



crescendo!

come grow with us

October 8, 2009 Issue No. 66

Friends,

Thanks for last Sunday

Spiritually and musically, I sense that we are in a wonderful groove. Every week we are blessed to experience genuine worship in the house of the Lord. Choir, you are making a difference. Your presence means a lot; your ministry is effective. Thank you.

Thanks to Misty!

Our thanks to Misty Miller for directing the rehearsal last week and the anthem on Sunday. Misty is serving as the associate director of our choir this year and we appreciate the many ways in which she serves.

I have rescheduled when we will sing Psalm 24

Psalm 24, by John Ness Beck, is our "monster number" of the fall. I had originally scheduled it to be sung on October 11 but some of our men will be gone to the Men's Retreat this week. So, we'll postpone it to the next week, October 18. That will also give us one more week to rehearse the song.

Christmas 2009

Our first rehearsal for Christmas will be next Thursday, October 15 (our regular rehearsal), followed by a one-day retreat on Saturday, October 17 from 9-12.

As we did last year, we will prepare a special music booklet containing the Christmas songs. **Before you take a copy make sure you can commit to the program which will be Saturday, December 12 at 5 p.m.** You will also receive a CD of the music.

String Scholarship Program

Thanks to those who have contributed to the String Scholarship Program. It is making a difference. If you would like to contribute, make your checks payable to SCC and clearly mark them "String Scholarship Program."

Field Trip

Our next field trip together will be Saturday, October 31. We will have a guided tour of the new Cowboy's stadium from 10-11:15 and then have lunch together in Grapevine at my retreat center. The tour is \$12 and the lunch will be \$12. Spouses are invited. It will be a great time together. If you would like to participate, contact Jean.

Key Choir Dates

- October 17 (Saturday)–Christmas Retreat at church
- November 21 (Saturday)–Christmas concert rehearsal
- December 8 (Tuesday)–Choir and orchestra rehearsal
- December 12 (Saturday) –Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra Christmas Program
- May 15 (Saturday) – Spring Concert

Field Trip to NYC

Next spring, we'll journey together to the greatest city in the world - New York City. If you are interested in getting more information, pick up an information sheet tonight. On Thursday, October 22, following rehearsal we will meet to solidify the date of the trip.

Sanctuary Choir Does Not Sing...

Sanctuary Choir Does Not Sing on November 29, and December 6. But please note: we rehearse every Thursday this fall except for Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26.

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Prayer Requests and Praises

Please e-mail your requests to Jean Allen no later than Wednesday at noon—JeanA@Stonebriar.org.

Lynn Maria Grubbs is in Medical Center McKinney. She had surgery yesterday and should have biopsy results next week. The cause of her intestinal issues is unknown.

Howell Cobb (father-in-law of choir member Jim Cowles) has been hospitalized 14 days since his surgery, which is longer than normal. He has had a clear fluid accumulation in his abdomen which has pressed against his lungs making breathing laborious. His white cell count is high, so he's on antibiotics.

Jean Fulmer had a spinal injection on Friday to relieve back pain. If this does not work, the next step is to do the cauterizing of the nerves to deaden pain. Pray for safe and pain-free travels as she will be vacationing the rest of the month.

Ellen Connor asks for prayer for her family over the next two weeks as they are split between the Mississippi State Fair booth and normal business during Fall Pilgrimage.

Audition procedures for the small ensemble for Messiah

1. The ensemble will be limited to 25-29 voices.
2. The audition committee will be comprised of Don McMinn, Misty Miller, Rhonda Rom, and Francey Kelso.
3. Everyone is invited to audition.
4. The main things we are looking for are:
 - A. Ability to sing melismatic passages (see audition examples)
 - B. Ability to blend with a small group of voices
 - C. Accuracy of pitch and rhythm
5. The soloists will also sing in the ensemble.
6. Auditions will be held:
 - A. Thursday, Oct. 8, 6:30–7 & 9–9:45 p.m.
 - B. Thursday, Oct. 15, 6:30–7 & 9–9:45 p.m.
 - C. Saturday, Oct. 17, 12–1
(after special rehearsal)

The next two dates are only as needed.

- D. Thursday, Oct. 22, 6:30–7 & 9–9:45 p.m.
- E. If needed, Sunday, Oct. 18, 11:45–12:15

Sign up for a five minute slot on the clipboard outside the rehearsal room.

Tonight's Rehearsal

Immortal Invisible – for October 11

Psalms 24 – for October 18

Joyful, Joyful – for October 25

The King of Love – for October 25

Coronation – for November 1

Festival Piece – men only, for November 8

Also in your folder:

Ancient Words

Guests and New Members

We had three visitors in choir last week:

Bonnie Mays, Kathy Richards, and Calvin Stoltzfus.

Important Church Dates

October 18—SCC 11th Anniversary

October 23—Fall Festival, 6-9 p.m.



You are making a difference ...

In a letter sent to Pastor Swindoll a visitor wrote, "I just want to write to convey, in the most heartfelt way I know how, how much I enjoyed worshipping with the congregation that Sunday (9/6/09)-and worship I did!

I hear so little music these days that inspire ME to worship (though it might another) but when I heard the opening strains of *Lead On, O Eternal King*, I thought I might be transported. As I recited the words of that hymn to the majestic sounds from the orchestra, I worshipped. My heart was bowed. My eyes were wet. I gave repeated thanks to Him who sits on the throne."

Notes from the congregation:

"Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!
The music today was beyond worshipful. The message in the special was powerful and the young lady (Paige Brumley) just had God "all around" her. What an anointed voice. I was in tears as were others. Where have you been keeping her? And when can we hear more? We are so blessed by the music at Stonebriar."

"Thanking God for the beautiful music and all those who worked hard to bring it to our ears!"

"This is a thank you to Paige Brumley who sang *Bow the Knee* this morning. Our daughter went through a miscarriage last week and the words of that song were very encouraging and beautifully done, as well."