HOUSTON LUTHERAN CHORALE

HLC Newsletter

From the President's Desk

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

This is how the Declaration of Independence begins. In 1776, a group of men gathered to sign that Declaration and by doing so, a nation was born. They commissioned a flag for the newly established country – 13 alternating red and white stripes and 13 white stars on a field of blue. Over the years, both our country and that flag have gone through many changes and challenges. But, by the Grace of God, for nearly 250 years they have endured and will continue, by His will, for centuries to come.

In 1985, another group of individuals gathered. Thankfully, there was less drama, intrigue and danger for that group as they established the Houston Lutheran Chorale. Director Metford Mountford led a group of singers whose mission was to "Spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through song and music." Like our country and flag, the Chorale has seen its share of challenges and changes. But God's will and favor prevailed and the Chorale continues to spread the Gospel today.

We are very excited to announce that we will be celebrating our 40th anniversary next year in 2025! We are just in the beginning planning stage, so stay tuned for announcements. We know that we would like to see former Chorale members join us on the risers to sing some wonderful music and help us celebrate this amazing milestone. We will be celebrating all year, with something special for next July 4th. Then we'll wrap up our year-long celebration with an even bigger festivity for Christmas 2025! "Like our country and flag, the Chorale has seen its share of challenges and changes. But God's will and favor prevailed and the Chorale continues to spread the Gospel today." Sheri Fryer, President

In This Issue

- From the President's Desk
- Our Faith and Freedom
- Who We Are
- Service Awards
- Opportunities to Give
- Email Communications





Our Faith and Freedom...

What comes to mind when you hear this title? Many things perhaps? We, as Americans, know the meaning of "freedom." We are a free society. We respect our freedoms. We fight for not only ours, but those whose freedoms are threatened. We cherish our freedoms.

What of faith? The Holy Spirit grants, nourishes and grows our faith. Faith is an ongoing, active part of the Christian's life. We find comfort, strength, courage, joy, etc. in our faith.

Our Patriotic concert theme this year is "Our Faith and Freedom." Our music reflects how faith and freedom come together. Through faith, we are free. Through faith, we praise and honor our God. Through faith, we have the courage to fight the evils of this world. Through faith, we find comfort in our sorrows and defeats.

As the Houston Lutheran Chorale approaches its 40th anniversary, we have faith for the next 40 years of what the Lord may bring us. And, we have the freedom to share our music with all those who hear.

May God continue to bless the Chorale and in turn be a blessing to our communities. "Our Faith and Freedom!"

Blessings, Jeff Armstrong, Director





Who We Are...

The Houston Lutheran Chorale is comprised of singers from multiple congregations throughout the greater Houston area.

Formal musical training is NOT required, and we would welcome anyone interested in singing to join us next fall! Our first rehearsal will be Sunday, August 18th, 2:00-5:00 PM, at Trinity Lutheran Church-Downtown.

Keep up with us on our website.



Christmas Concert December 2023—Memorial Katy —photo by Deb Buck

From the President's Desk...

(continued from page 1)

So, we encourage you to join us as we thank God for 40 years of singing the Gospel and pray for many decades more. To borrow from the last line of the Declaration of Independence, "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence," we boldly go forth to proclaim His Word.

God's Blessings to you and yours! Sheri

2024 Member Anniversary Awards

Members who are celebrating milestone anniversaries and will receive service pins at our annual awards luncheon in June:

- 5 years: Anthony Humphrey
- 10 years: Jonathan Nelson, September Nelson
- · 25 years: Linda Elmore

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Donations can be made to the Chorale through Thrivent Choice Dollars. Thrivent lets eligible clients with membership choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year. Eligibility is based on a client's insurance premiums and contract values. Learn more about Thrivent Choice and direct your Choice Dollars by logging into your account on the Thrivent website <u>https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice</u>.

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

If you would like to receive our newsletter and other communications via email, please send your name, mailing address, and email address to us at publicrelations@hlc-tx.org

