

The Emmaus Chorale



February 2022

Dear Singers & Friends of the Emmaus Chorale ~

After reviewing the responses to our most recent survey, and in consultation with Janet and the Leadership Team, we again are postponing our restart until the fall. Following up on the online survey results, members of the Leadership Team called all those on our distribution list who had not yet responded. The majority of our singers indicated they are not comfortable returning at this time.

We consulted with some medical professionals who also advised us to wait. We all must make judgments about risks and benefits of any activity; for example, how much do I want or need to do a certain activity? What is my expected exposure (indoors or outdoors, duration)? Then there are risk factors because of age, obesity, diabetes, immunocompromised and pre-existing conditions.

I know, from your emails and phone calls, that several of you will be very disappointed, but we are not alone in delaying our resumption. Despite the encouraging declines in Covid infection rates, many churches still are without choirs. The class I teach at Muhlenberg College remains mostly virtual for the spring semester.

You may recall that Janet also is the director of another community choir. They had a singer's meeting last week to see how many were interested in resuming rehearsals; this choir has no vaccination requirement but does require singer's masks. Only nine out of 41 showed up after numerous surveys and invitations to attend, and they all agreed to postpone restarting until the fall.

I remain hopeful that we will be able to resume in the fall, (maybe after another booster?) and look forward to a festive Christmas concert with you! Hold on to that thought!!

Stay well & be safe!

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