



## BACH CHOIR GUARANTORS – *A Tradition of Support, a Special Source of Inspiration to Us All!* by Cheryl Dungan

**WE CONSIDER OURSELVES FORTUNATE** to have the enthusiastic and generous support of our family of Guarantors – special people who express their deep appreciation for The Bach Choir and Bach’s music through their dedicated support and annual contributions.

Guarantors have played a significant role in the legacy of The Bach Choir for decades but this year our Guarantor families have been an especially important source of inspiration and support for efforts to share our music in modified and innovative ways.

**Thank you for saying “Yes”!** We want to say a special *thank you* to some Guarantors who responded to our *Bach at Noon* appeal with a challenge donation, intended to inspire others to support these free concerts. Each month that we have been able to offer these challenge grants, we have met and exceeded our *Bach at Noon* goals!

**Special thanks to these Guarantors for sponsoring our *Bach at Noon* Giving Challenges:**

- April** • Sue & George Driesen, Maryland
- May** • Jan C. MacLennan-Kennedy, New Hampshire (Given in loving memory of her mother, Corinne M. Kennedy)
- June** • John Howell, Pennsylvania
- July** • John Koontz, New Jersey
- August** • William F. Murphey, Pennsylvania
- September** • Linda & Walt Ritter, Pennsylvania
- October** • Jane Pearson & Ray Malec, Pearson Funeral Home, Pennsylvania

*“We have attended most of the Bethlehem Bach at Noon concerts since the beginnings and each concert always more than lived up to our expectations. It is with joy that I offer this donation and ask you to join me to help ensure that these wonderful concerts continue, virtually for now, but hopefully with all of us present again soon!”*  
– Bill Murphey, Guarantor since 1990



Guarantors Linda and Walt Ritter note that *Bach at Noon* and the annual Bach Festival have been highlights over their recent retirement years. Walt was a commercial banker and Linda created a garden design business. They have been married for 55 years and treasure times with their children and six grandchildren.

*“Linda and I placed Bach at Noon at the top of our ‘to-do’ list since 2007 upon my retirement from the world of banking. Of course, the Mass in B Minor performances are at the top of the May list. The 50+ mile trips to Bethlehem are always well worth the time. Greeting The Bach Choir of Bethlehem staff upon entering Central Moravian Church, watching the soloists, orchestra members and choir take their places and feeling the joy of Greg Funfgeld as he addresses the audience prior to the performance are all part of our enjoyment of Bach at Noon. Thank you.”*

– Walt & Linda Ritter, Guarantors since 2005

And thank you to everyone who said “yes” and made a donation to help us achieve each challenge goal! To contribute a *Bach at Noon* Challenge Grant, please contact the development office by emailing [Cheryl@Bach.org](mailto:Cheryl@Bach.org).

### IMAGINE THERE WAS NO MUSIC...

**IMAGINE YOUR FAVORITE MOVIES** without that unforgettable music score that conveyed the emotion, energy, and significance of what was portrayed on screen. The music drew you in and connected you to the events as they unfolded, and helped bring closure at the end.

So many of you have told us that our virtual performances have been a source of comfort, a means of connection, and a reflection of feelings that simply cannot be expressed in words. For our singers, musicians, and staff, it is inspiring and validating to know that these musical efforts are making a difference.

We know that there are many needs and worthy appeals for your support this year. We will be grateful if you can include The Bach Choir as you make your end of year gifts.

- There are many ways to help us share the music of The Bach Choir:
- Giving a gift of any amount to The Bach Choir or satisfying your annual Guarantor pledge before the end of this year means that we will have use of these funds for our entire season.

- Encourage someone who shares your appreciation of Bach’s music and The Bach Choir to become a Guarantor, or establish a Guarantor membership for them as a gift.
- Consider a donation of appreciated securities or gifts through your IRA, Family Foundation or Donor Advised Fund to support The Bach Choir.
- Ensure the legacy and future of The Bach Choir through your bequest as part of your estate plans.
- Watch and share our virtual performances with your family and friends! Recorded performances are available through our website, on our Facebook page or through our YouTube Channel, so you can watch and share often. Make sure we have your valid e-mail address on record so we can share more!
- You can purchase tickets now for favorite Bach Choir programs we are planning for later this season. It is so gratifying to hear that our Bach Choir friends, like all of us at The Bach Choir, are looking forward to joining us in the months ahead, as circumstances allow.