersey. Dr. Bell has made 2 CD's in the last 6 years of solo piano music.

Dr. Laura Bell earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance with high honors from New England Conservatory of Music in 1985 followed by a Master of Music in Piano Performance from University of Southern California in 1987. She received a Doctorate of Musical Arts from Rutgers in 1997.

Dr. Bell has combined her love of teaching and her love of performance throughout her career. Dr. Bell taught at Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey for 13 years. She founded and ran <u>Dr. Bell's School of Music</u>, teaching piano for 25 years. She also organized the New Jersey Piano Festival, and was a founding member of NJ Pianist Competition. She has taught piano and was the featured teacher at the Calgary Arts Summer School Association in Canada in 2007 and 2008 and plans to return.

For the last 13 years Dr. Bell has been a public school music teacher and choir director in Montgomery Township, NJ. She is certified as an Art and Music Supervisor. She has had many student teachers and has found a great joy developing and encouraging a new generation of teachers.