

Welcome to the 2021 – 22 Joyful Choral Season

We are looking forward to a year of Joyful singing. The guiding principles for the fall season are:

1. The safety of our singers and musicians is a top priority. For this reason, all rehearsals are offered both in-person and on zoom. Singers who choose to participate in-person must provide proof of vaccination, wear a mask and be appropriately distanced from other singers.
2. The Joyful choral experience will be as enjoyable and rewarding as possible. That means providing a rich learning experience for singers, and continuing to nurture our Joyful community.
3. As always, we will roll with the punches and stay flexible. If conditions change, we are ready to adjust the format of our programming.

Will There Be Concerts?

Yes! We are planning two concerts over the next four months. The first will be an online *Remembrance Day concert* the evening of November 11. The performance will include Joyful singers and special guests. More details to follow.

Our second concert, *A Celebration of Christmas*, the afternoon of December 12, is a flexible, in-person event (confirmation and pandemic conditions permitting) taking place at City Hall. All Joyful singers are invited to sing in the Christmas concert.

Can We Sing In-Person at Rehearsals?

The short answer is yes, but rehearsals won't look anything like what we were accustomed to before covid.

We will have rehearsals on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, and each evening will have its own character. Singers will register in their "home choir" and are invited to attend other rehearsals during the week at no extra cost. You can design a choir experience that works best for you. Here are your options:

Mondays – at Southminster - Steinhauer United Church and on Zoom

This is the only evening when you will have the option to sing in a "large" group. The rehearsal will be divided into 3 segments and each segment will include repertoire for our Christmas concert:

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| 7:00 – 7:40 p.m. | will be similar to a typical Wednesday choir rehearsal |
| 7:55 – 8:40 p.m. | will be similar to a typical Monday choir rehearsal |
| 8:50 – 9:30 p.m. | will be similar to a typical Thursday choir rehearsal |

Singers are invited to attend in person or on Zoom. Those wishing to participate in-person must provide proof of vaccination and sign up in advance. You can choose to participate in the whole evening, or just the segments that are most relevant to you. In

between the segments, in-person singers will have a break outside the building so the air exchange can take place.

Wednesdays – at storefrontstudio and on Zoom

7:30 – 9:30 p.m. There will be space for a limited number of in-person participants. Priority will be given to Wednesday choir members and singers are required to provide proof of vaccination and sign up in advance.

Thursdays – at storefrontstudio and on Zoom

The focus on Thursdays will be more in-depth preparation for the Christmas concert. There will be 2-segments covering different repertoire:

7:00 – 7:30 p.m. warm-up and singing all together

7:40 – 8:10 p.m. small group sectionals

8:20 - 8:50 p.m. warm-up and singing all together

9:00 – 9:30 p.m. small group sectionals

Singers who provide proof of vaccination can sign up to attend segments with the relevant repertoire. If the demand for in-person participation is high, we will use a roster system to give everyone a chance to participate.

Key Points

- We will sing together again!
- Singers will have the option of participating in-person or on Zoom.
- If you attend on zoom you can attend as many choir rehearsals as you would like.
- If you want to sing in-person, you can attend any segment(s) of the Monday rehearsal. You can also sign up to attend Wednesday choir rehearsals and Thursday group sessions.
- All singers who choose to sing in-person must provide proof they are fully vaccinated before signing up.
- All singers who participate in-person must wear masks, socially distance, and sign a waiver.
- Rehearsals are divided into segments to allow for air exchange throughout the evening.

We hope you will enjoy exploring these flexible rehearsal and concert formats to find a choir experience that is truly Joyful!