

#### VOLUME 45, NUMBER 1, SPRING 2020

### LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 2020–21 SEASON We Will Sing Again – by Bridget George

AS WE MOURN THE CANCELLATION OF THIS YEAR'S BACH FESTIVAL,

it has been a great comfort to stay connected with our Choir, Orchestra, and soloists, our dedicated staff and board members, and you, our extended Bach Choir family of Guarantors and audience. It has also been a source of strength to communicate with our colleagues – choral conductors and executive directors across the United States and our dear friends in Leipzig, who are going through the heartrending cancellation of Bachfest Leipzig 2020, which was to have included The Bach Choir of Bethlehem.

In the midst of continuing uncertainty, we look forward with joyful optimism to a spectacular 2020–21 Season – our beloved Greg Funfgeld's final season as artistic director and conductor. At the request of president Hal Black, I have postponed my retirement from December 2020 to June 2021, after the Bach Festival and the postponed European Tour. We have been hard at work finalizing plans, as well as contingency plans for pandemic factors beyond our control, and are ready with a most beautiful season to renew your spirits. Your support and encouragement will help our plan come to fruition and strengthen the resolve of our Bach Choir and its vision as we hand it on to new leadership in 2021-22.

Greg has programmed three of Bach's most magnificent works, the *Christmas Oratorio* Parts 1, 2 & 3; and at Festival, the *Saint Matthew Passion* as well as our perennial *Mass in B Minor* to come back to life and astonish us once again. For the Spring Concert in March 2021, we bring you Handel's *Messiah* Part Two, which The Choir was so looking forward to singing for the first time in this year's cancelled concert, and the Duruflé *Requiem*, one of the greatest choral works of the 20th century.

Our extraordinary guest artists include Yo-Yo Ma, who has chosen The Bach Choir as one of the presenters for his special event *Truth, Trust, and Service: How Culture Connects Us.* Our Festival artists-in-residence include the full Paul Taylor Dance Company, with us for the first time to present their breath-taking *Brandenburgs* (first weekend); and classical guitarist Eliot Fisk (second weekend), for his exquisite program with orchestra, postponed from this year's Festival.

### **INSIDE...**

Notes from the Conductor 2
Letter from the President 2
Choir Spotlight3
Yo-Yo Ma 3
Noah's Flood4
Bel Canto Youth Chorus
Bach Chaconne Project5
European Tour 20216
Our On-line World6
Guarantors7
World Farewell7
Giving Bach8

Bach at Noon will go forward in person as soon as we can safely gather, and our significant work with students continues – Bel Canto Youth Chorus, Bach to School, the Bach Chaconne Project, and the Greg Funfgeld Family Concert, a collaboration with Lehigh University Philharmonic and the Dance Department of Lehigh Valley Charter School for the Arts, including Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra.

May we all stay safe and well so that we can embrace the music and each other when we meet and sing again!



### 2020–2021 Season at a Glance

Bethlehem Bach at Noon: 2nd Tuesdays 12:10–1:00pm • Central Moravian Church 2020 • Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 (110th Bach at Noon) 2021 • Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9, Apr. 13

**Fundraiser:** Yo-Yo Ma presents Truth, Trust, and Service: How Culture Connects Us Fri., Oct. 16, 2020 • 7pm • Parkland High School

Bel Canto Winter Concert: Sat., December 5, 2020

### **Christmas Concerts:**

Bach Christmas Oratorio Parts 1, 2 & 3 Sat., Dec. 12, 2020 • 8pm First Presbyterian Church of Allentown Sun., Dec, 13, 2020 • 4pm First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

The Greg Funfgeld Family Concert Sun., Feb. 28, 2021 • 3pm • Zoellner Arts Center

Spring Concert: Duruflé – Requiem • Handel – Messiah, Part Two Sun., March 21, 2021 • 4pm • First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Bel Canto Spring Concert: Sat., May 1, 2021

113th Bach Festival: Greg Funfgeld's final Festival • May 14-15 & 21-22, 2021

Allentown Bach at Noon: June 9, 2021 12:10-1:00pm • St. John's Lutheran Church

European Tour including Bachfest Leipzig June 16-25, 2021 • Bethlehem, PA

#### **DEAR FRIENDS:**



IN OUR REHEARSALS, we are often struck by the beauty of Bach's music, or the music of Handel, Mozart and others. As we learn new music or refine music we've learned before, I have on many occasions said to the choral artists of The Bach Choir "What do people do who don't have this music in their lives?" We wonder about that vacuum and recommit

ourselves to sharing our music with any and all who will come and listen. During this pandemic, we've asked that question again..."What do people do who don't have this music in their lives?" We've shared Moments of Comfort, a Bach at Noon Watch Party, recordings of concerts from years past. We have a vast treasure of memories - concerts, tours, recordings - all of these have been sources of hope and consolation. The work of others who've reached out in similar ways is a great gift, a blessing in our lives. There have been wonderful moments of humor along the way – we are reminded that laughter is, indeed, a wonderful medicine. In the midst of this glorious Spring season, Mother Nature has graced us with glorious colors in trees, shrubs and flowers - signs of new life and hope.

One measure of well being and health is how we function in unusual and unusually challenging times. I am proud of the way our Bach Choir Family has done this. You, our Guarantors and devoted audience members have been so kind - your e-mails, notes, encouragement and expressions of appreciation inspire us all. Your ongoing love of the music means so much to us. Your continued generosity and support reminds us that Bach's music will still be here to comfort and sustain us, once we have gotten through this terrible time. We continue to share deeply - our love of the music, our caring for one another, our joys and sorrows - and we are uplifted and ennobled. Thank You! God bless and keep you! We will be together again soon to share the ineffable richness of J.S. Bach and the music we cherish.

Ever grateful, her Hunkerl

Greg Funfgeld, Artistic Director & Conductor



### **DEAR FRIENDS:**



WHOEVER COINED THE PHRASE "The elephant in the room" clearly had something like this pandemic in mind. It directs our thinking and actions every day like a big gray pachyderm lumbering through our kitchen to get snacks. And while there is much about this situation that is entirely out of our control, like that elephant shuffling through our bread

drawer, we can take steps to carry on the life of The Choir.

The Executive Committee of the Board began meeting in early March to discuss major questions facing The Choir. We were forced to cancel events for which we had long planned and prepared: the Spring Concert, the tour to Germany, and even the Bach Festival. These were heartbreaking decisions. At the same time our Finance and Endowment Committees went to work to help assure that The Choir would remain on firm financial footing. We all learned how to use video conferencing, and even held our April board meeting online. Of course the Staff remained hard at it throughout this period. In some respects we felt busier than ever.

So the business of The Choir goes on. We are reaching out with our Moments of Comfort by Greg and members of The Choir and Orchestra. Joy and the Bel Canto Youth Chorus are working on a virtual choir project to wrap up their season. Bridget and her team are well into planning for next year, including the postponed trip to Leipzig and a number of special events for Greg and Bridget's final year with us. The search for a new executive team has progressed on schedule. And we have stabilized our finances, at least for a while.

The big question remains. When will that behemoth leave our kitchen and allow us to become a choir once again? We do not know, of course, but we will be ready once we have some room to operate. And we do hope that you all continue to stay with us through this very rough patch. Your support is a major inspiration for all that we do.

Sincerely,

Hundled Q. Buch

Harold G. Black, President

### Choir Spotlight -**ON HIATUS** by Renée James

THE "CHOIR SPOTLIGHT" is shining on a rather empty set of risers at present. We asked members to tell us how they're coping with the unexpected interruption to our season. We were overwhelmed with messages of love: for Greg, for each other, and for the pleasure of singing for you!

For everyone, the feeling of loss was inescapable. "Who would have thought that I would be missing my 44th Bach Festival?! ...a huge part of my life for almost half a century!," said Mary Paini. Steve Rivera, one of our newest members wrote, "I'm very disappointed at missing out on what would have been my very first Bach Festival. But more than that, I miss the rehearsals - to meet with my fellow Choir members and

have a great time making beautiful music!" Many shared that feeling of community - and the loss of fellowship. People miss "the energy," "the labor of love," and the "privilege of singing with this group."

YO-YO MA – Truth, Trust, and Service: How Culture Connects Us by Bridget George

THE BACH CHOIR OF BETHLEHEM when our world is challenged by the pace of is thrilled to present this singular artist change and the divisions it can create, the for a very special event and fundraiser, values that culture promotes - truth, trust, to support our youth and community and service - are essential to our survival. engagement programs, and to acknowledge and celebrate Artistic Director and The Bach Choir's Centennial celebration Conductor Greg Funfgeld's final season with The Bach Choir in 2020-21.

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma will explore the role culture can play in helping us to imagine and build a better future, drawing on examples from his own life as a musician and citizen. Yo-Yo's presentation is rooted in the belief that at a moment



is so comforting to the soul!"

Lynn Long remarked, "It takes an audience and musicians to make the festival come together. It's incredibly sad to me and it must be incredibly sad to our Guarantors and audiences. It's like missing Christmas..."

2



They miss "Greg sitting near the piano, welcoming, chatting, catching up with our joys and struggles..." As Tony Villani, in his 39th season summarized it: "music making

Patty Alercia summed up the feelings of many: "I always knew I loved The Choir, but I don't think I knew how very much... We can't wait to see the audience, to watch their faces, to see them close their eyes while they listen, to hear them cheer for us. We love them...just like we love what we do."

For more stories, please check the website under Choir Newsletter.

Mr. Ma performed Bach's Cello Suites at in 1998. Funfgeld notes, "To welcome Yo-Yo Ma back to the Lehigh Valley for this special presentation is a rare privilege and precious opportunity. Yo-Yo Ma's artistry is recognized and admired around the world. From Sesame Street to great concert halls everywhere, he has touched lives and inspired countless souls."

Lead sponsors of the event, The Dexter F. & Dorothy H. Baker Foundation, John & Carol Daniel, and others are enabling us to give away 300 event tickets to students in diverse communities throughout the Lehigh Valley as well as to 60 community leaders in the fields of arts, culture, health, education, and the environment. A community engagement committee will work with the students and community leaders to help Yo-Yo Ma's presentation become a catalyst for creative action.

#### EVENT • October 16, 2020 at 7pm

• Parkland High School Auditorium • Adult: \$110 / \$65 / \$45 • Student: \$9 For Event tickets, visit BACH.org or call 610-866-4382 ext. 115 / 110

#### GALA SOCIAL RECEPTION following the program

• Lehigh Country Club • Benefactor Tickets: \$250 Includes reserved premium event seating, cocktail reception & charitable contribution For Benefactor tickets, call 610.866.4382 ext. 110

"Those who experienced the Bach Choir's presentation of Benjamin Britten's one-act opera Noye's Fludde might not have entered the church two-by-two, but they certainly left bonded by something even bigger: a real sense of community." - Steve Siegel, The Morning Call

### NOAH'S FLOOD

Brings Hope and Creative Inspiration to Young and Old by Bridget George

THE BACH CHOIR'S PERFORMANCE OF BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S magical and timeless church opera Noyes' Fludde (Noah's Flood) based on a medieval mystery play, was presented in partnership with Pennsylvania Youth Theatre (PYT). It took place in Packer Memorial Church, Lehigh University on February 29 and March 1 and has become for many of us who participated on stage or in the audience like an icon of what life was like before the pandemic - a hive of collaborative, creative energy and togetherness for both performers and audience. It also seemed almost prophetic in its theme of the great Flood and people retreating to an ark to find shelter from the storm and coming through a timeof peril to rediscover peace and community.



A capacity audience of all ages filled Packer Church and on stage, alongside members of our Bach Choir and Bach Festival Orchestra, Britten's evocative score was brought to life by professional soloists David Newman and Meg Bragel as Mr. and Mrs. Noah; John Hare as the Voice of God; our Bel Canto Youth Chorus concert and preparatory choirs, members of PYT and St. Anne's School Emmaus as the Chorus of Animals; and musicians of the Young People's Philharmonic, the Junior String Philharmonic, the Lehigh University Philharmonic, the handbell choir of First Presbyterian Church of Allentown, the recorders of the Moravian College Collegium Musicum; and the large percussion section supported by West Chester University's Wells School of Music.

This was The Bach Choir's 20th Family Concert and the first named in honor of Greg Funfgeld by Beall Fowler, who gave a very generous gift to establish an endowment fund that will help support these concerts in the future. As Greg Funfgeld said in his introduction, "Britten has a way of inspiring children, their creativity, imagination, happy immersion in fantasy, and love of a

Δ



great story." We engaged not only a wonderful group of musicians, but the talents of people like stage director Jill Dunn, marionette maker Doug Roysdon, who helped each of the children in the Chorus of Animals make their own whimsical and decorative mask, and lighting designer Anthony Forcielli, who helped transform Packer Church to reflect the raging storm, the calm that follows as Noah sends forth the raven and the dove; and the rainbow giving hope and promise for the end of vengeance.

As the production ends, the whole cast and audience join in singing Britten's extraordinary setting of The Spacious Firmament on High to the Tallis Canon. After the shut-down began, we sent out a seven-minute video of excerpts from the production, ending with the audience singing this familiar hymn. One dear Guarantor from Harrisburg wrote in response:

"The Thomas Tallis was just what I needed to lift my spirits! We so enjoyed Noah's Flood because we are all children at heart and knew anything Greg and The Bach Choir did would be over the top! It was. Thank you for letting us re-live that delightful afternoon. It's also a message of hope in these uncertain times. Be well one and all." - Anne Yellott



Photography by Hub Willso

### Bel Canto NEWS by Joy Hirokawa

#### EVEN THOUGH OUR SEASON WAS CUT SHORT, the choristers

of Bel Canto have much to celebrate. Noyes Fludde provided musical and theatrical challenges that grew them as musicians and performers. It was especially fun to watch the masks come to life as they were donned by the choristers, and hear merry singing of "Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison" as they left rehearsal!

We congratulate three choristers and one former chorister who participated in the American Choral Director's Association Eastern Region Honor Choirs in early March. Selected through a competitive audition process, these singers traveled to Rochester, NY to perform under the baton of superb guest conductors and present outstanding concerts:

- Matilda Snyder, Elementary Honor Choir
- Ella Campbell-Becker, Junior High Honor Choir
- Abriana Ferrari, High School Honor Choir
- Giovanna Consiglio (former chorister), Musical Theater Honor Choir

In person rehearsals ended March 12th, but we continue to meet weekly during our rehearsal times, providing musical activities, guest speakers, and time to reconnect our community. Soprano Toni Marie Palmertree, last heard as the soprano soloist in the Allentown Symphony performance of Verdi's Requiem last season, graciously shared her journey to becoming a professional

### Young Composers Engage BACH'S CHACONNE by Bridget George

**OUR YOUNG STUDENT COMPOSERS** have continued to meet

on-line with Dr. Larry Lipkis professor of music and composer in residence at Moravian College as they shelter in place. 2020 is the 300th anniversary of Bach's famous Chaconne in D Minor and we decided to repeat Larry's brilliant Bach Chaconne Project for the Bach Festival - now postponed until May 2021. Thirteen middle and high school students and one college freshman are composing their own variations over the ground bass of Bach's Chaconne and will play them as solos and ensembles with the Bach Festival Orchestra. The students include: Abriana Ferrari & Rhys Williams, voice; Okezue Bell, violin; Carissa Ripley & Anee Reiser, flute; Thomas Gilchrist & Elizabeth Mathiesen, cello; Oak Hu, Matthew You, & Jonathan You, piano; Hailey Belverio & John Hoofman, guitar; and Bridget White, harp.

Dr. Lipkis commented: "It has been a great pleasure to work with these 13 talented young musicians as they explore the riches of the Bach's Chaconne and learn to create their own variations. Despite the limitations of the online format, they've been doing an amazing job, and I can't wait to hear the finished product next year!"

Students had comments about their experience as well:

"I am very grateful that I have had the opportunity to work with Dr. Lipkis and a group of young composers who share the same true passion for music." - Anee Reiser

"It is amazing that we are all building on the same chord progression but have such different ideas!" - Tommy Gilchrist

opera singer. Composer Andrea Clearfield joined us to talk about her compositions Tse go la and Shar ki ri which we were preparing to perform at our spring concert. The choristers have been particularly intrigued by these pieces which are based on traditional melodies Clearfield recorded during her treks deep in the Nepalese mountains. We hope to include these in next season's performances!

A personal note from Joy: While I have been enjoying the many wonderful and creative virtual performances online, it only makes me miss the choristers more. There is just nothing that compares with feeling the sound washing over you of a group of voices breathing, creating, communicating together as one. We can't wait to see and hear our singers again!



"The Chaconne Project opened gateways of opportunities that I had no access to before" - Jonathan You

I sat in on a couple of the teaching sessions when the students got to see and listen to the scores and audio files of each other's variations and make comments and suggestions. One session was graced by the presence of world renowned guitarist Eliot Fisk, who will play the complete Chaconne at the Festival following the student variations. Eliot inspired us with stories of his relationship to this Bach masterpiece, which he discovered in his first meeting with Andres Segovia at age 19 when Segovia was 81. Then there was violinist Mary Jane Metcalf, who was a counselor at Kinhaven Music School in Weston, Vermont and an ageless icon of the place. Each year, she would choose an early morning to climb to the top of a tall pine tree known as the "Gavin Tree" and play the Chaconne from a height of at least 60 ft. above the ground "wafting her dynamic musicality through the crisp Vermont morning air into our sleeping quarters." Taking us on a journey through some of the most stirring and poignant passages of the Chaconne, Eliot told the students "everything good in the human species is in the music of Bach."

## GOOD NEWS - European Tour to Go Forward in 2021 by Bridget George

#### TRAVEL PLANS WERE ALL COMPLETE

for 187 members of our European tour group including Choir members, instrumental and vocal soloists, staff, and tagalongs to board planes and depart for Europe on June 12, 2020. However, it soon became clear that this was not to be with the Covid-19 pandemic rearing its head on both sides of the Atlantic.

The centerpiece of our tour was a concert in the Thomaskirche for Bachfest Leipzig. The theme for 2020 was "We are Family" and The Bach Choir of Bethlehem was one of 18 choirs from six continents

invited to perform in concerts featuring Bach's entire chorale cantata cycle. This concept has now been postponed until 2022. However, Michael Maule, director of Bachfest Leipzig has graciously and generously given The Bach Choir of Bethlehem an opportunity to perform at the 2021 Bachfest instead. He knew how important it was to fulfill our dream of returning to Leipzig before the end of Greg Funfgeld's tenure.

We will be the featured choir in one of Bachfest's most popular events – the "Motette" in the Thomaskirche on June 19, 2021. This is a Vespers Service, and we are honored to sing Bach's Cantata 149, Man singet mit Freuden vom Sieg, and a motet to be decided. From Leipzig, we will continue as planned to give concerts in Herrnhut, Dresden and Prague.

Our profound gratitude and prayers for health and strength go to our friends in Leipzig - Michael Maul, Peter Wollny,



Sebastian Gosch, Sandra Schmidt, Christian Wolff; Britta Taddiken, and Robert & Kathy Moore.

Heartfelt thanks also to our Europ<mark>ean</mark> Tour sponsors:

### \$10,000 & up

• US Artists International/Mid Atlantic Arts

- Foundation (Bachfest Leipzig concert) • B Braun Medical (Bachfest Leipzig concert)
- George & Jocelyn Eysymontt

(Greg Funfgeld, conductor &

Benjamin Butterfield, tenor)

\$7,500-\$9,999

• Harold & Allison Black (Dresden concert)

• HYDAC Corporation (General support for the tour)

**\$5,000** • Anonymous (Nola Richardson, soprano – In honor of *Ken & Shirley Wotring*) • Helen Davis (*Janna Critz, mezzo-soprano*) • Al & Jill Douglass (Herrnhut concert)

- Al Krug (Prague concert) Ursie Fairbairn (Dashon Burton, bass
- In memory of William Todd Fairbairn III)

• Jan MacLennan-Kennedy (Elizabeth Field, violin &

Charlotte Mattax Moersch, portativ organ)

**\$2,500-\$4,999** • David & Carol Beckwith (*Robin Kani, flute*)

• Steven & Jeanne Follett (*Thomas Goeman, organ*)

- Robert & Patsy Hassert (*Prague concert*)
- Fred & Elaine Gehris (Loretta O'Sullivan, cello)
- John & Terry Hare (*Mary Watt, oboe*)

**\$1,000-\$2,499** • Janet Dehuff • Marie Gardner-Zoellner • Evonik Corporation • Blair MacInnes • Joan Moran

#### Please Help Us Complete the Needed Funding for Our 2021 European Tour

We are looking for an additional \$60,000 and would be especially grateful for one or more additional \$10,000 sponsorships for the Bachfest Leipzig Concert, and an additional \$5,000 sponsorship for the Herrnhut Concert, as well as gifts of any amount for choir member subsidy or general support of the tour. Contact Cheryl Dungan, development officer. Cheryl@bach.org or 610-866-4382 Ext. 113

# MARKETING **(f) (D) (j) (D) (**

EACH SEASON, The Bach Choir competes to earn some portion of the public's recreational budget. We need to craft the right message, with the right look and feel, appealing to old and new patrons, sent at the right time, and reach people who are receptive to it. At times, we specifically cultivate new patrons by testing messages or new channels. Using newspapers, radio, television, websites, social media, newsletters, community calendars, arts organizations, broad distribution channels and more, we connect with new people, or remind old friends to return and enjoy The Choir once again.

And yes, scores of organizations try to do the same.

Part art, part science – marketing builds on a foundation and delivers on a promise. Our message is consistently one of performances at the highest standard that make an indelible impression, through the unparalleled genius of J.S. Bach. We "sell" the music, but we also sell the promise of what this music offers beyond the performance.

This spring, we're not selling tickets or tracking revenue. We're using our marketing tools to reach out in this time of isolation to reinforce community. Through our website, email tools and social media, we connect with patrons to offer information, including the re-ticketing form patrons may use to voucher or donate the value of their tickets.

We also offer artistic outreach, like our You Tube Bach at Noon Watch Party.

Absent our concerts, we're doing what we can to deliver the music - and the feelings - from afar. Our "Moments of Comfort" offer music through e-marketing; and ask nothing more than a few minutes of time from the recipients. If we're here for people in stressful times, we hope they'll be here for us when we once again stand before them to offer live performances.

We're grateful to our many media partners who generously support us through "in kind" promotions on the air or in print throughout our season, with special thanks to Bill George, our videographer/editor, for Moments of Comfort and Bach at Noon.

## SPOTLIGHT On Our Guarantors by Cheryl Dungar

OUR GUARANTOR PROGRAM was founded by our f President, Charles Schwab, who encouraged others to join h in supporting The Bach Choir to ensure that this priceless gift the community could flourish in the best times and endure dur challenging times, like this. We are so grateful for his vision and your sustaining support, which assures us that we can look forw to many successful seasons to come.

We hope that you are taking full advantage of all the ways t we are sharing choir news and the music you love with you dur this time. You can stay up to date on our activities and learn me about the coming season at Bach.org and on Facebook, wh you will also find links to our very special musical offerings a Moments of Comfort videos, created specifically for this time.

We are enjoying hearing from you with your reflections favorite Festival and Bach Choir memories, and notes of app ciation. Your messages about how you are "comforting in play by enjoying Bach's music are helping to keep us connected a uplifted.

### WORLD FAREWELL - In Sympathy & Remembrance

IN A TIME-HONORED TRADITION AT THE BACH FESTIVAL, we take a moment to remember those who have passed into eternal glory over the course of the year. In remembrance of our dear friends and family members, the voices of The Bach Choir fill Packer Chapel and offer the musical gift of peace and joy through the singing of the chorale from Cantata BWV 27, Welt, ade!

We offer our most sincere condolences to the families of these dear friends.

Brian M. Austin Sr. Mary Isabel Randall Baker Lois E. (Schunk) Barnett Ella Beedle Judith Berger Paul Bouman Barbara B. Caldwell Stephen Cleobury Phyllis Cook **Rev. Curtis Sandrock** David A. Dambly Joseph R. Flummerfelt Janice Galassi

Emerson F. Harding Donald Hinkle Rev. David Stewart Jordan-Haas Donald K. Lauer Rev. Arthur R. Lillicrapp III Dr. Robert E. Malec Martha L. Maletz Dr. Nelson Markley Carolyn Josephine Botkin Mattax Debra Lynn Mest Rev. Irvin Samuel Moore, Jr. Emma-Jane Mosser Nancianne B. Parrella

World, farewell, of thee I'm weary. Let me rise to heav'n above. Lord, my strength, let me be near thee, Evermore in grace and love. World, with thee is storm and strife; Vain and fleeting is our life. But in heav'n we shall find rest, Peace and joy with all the blest.

irst	COur annual routine was to arrive in Bethlehem about 1:15,
nim	tailgate with light hors d'oeuvres, attend the sing-along, then
t to	enter Packer Chapel for "the experience", then tailgate again dur-
ring	ing "halftime". This year our little group here in Cornwall, Pa, will
for	be recreating that ritual here the day of the would-be festival,
ard	listening to the Mass at the proper time. – Paul Freeland
hat	My earliest images of the Bach Festival date to my youth and came
ring	from local newspapers which published pictures of folks seated
ore	outside Packer Chapel listening to the B Minor Mass as it 'over-
ere	flowed' through the stained glass windows into the surrounding
and	world.
on ore- ce" and	Bach's music is always just like that. Albeit generated in and for a sacred space, it cannot – and should not - be confined to sacred spaces alone. In fact, whenever and wherever Bach's music overflows in the world, there both time and space become sacred. – Rev. Ronald R. Miller, PhD

**Charles** Peet Donna Miller Pidcock Donald Richardson Fred B. Rooney Rev. Curtis Sandrock **Richard Schantz** Dr. Alma H. Schlenker David M. Shafferman Peter Serkin Kathryn Freeh Smith John Smothers Karl H. Spaeth

Catherine H. Staley Mildred N. Umla Ricardo Viera Patricia Crilley Wigmore Cecile Woodring Wolff Priscilla P. (Pringle) Wolle Ruth H. Young





LAST YEAR, we launched our two-year Giving Bach Campaign, an integral element of our leadership transition plan. Now more than ever, the success of this campaign is essential to establish a firm foundation under The Bach Choir's vision for tomorrow.

Like all arts organizations, The Bach Choir will suffer significant and unexpected setbacks as our singers, leadership, and staff adjust to the present and prepare for the future. It is because of your careful stewardship and generous support that The Choir is able to make the necessary adjustments to weather the current situation.

It is our sincere hope that we might see additional gifts and pledges from our Bach Choir family before June 30, 2021. These gifts allow us to continue our plans for a spectacular 2020-21 performance season celebrating the legacy of Greg Funfgeld, and to look forward to years of exciting artistic programming with music that uplifts and renews our spirits.



The Bach Choir News is published by: The Bach Choir of Bethlehem 440 Heckewelder Place, Bethlehem, PA 18018-5806 610.866.4382 BACH.org

Executive Director: Bridget George Development Officer: Cheryl Dungan Marketing Director: Renée James Bel Canto Administrator: Silagh White Finance & Business Manager: Claudia Carroll Administrative Assistant: Michael DeCrosta Production & Office Assistant: Sophia Verbiscar Archivist: Mary Dawson

Supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, Inc. is recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to The Bach Choir are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The official registration and financial information for The Bach Choir of Bethlehem may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.