



Times Chancel

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE MANCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHANCEL CHOIR

Choir Will Sing For Two Services Beginning Sept. 3

Weekly singing responsibilities for the Chancel Choir will expand to two worship services this fall. Beginning Sept. 3, the choir will provide music for both the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services each week.

Kevin says the 10:30 a.m. service will remain the primary focus and the choir will not be split into two groups. Instead, Kevin is asking as many singers as possible also to participate in the 9 a.m. service.

"But, if you are only going to sing at one service, then I would rather

Continued on Page 2



Dinner on the veranda at Madison's (sounds more glamorous than patio) was one of the stops on the Thursday night summer dinner tour this year. An average of 40 choir members and spouses dined at 12 different area restaurants.

Simultaneous Music Mission on Oct. 29 Will Put Choir in Four Area Church Lofts

Most church choirs have a hard time filling one loft on Sunday morning, but on Oct. 29 the Chancel Choir will fill four choir lofts in St. Louis area churches as part of its Music Mission Sunday outreach.

"We'll split into four choirs and provide worship music in four churches simultaneously. This is a unique outreach opportunity that choir's our size can provide," Kevin explained.

There will be four directors and four accompanists. Choir members will choose where they wish to sing. A sign up list for each location will be available this fall with a specific number of slots available for each singing part.

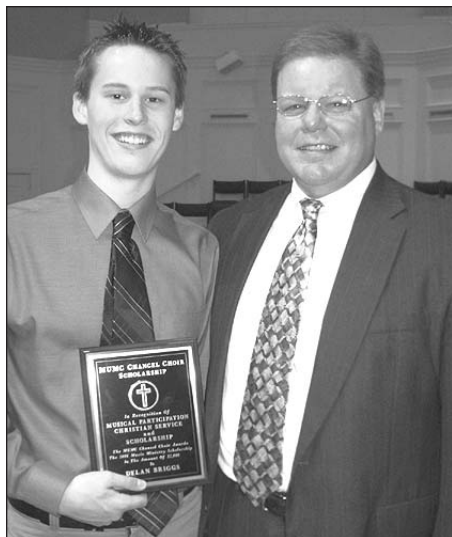
Transportation will include car

pooling and the church buses.

One location, of course, will be our own choir loft. As of press time for the *Chancel Times*, the other three lofts had not been confirmed. Kevin hopes to have a group at Centenary and also at University City United Methodist. A fourth singing opportunity will also be found.

Following the simultaneous worship services, the choirs will reassembly in Fellowship Hall for lunch and a report on the morning's experiences. Photos at each location will be shown to the group.

The idea for four 40-voice choirs singing at area churches came to Kevin last year when choir officers were exploring various outreach projects for the choir.



Dylan Briggs, left, received the 11th annual Chancel Choir scholarship from choir president Chris Kennedy on Youth Sunday, May 21. Dylan will use the \$2,000 award at Truman State University this fall where he will major in biology as he begins study to become a psychiatrist.



Bass Joe Elstner pounds the keys with his rock band *Decades* at a recent performance in *Sunset Hills*.

Choir Will Sing For Two Weekly Worship Services

Continued from Page 1

have you at 10:30 a.m.," Kevin says.

As our church has grown, there have been occasional requests for the choir to sing at two services. Until now, Kevin has felt the choir's size was insufficient to support both services.

Kevin points out there are many church choirs that sing at multiple services each week. Because of planned programming, the choir has already been scheduled to sing for both services twice a month this fall.

Details on the choir's schedule will be announced at rehearsal.

Treasure's Report Shows Healthy Balance For New Year

The final Chancel Choir treasurer's report for last year appears below. Great Britain travelers were undercharged for their 2005 trip. Officers have contacted travelers to

recover the shortage. A policy for handling future trip money to keep it separate from choir activity funds was approved.

Chancel Times

August 2006

Chancel Choir Officers ~ 2006-2007

Chris KennedyPresident
Josh HayesVice-President
Kristie WhitneyRecording Secretary
Ann GarberRehearsal Secretary
Tim ZinkTreasurer
Tom LawrenceAsst. Treasurer
Barb Barrett, Bonnie Halls,
David Schenck, and Doug Ross
.....Member Representatives
Mary DeanPast President

Operations Staff

Jo Ann Jones, Kristie Whitney,
Donna Biolchini, Carol Broyles,
Roxanne and Andy Miller,
Rhoda and Bud KemperHospitality
Rose CarlislePhone Tree
Tim ZinkFellowship Friends
Sandy FordSocial Events
Jim BelvalOperations
(vacant)Recognition
Melissa LarsenWardrobe
June Van KlaverenPublicity
Harriet Kettenhofen, Rose Carlisle,
Janie Walker, Carolyn Andrews,
Jean Lange, Jo Ann JonesLibrarians

Section Managers

Cece SpatolaSoprano
Barb FarmerAlto
Bud KemperTenor
Charles ShafferBass
Kevin McBethDirector of Music Ministries
Ted CronbaughAccompanist

Chancel Times Editor/Webmaster Gary Ford

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Treasurer's Activity Report

	Expense	Revenue	Balance
Prior Treasury Balance (2/28)			\$12,514.45
Revenue			
NYC Trip		4,400.00	
Choir Activity		0.00	
Fall Retreat		0.00	
Great Britain Trip		0.00	
Total Revenue this period			\$4,400.00
Expenses			
NYC Trip	4,400.00		
Choir Activity	254.63		
Fall Retreat	735.00		
Great Britain Trip	0.00		
Total Expenses this period			\$5,389.66
Treasury Balance (4/30)			\$11,416.19

Choir Fund Balances

	Balances 2/28/06	Balances 4/30/06
NYC Trip	0.00	0.00
Choir Activity	14,743.02	14,488.39
Fall Retreat	735.03	0.00
Great Britain Trip	(3,072.21)	(3,072.21)
Total All Funds	\$12,405.84	\$11,416.18

Fall Kickoff Party Set for August 26

The Chancel Choir's annual Kickoff party is set for 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 26 at the home of Jo Ann and Bruce Jones, 13536 Royal Glen Drive. Invite a new member or a former singer to return.

The party will be potluck. The Jones home is easy to find – directions and additional details will be provided by email just before the party. If you get lost, call 314-469-1511 and we'll talk you in.



Gary Halls, husband of Alto Bonnie Halls, rehearses the Hallelujah chorus from Messiah with the choir before his directing debut in worship this spring. Halls and Josh Hayes each paid \$600 at the 2005 Youth Auction for a turn with the baton.



Centenary Outreach Includes Remodeling Project and Food Service

When Chancel Choir officers began searching for ways the choir could give back to the church and the community through outreach projects, Centenary United Methodist Church in downtown St. Louis immediately popped to mind.

Centenary had already been adopted by other ministries and programs in our church and it seemed a natural possibility for the choir to help out. "We wanted to do more than just provide music there," former president Mary Dean says. "We wanted to help them in a more tangible way."

In May, a "scouting party" spent a Saturday at the church touring the facility, discussing needs and working in the church's kitchen serving the homeless.



Parisien

Offices identified two areas for the choir to help Centenary. One, is the remodeling of a room at the church to be used as a counseling office. The room needs some drywall partitions installed and painting. The other area was to assemble a team to help in the kitchen cooking and serv-

ing once a month.

Bass Maurice Parisien agreed to head up the Centenary Outreach Project for the choir, coordinating the choir's resources and manpower and acting as a liaison with the Centenary church staff.



Givens

The next step was to recruit someone in the choir with construction and project management experience to supervise the room remodeling project. Bass David Givens, who has years of experience in construction management, has begun working on the project.

"I'd like for us to have this project completed by mid-September," Givens says. "There will be some painting and light carpenter work to finish in a couple of Saturdays."

Givens will be recruiting help as soon as an electrician finishes installing outlets in the room. "They



Farmer

are anxious to get this room into use," he said.

Alto Barb Farmer has agreed to supervise the choir's kitchen service crew. Centenary serves lunch to 250 people four times a week. Their program is organized and ran by professional food service people. What they need is four volunteers to work four hours helping with final prep and working the serving lines.

Choir officers agreed to begin providing assistance one day a month beginning this fall.

Barb will be assembling a team of volunteers to go to Centenary and work between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on designated days each month. The work is not difficult and you don't need to know anything about cooking.

Centenary is located at 16th and Olive streets in downtown St. Louis. For many years, it was the largest Methodist church in the state and served a vast congregation from a large church building and 700-seat sanctuary.

Today, it is a struggling urban church that has identified the homeless and needy as its mission. The Chancel Choir also will have an opportunity to sing there this fall.

When's That Concert? Check The Choir Calendar

Don't know when the choir's Christmas concert is? No excuses now. The Chancel Choir's first printed wall calendar was distributed at the last rehearsal in June.

Besides dates of concerts and events for the coming year, the calendar also lists every choir member's birthday. And there are more than 250 photos of choir members doing what they do best – having fun.

The calendar was the brain-child of last year's choir president Mary Dean. She and Bass Gary Ford began planning for the calendar in early 2005 and work on the project started in March. Work included sifting through more than 4000 digital photos and double checking birthday lists and event schedules.

Kevin says every choir member should have one of these purple calendars hanging in a prominent place so important dates and times will be handy. Copies of the calendar are available in the Music Room. A donation of \$5 per calendar is being asked to cover a portion of the production costs for each copy.



Glossy photos and a high-tech computer slide show enticed Youth Auction bidders for the Chancel Choir's gourmet dinners, above. At right, a poster for Choir For Hire is nestled next to his and hers cemetery plots and right above a Gayle Sayers autographed football.



Choir Contributions Raise \$3,350 for Church Youth at Annual Auction

Once again, people just can't get enough of the Chancel Choir's gourmet cooking. A dinner for 10 offered at this year's Youth Auction quickly brought \$1,600 after intense bidding.

Soprano Mary Dean and husband Kenny made the final winning bid.

4 But, dinner chairman Baritone Jim

Descher offered another dinner for \$1,600 to the second highest bidder. So Kevin and Linda Hennessey also will enjoy the choir's culinary skills.

This year choir officers also agreed to offer a choral ensemble for hire. The Choir For Hire was bought by Jerry Fritz for \$350. The ensemble will sing for any occasion that

Jerry needs some live entertainment.

Chancel Choir Youth Auction contributions this year raised \$3,350 for the church's youth ministries.

This was the fourth year the choir has offered gourmet dinners at the auction in addition to other items including gift baskets, turns at directing and singing.



At their June meeting Chancel Choir officers approved a plan to establish an outreach ministry. Two projects at Centenary United Methodist Church in downtown St. Louis will be the choir's first outreach projects. Choir members will remodel a room in the building and provide help in the church's soup kitchen one day each month. Other outreach projects to assist groups within our church will also be sought.



Officers Face Growing Pains and Outreach Challenges

New Chancel Choir members will have their work cut out for them this year. Choir membership will likely pass the 180 mark this fall. An organization that big has great potential and also some increasing management challenges.

Work to create an organized outreach program, started last year by former president Mary Dean, will continue this year, according to Choir President Chris Kennedy. Several ideas in addition to projects at Centenary UMC will be explored.



Kennedy

Officers also will work to adapt many of the choir's traditional programs and activities for a much larger organization. A final priority will be continuing to recruit and welcome new members.

In addition to Kennedy, other elected officers are: Vice president/president-elect, Josh

Hayes; recording secretary, Kristie Whitney; attendance secretary, Ann Garber; treasurer, Tim Zink; assistant treasurer, Tom Lawrence; member representatives, Barb Barrett, Bonnie Halls, David Schenck and Doug Ross; and past president, Mary Dean.

Operations staff members who work behind the scenes making sure the choir's business runs smoothly were asked to remain in their jobs and have not changed. They are listed on page two of this newsletter.

Chancel Choir director Kevin McBeth recruits section managers who followup on absent members and help with signups and collections as needed.

Current section managers are: soprano, Cece Spatola; alto, Barb Farmer; tenor, Bud Kemper; and bass, Charles Shaffer.



Hayes



Whitney



Garber



Zink



Lawrence



Barrett



Halls



Schenck



Ross



Dean

Requiem Sing Along Will Commemorate 9/11 5th Anniversary

The fifth anniversary of 9/11 will be observed at Manchester United Methodist Church when choirs from five area churches assemble on Sept. 10 for a sing-along performance of the *Rutter Requiem*.

Adult choirs participating include:

- Bonhome Presbyterian
- Ellisville United Methodist
- Green Trails United Methodist
- Lord of Life Lutheran, Chesterfield
- Manchester United Methodist

Singers from the choirs will be invited to bring their scores and sit in the pews on the main floor as their directors share leading the work during the performance. Audience members will sit behind the choirs and in the balcony. Clergy from the five churches will also offer greetings.

Invitations will be sent to more than 100 other area church choirs asking their members to bring a score to the sing along.

Some Chancel Choir members joined in a sing along performance of the Mozart Requiem four years ago to mark the first anniversary of 9/11.

Group Will Perform Spirituals In New York

The Chancel Choir will be represented in New York for a fourth time as Kevin directs John Rutter spirituals at Carnegie Hall on Nov. 12.

A total of 23 Chancel Choir members will be join singers from these organizations for the four-day trip:

- St. Louis Metro Singers
- St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Waterloo, Ill.
- Church of the Resurrection-West, Leawood, Kan.
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Kansas City, Mo.



Chancel Choir and orchestra perform Handel's Messiah in the top photo. More than 700 people attended the concert on April 23. Above, the choir rehearses for Sunday worship.

Fall Retreat Will Include Karaoke Competition

There'll be singing, as usual, at the annual Fall Choir Retreat on Oct. 13 and 14. But the musical stakes will be raised this year with a serious competition called *Karaoke Idol*.

"We're going to focus more on fellowship at the retreat this year," Kevin says. "And we're going to give choir members an opportunity to both show off their talents and win some great prizes."

..... Karaoke Idol

The retreat will again be held at Mercy Center, a religious conference center operated by the Sisters of Mercy at 2039 North Geyer Road on a large acreage tucked away in West St. Louis County.

Programming will be much the

same as last year with one exception. Following rehearsal on Friday evening there'll be a Karaoke competition complete with outside judges and prizes donated by area merchants.

"We want people to continue with fellowship instead of racing for their cars on Friday night," Kevin says.

As in the past, overnight accommodations will be available at Mercy Center and choir members are encouraged to spend the night this year.

Rehearsals are held in the circular chapel, an excellent room for a large choir to rehearse in. Look for details on the retreat to be announced soon. An early registration deadline is expected so that meal and sleeping arrangements can be made.

'Festival of Praise' Music Ministry Concert Will Mark 150th Anniversary of Chapel

With great enthusiasm and barely more than a few dozen members, the little Methodist Church in Manchester opened a brand new brick building in 1856.

At 3 p.m. on Oct. 1, 2006 more than 500 participants in the church's Music Ministry will participate in a Festival of Praise concert to mark our Historic Chapel's 150th anniversary.

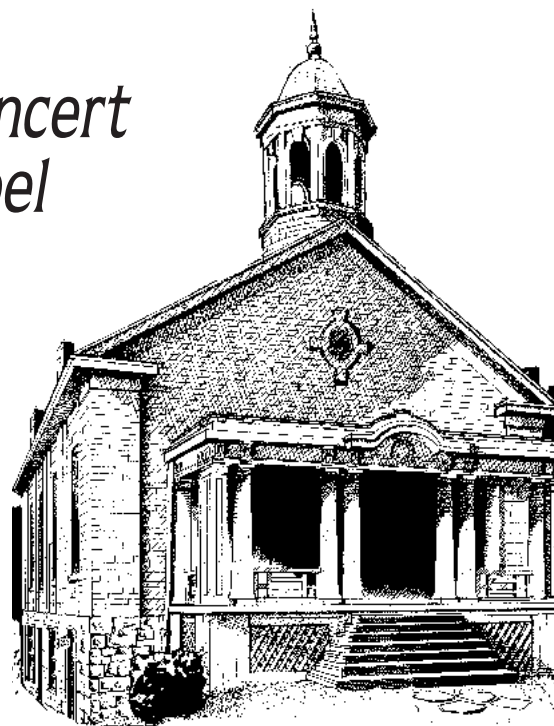
"Every music group in the church will perform one piece during the concert," Kevin says. "As the next group moves into place, a hymn will

be sung. The afternoon will be all about music in our church."

The Chancel Choir will be a featured group during the Festival of Praise concert.

Other activities marking the 150th anniversary of the Chapel will be held throughout the weekend. Sunday worship will be lead by Bishop Robert Schnase and will feature a brass choir and special music from the Chancel Choir.

On Saturday, an open house with a picnic, displays and special music will be held in the Chapel.



Holiday Party Returns to Spazio's On Jan. 6, 2007

We're headed back to Spazio's in Westport next year for the Chancel Choir holiday party set for Saturday, Jan. 6, 2007.

For many years, the Chancel Choir's annual Christmas party was held in various choir members' homes. Until we got too big, that is. Then parties were held at the Ballwin Recreation Center.

When schedules began to conflict and nearly 100 people began showing up, it was decided a change was in order. So now, we have a elegant holiday party in early January.

This year there may even be a live band. You'll want to be sure and put Jan. 6 on your calendar.

Wanted: New Members

Think the Chancel Choir is too big? Think we don't need new members? Think again. The bigger we get, the more members we need to sustain the programming for a large choir and the additional responsibilities for worship services. If you know a potential singer, bring them with you – now.

Celebrating the end of the season at this year's finale party in May. Photos, clockwise from top:

Bertha Erhardt shares a joke, Queen Debbie Kennedy assumes a regal attitude, three divas listen intently, as two basses wait for the buffet to open.

Service of Lessons and Carols Presents Christmas Pomp and Procession

Christmas this year will be observed by the Chancel Choir with a traditional and formal service of Lessons and Carols.

The service will include traditional Christmas carols combined with scriptural readings and meditations. If you enjoy traditional Christmas music, this will be a service for you.

The Lessons and Carols format was first performed in 1918 at Kings

College in London. Each year since, the BBC broadcasts the service live on Christmas eve.

Our service is being designed by Ted Cronbaugh, the church's music assistant and Chancel Choir accompanist.

It will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 17. The handbell's will provide pre-concert music beginning at 7 p.m.

The Fall Welcome – Let's Eat!

By Kevin McBeth

One of my favorite restaurants on the hill is Favaza's! I don't get there nearly as often as I would like, but that's probably good, since I usually order their Fettuccini Alfredo!

Anytime I have a conversation with someone about food on the Hill, I always recommend Favaza's. Most importantly, I heard about the restaurant from my friend, Diane! She loves it, too!

(I think you all know where this is going!) It's still true that the best advertisement is a satisfied customer!

This will be another exciting year for the Chancel Choir, and since we like to eat almost as much as we like to sing, I thought the restaurant comparison was a good one. If you have a favorite place you like to eat, you're going to recommend it to other people! Plain and simple!

With Carl's return and all of our usual activities this fall, our schedule is full. (Be sure to read the information about our upcoming activities!) Over that last 6 years, the responsibility of the choir has grown, and our presence in worship is vital. I hear regularly from new members who joined MUMC because of the music program. That's exciting and kinda' scary, too!

So...here's the BIG NEWS! Starting on September 3rd, the Chancel Choir will sing at 9:00 and 10:30 every week! While this new weekly double duty will stretch us, it is a necessary part of our ministry and outreach to the congregation!

Many choirs, much smaller than ours sing regularly for two services. I think this is a

responsibility we can handle, without losing the musical integrity we're known for.

With that as our focus, continued growth in the choir is imperative! The good news is that there are already several new singers who have expressed an interest in the choir.

In the next few weeks, as you are meeting new people, you should also be wearing your recruiting (evangelism) hat. To get you ready

to reach out, here are some easy instructions for you to remember as you encounter a potential choir member:

- Make the first

move – introduce yourself.

- Find out their name and write it down.
- Ask about their past musical interests.
- If possible, introduce the newcomer to Kevin.

• Tell them some of the reasons that Chancel Choir is important to you!

• If the opportunity arises, take the newcomer on a tour to find the Music Room.

• Arrive early at the first rehearsal, to greet them as they come.

I have another friend named Joe, who loves sushi! He knows that I'm not a fan of sushi, but he still recommends it to me every once in a while. It must just be too sophisticated for my tastes, but I just can't do it. So remember, choir is not for everyone – even though YOU love it!

As my summer convention season comes to a close, I am reminded again of what a lucky, blessed, and fortunate person I am. As I have bragged on you all over the country, I still think I have the greatest job in the world.

See you very soon!



It should be a purple heart to go with their purple robes. A broken arm and injured foot didn't stop soprano divas Shannon Meriwether and Karen Fair from performing this spring.

Got Music? Bring It Back

The only thing worse than a stressed librarian is a distressed one. The Chancel Choir librarians are distressed because there are more than 200 pieces of music missing.

They say Chancel Choir members failed to turn in all that music at the end of the season in May. That's a sizable missing treasurer at \$2 to \$6 a copy. So please go through your piano bench, glove box, trunk, kitchen counter or anywhere else things accumulate at your house and see if you can find some of the choir's music.

New Server Speeds Web Site, Email

The Chancel Choir's web site was moved to a more powerful server this spring. Besides running faster, the server allows better control over our email update distribution. The web site has also been updated. Check it out at www.chancelchoir.org.

New Members Are Choir's Lifeline

It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes a neighborhood filled with lots of new people to keep a big choir growing and vital. So, if you're tempted to say "we're big enough and don't need anybody else" we'd like to tell you "it ain't so." Read the new member profiles below to see why choir membership is as important to the new members as it is to the choir.

Research Leads Physician To Bass Section

By Libby Dean

Leave it to a physician to conduct research when looking for a church choir. After Bass Ken Ligaray moved to Ballwin from the windy city, his research told him Manchester United Methodist Church and its Chancel Choir were for him.

"What first attracted me to the choir was its size and that the people were warm and accepting," Ligaray said.

Ligaray is currently training at



Ligaray

Washington University to be an endocrinologist and has been an assistant choir director. He's enjoyed choral singing since grade school.

The fact that the Chancel Choir is much bigger than his previous choirs has made his first year with us very memorable, he said.

Ligaray says his most unforgettable moment so far was the Christmas concert last December. "Seeing the choir, the brass choir, and the orchestra all come together and make such beautiful music was memorable," he said.

Since joining the Chancel Choir, Ligaray says he feels linked to countless other churchgoers and loves it.

Open Hearts Bring Her To Choir's Doors

By Libby Dean

It was the open hearts and open minds of Chancel Choir members that brought Soprano Jan Fredstrom through the open doors of Manchester United Methodist Church.

"I found the choir very accepting, and I was warmly received after my friends, Dick Vreeland and Jean Kinnard, invited me, to practices and the retreats," Fredstrom said.

Though Fredstrom, a retired nurse with Headstart, is not a member of our church, she still participates in Chancel Choir.

"Choir members were understanding and did not pressure me to change my member status,"

Fredstrom said. This made her overall experience in choir a positive one.

Having participated in forms of

choir all her life, Fredstrom has sung multiple renditions of many church pieces.

However, her most memorable experience in Chancel Choir so far was our performance of John Rutter's "Pipe Carol" last December.

She had sang Pipe Carol with another choir, but the accompaniment by members of the St. Louis Symphony and the overall atmosphere last year made the performance memorable, she said.

"Music is a very spiritual experience," Fredstrom says. "It is a great way to get involved and to worship."



Fredstrom

Chancel

President

By Chris Kennedy

As Beethoven might have said to Johann Sebastian if he had ever visited Beethoven's home: "Welcome Bach!!!!" Yes, I know they lived during different times!! As you can tell, I've been brushing up on my puns, and that can only mean one thing – the fall choir season is about to begin!

I am excited about starting the 2006-7 choir year. I'm excited not because I am the president, but because of all the wonderful opportunities we will have this year to share our ministry with our community. As you know we are trying to expand the outreach of our choir beyond the traditional Sunday morning worship service singing.

We are proactively moving forward with our commitment to working with Centenary United Methodist Church in the city. We are working on a conference room rehab project, as well as determining how we can help monthly, either during the week or on Saturdays serving meals to the needy.

As you can see from just this relationship alone, we have some lofty goals ahead of us with respect to outreach and community support. I hope we can move these tasks from the idea and planning stages to the work in progress or completion mode. I know I can count on each of you to do your part in making these projects happen.

We are also going to explore sharing our choir ministry on selected Sundays with mini choirs assisting smaller churches within the city bringing music to their congregations.

Of course the other part of my excitement is the music we sing. I'm looking forward to all of the different selections, some old favorites and some new and a little more demanding. I know I can count on each member to make a commitment to making this year another outstanding year of service to the Church and Kevin and our congregation.

I plan to continue the fine example set by Mary Dean and past presidents. Our goals remain the same...to make this choir ministry fun, enjoyable and committed to the spreading of the gospel through our talent of singing.

I look forward to serving each of you this year as we fellowship together and plan to continue our "Who am I" series and will try to have a notebook ready after the first couple of weeks. I encourage you to participate in this program and to continue to invite new members to join our ranks (tenors are especially welcomed)!!

I hope you have had a great summer! Get those vocal chords ready! It's gonna be a GREAT year!

Profiles were written by guest correspondent Libby Dean, an aspiring journalism student and daughter of Soprano Mary Dean.

Notes

Chancel

NO REALITY HERE. From the creators of Survivor, the Apprentice, American Idol, Last Comic Standing and Hell's Kitchen comes the latest reality TV show – Voices of Joy.



We knew there would be a reality show about church choirs someday and auditions begin in September. Imagine TV cameras following us around rehearsals, gatherings in the parking lot, in the Music Room on Sunday morning or on the bus on our next tour.

Cameras will peer into our folders.

Microphones will reveal our hidden most gossip. It could feature real juicy stuff like librarians on a folder rampage looking for missing music, the robe

matron checking for all who zip and hook, the saved seats for missing friends, or the dreaded soloist auditions.

But a quick check of the show's web site at www.voicesofjoytv.com reveals that we don't qualify to partici-



Who are these people? New choir members? Just Bass John and Soprano Joan Lemen posing in Pennsylvania in 1972, a very good year for hair.

pate. We're too big. Choirs must have less than 60 singers. And we're not in the right location. Choirs must be from churches within a 100 mile radius of the listed major cities. St. Louis didn't make the cut and is too far away.

So, the truth about the Chancel Choir will remain hidden to national TV audiences. We'll miss our 15 minutes of fame.

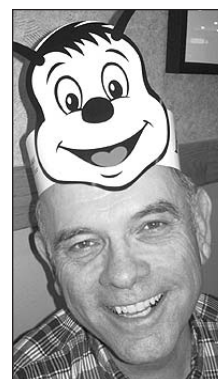
OH, WISE ONE. Don't look now, but we have an Avatar Master in our midst. **Alto Sandra Wiechel** spent some time in Florida interning at an Avatar training center. She reports that the program "opens a window to the inner working of your own consciousness." We wish her good luck with that.

BRING THE CAR AROUND.
Sopranos Carol

Lembke, Sue Lemley, JoAnn Jones and Claudia Fallert all attended a July performance of the play Menopause in the company of a male escort. That would be husband Ray Lembke.

BONNIE AND CLYDE? A rattlesnake, automatic weapons and a brush with the law were highlights of **Soprano Shari Sevier's** southwestern vacation. While golfing at Tucson, husband Bill was escorted off the green by police with machine guns after a man ran onto the course during a shoot out with police. A rattlesnake attempted an attack while they hiked in Mesa Verde and a friendly Kansas highway patrolmen offered a speeding ticket on the high plains.

HE'S GUILTY. What's worse than



Perfect protective head gear for a budding safety engineer. Bass Tom Lawrence tests the logo gifts at Home Town Buffet.

one Campbell on jury duty? Two Campbells. **Both Tenor Mike and Alto Pam Campbell** were called to jury duty at the same time in July. Mike heard a civil case and Pam sent a suspect to the slammer for attempted murder.

CAN'T WAIT. Finally a venue appropriate for some of our solo talent. Karaoke Idol at the retreat should answer this question once and for all: "Are all our sections "pitchy" or just one in particular?"

TWO TIMING. If we're going to sit through two worship services every week, one bass says we either need better reading material or better sermons.

TRUE DEDICATION. Even though there were 26 singers in both the women's and men's special ensembles this summer. The truth is in the stats. The men's participation was a hefty 41 percent of their 62 members. While the women could only muster 23 percent of their 112 singers.

Soprano Barb Barrett poses in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. A return trip to England and a side trip to France was on her to-do list this summer.



The world renowned Anton Armstrong chows down in Fellowship Hall before a performance of the great St. Olaf Choir.