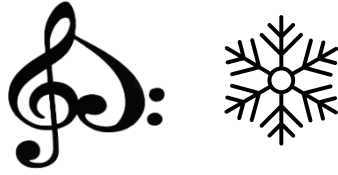


The Emmaus Chorale



January 2022

Dear Emmaus Chorale Singers ~

In the spirit of the new year and looking forward in hope, we are planning to resume practice on **March 8, 7 pm at Faith Presbyterian!** I hesitate to use that word *resume* because we might not simply pick up where we left off. The world has changed...not to mention that we all are a bit older, a bit out of practice, and maybe even out of tune! However, we *definitely* are looking forward to seeing you all!

Remember, for the safety of all our singers (most of whom are or are approaching that venerable age of wisdom!), we are requiring:

- Proof of full vaccination (including a booster)
- Masking (KN95 or N95.)
- Socially distanced seating

As someone who often has found the Spirit in the collective voices of choral singing, I never thought there would be a time in my life when this simple pleasure would be taken away. And yet, here we are, two years into this pandemic. If we have wept in our isolation & on-going illness, we will weep again with joy, gladness and thankfulness when we can lift our voices together -- **We will indeed *Rise Up Singing!***

Janet is planning to use the same repertoire she selected for Spring 2020, including “Why We Sing,” “How Can I Keep from Singing?” “With a Song in My Heart,” “It’s a Grand Night for Singing,” etc. So, start looking now for where you stashed your music folder back in March 2020!

Dues will be \$35 this spring semester. Those of you who already paid your Spring semester dues back in March 2020, will not be asked to ‘round up’ – this increase applies only those who have not yet paid or new members.

In the meantime, I’ve been doing informal benchmarking with several music groups and non-profits in the area, trying to gather new ideas but also to add to our Leadership Team/Advisory Board. Janet and I have continued to work with our ‘carry-over’ Leadership Team – Nancy Keeler, Suzanne Seem, Louise Schaefer, & Phyllis Gruber, but we are stretched more than

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thinly! ***If*** we are to live up to our goals as described on our website:

- A chorus of forty experienced singers drawn from throughout the Lehigh Valley
- Founded...to provide residents of Emmaus...and the surrounding areas with an informal opportunity to sing fine music from a wide range of styles and musical forms
- To enrich our communities through the art of music and song

then, we all need to contribute our ideas talents, & skills to the Emmaus Chorale. ***If you would like to join the Leadership Team or know of someone outside of Chorale who might be interested in joining an Advisory Board, please let us know!***

As we discussed in an earlier newsletter, we also would like to explore singing more than one concert each semester, alternate venues, etc. You will recall that we sang at Luther Crest and hope to return there. We welcome your ideas and input!

AND I promised Anna Mary Milot to share with you that the LCCC (Lehigh Carbon Community College) choir which has been on pause is also looking to resume. They practice at the college on Monday evening, so there is no conflict with our rehearsals. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Anna Mary at 610-767-8337 or amm.ajm@verizon.net.

Bring your music, your vaccination records, your mask, your smile (we'll see it in your eyes!!), your voice, & your enthusiasm...March 8, 7pm...and bring another singer with you!!

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