



HOUSTON LUTHERAN CHORALE

HLC Newsletter

November 2018

From the President's Desk

The Houston Lutheran Chorale has been going way back in time for our most recent concerts. Last Christmas we presented "Gloria," a familiar and popular piece among the sacred works written by Vivaldi in Latin around 1715. This past 4th of July we went back in time to hymns from the old-time revival period. I hope that all who came to the concert and stayed for the food and fellowship afterward enjoyed their time with us.

This year in our Christmas concert series we will go way back in time again to present one of the best-known works of music usually presented during the Christmas season - "Messiah." It is an English-language oratorio written by George Frideric Handel in 1741. All of the words in the work are taken directly from scripture. Part I selections, which we will present, tell of the prophecies and the event of the Nativity. The Hallelujah Chorus, from Part II, tells of God's glory as demonstrated by His resurrection and ascension. Other more contemporary Christmas music will also be presented.

Mark these dates on your calendar. There will be three opportunities to attend the Christmas concerts. The first concert will be on Friday evening, November 30 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church. The second concert will be on Saturday evening, December 1 at Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy. The last concert will be on Sunday afternoon, December 2 at Trinity Lutheran Church - Downtown.

We invite you to come celebrate and praise God with us. We thank all of those who have supported us over the years with their prayers and generous donations. We really appreciate all those who have attended our concerts even during times of hurricane recovery and street flooding, and we will miss many of those who have gone on to sing in the heavenly chorus.

Please come and enjoy this year's concert, and consider singing with us in the future.

Sincerely,
Robert Heth, President

"We invite you to come celebrate and praise God with us. We thank all of those who have supported us over the years with their prayers and generous donations."

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“Unto Us A Child Is Born”

For the first time in many years the Houston Lutheran Chorale will perform selections from Handel’s “Messiah” as part of our annual Christmas concerts. The title of this year’s Christmas concerts is “Unto Us A Child Is Born” because it represents the hope that we receive during this time of the church year. In “Messiah” we hear the prophecies of the Messiah’s imminent coming, we are told that God will purify His people to prepare them for His coming, we revisit the story of the Annunciation and the Nativity, and we end this portion of the concerts with the glorious “Hallelujah!”. The second half of the concerts will feature contemporary selections such as “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”, “See Amid the Winter’s Snow”, “Glow”, and “We Wish You A Merry Christmas”. These concerts offer a mix of classic and contemporary Christmas music that everyone will enjoy.

Many thanks to all the people who helped to make our Fourth of July Concert a tremendous success. In spite of the rain and floods which caused many downtown activities to be canceled, we performed at 6:00 as scheduled. Attendance was good and almost everyone stayed for the hotdog supper afterwards. To all of the wonderful Chorale members and their family members who worked so hard to provide the concert and the supper, I cannot thank you enough. The dedication of our members to this organization continues to amaze and humble me. There are Chorale members who drive from Huntsville and Angleton to attend rehearsals and concerts. Our Board members meet every month to discuss and plan for the Chorale’s business (which is considerable!). And there are so many Chorale members who work behind the scenes to make sure that everything runs smoothly. To all of you, both past and present Chorale members, I offer my deepest and most sincere appreciation. You make my job so much easier and such a pleasure. I thank God for you every day.

Please plan to support the Chorale with your presence at one of our three concerts and through your financial support as well. We are very good stewards of the gifts that we have received, and there are many expenses involved in producing the quality concerts that we all expect. The Chorale has been rehearsing since August to perform this wonderful music. Come to hear once again the glorious message of Christmas as we proclaim God’s Word through music that “Unto Us A Child Is Born!”.

In His Service,
Kerry Talley, Director

Who Are We?

The Houston Lutheran Chorale is comprised of singers from multiple Lutheran congregations throughout the greater Houston area. Our members come from as far away as Huntsville and Galveston to sing praises to Our Savior and bring His message to all. We range in age from 80+ to teenagers. Few have had formal training, most of us are folks who just like to sing. Kerry is patient with us and has been teaching as well as directing.

We have become a family sharing happy and sad times. We hope you will consider joining us in the spring.

sfpetersen@sbcglobal.net



4th of July Concert - a Huge Success

Over 300 concert goers celebrated the 4th of July, 2018, with us as we joined in song and patriotic fanfare. Concert goers arrived despite the rain. Chorale members arrived at the last minute praying we weren't looking at another "Harvey". Decorations were put up in a scant 30 minutes but all was ready by concert time.

The concert emphasized music of our heritage: hymns, gospel and folk songs. We enjoyed having the congregation join us in singing old favorites, as we always do. The highlight was the posting of the colors of the various branches of the services while we sang their songs. What a thrill to see the veterans rise for the salute to their particular branch and for us to be able to give them a round of applause in addition to their songs.

After the concert we gathered in the gym for our annual hot dog/Frito pie feast. Many thanks to Carol Cantello for her leadership organizing the event. Thanks to all who assisted and helped pay for this activity. It is a highlight of the evening. It seems people especially like the ice cream we have. It went fast, no leftovers.

Put it on your calendar for 2019 and bring a friend.

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

If you are looking for opportunities to donate in support of the Houston Lutheran Chorale, here are two that you may not have thought of:

Thrivent—Choice Dollars: Just sign in to Thrivent, go to Choice Dollars. To choose the charity, type in Houston Lutheran Chorale. Then either select the entire amount of your choice dollars or enter a different amount.

Amazon Smile—Sign into Amazon in this way:
<http://smile.amazon.com> After signing in, towards the top left of center you should see SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION in orange. At that point enter Houston Lutheran Chorale. After that every time you sign in to <http://smile.amazon.com>, Houston Lutheran Chorale should show up as the supporting organization. A small percentage of your purchase will then be donated to the Houston Lutheran Chorale.

Houston Lutheran Chorale
800 Houston Avenue
Houston, TX 77007

Unto Us A Child is Born

November 30, 2018

St. Timothy Lutheran

14225 Hargrave Rd.

Houston, TX 77070

7:30 PM

December 1, 2018

Memorial Lutheran—Katy

5810 2nd Street

7:30 PM

December 2, 2018

Trinity Lutheran -

Downtown

800 Houston Ave

4:00 PM

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