

Chancel Choir Report 2020

What can be said about the last year that hasn't already been said? If someone had asked me in February 2020 what my expectations for the choir were for the coming fall, I sure couldn't have predicated the reality. Our choir rehearsals came to an abrupt halt mid-March and we still don't know when they will resume. There was a short period of time in late September where we thought we had a plan to at least record some new choir selections to include in the Sunday services. Then the second wave of the virus hit and it was worse than the first. It is such a blessing that we have over 200 recordings of our choir anthems and special summer music from the past 5 years. As of mid-November, we had incorporated 20 into the Sunday live services.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the musicians that recorded special music when our services were all remote, to Lee Augustin for her flexibility to be ready to accompany them at a moment's notice, and to Tim Rathje for clipping musical selections from previous year's services and getting them ready to be enjoyed in place of live singing, and for recording special music when needed.

What will 2021 bring? I think that I can safely say that we really have no idea. The choir 'family' has been missing this important part of our lives. But we remain hopeful and look forward to the time when the amazing men and women of the Chancel Choir can once again gather to raise our voices in song.

Bob Arp

Chancel Choir Director