

CHANCEL CHOIR REPORT

This is going to be a short report! COVID has silenced the chancel choir for almost all of 2021. Fortunately, we have been able to rely on the recordings of our Sunday services going back to 2015. We were able to pull clips of past choir anthems and use them for services. But viewing these recordings has also highlighted the reality that a number of our former choir members are no longer with us. People moving, health issues, and death have left numerous voids in our group. We did return to singing the end of November. But we did so after the resignation of longtime accompanist Lee Augustin. Her talents and humor were gifts that cannot be replaced. We welcome Jim Sharpe to the accompanist role and look forward to his support. In the past 2 years, the world has changed. Life will never return to 'the way it was.'

Because numerous scientific and psychological studies have shown that music can lift our moods, combat depression, improve blood flow in ways similar to statins, lower levels of stress-related hormones such as cortisol, and ease pain, the choir looks forward to doing its best to keep us all healthy in 2022.

Bob Arp
Chancel Choir Director