Sing a New Song

Mennonite Children's Choir OF LANCASTER



Fall 2020

Rosemary Siegrist Blessing, Artistic Director Chamber Choir

Sarah Wingard, Director Carol Choir and Concert Choir

Jonathan Shoff, Director Men's Ensemble



A Program of Lancaster Mennonite School

Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster

Each voice brings beauty to the whole. The audio you hear today reflects each face you see on stage. MCCL singers invested hours in rigorous learning during Tuesday evening rehearsals and weekly at-home practice. They submitted individual audio recordings now compiled in rich choral unity. With joy, MCCL sings a new song!

unity. With joy, week sings a new song:	
Concert and Chamber Choirs	
Bring Me Little Water, Silvy	Huddie W. Ledbetter (Lead Belly)
	arr. Moira Smiley
	Body percussion by Evie Ladin
Bring me little water Silvy	Silvy come a runnin'
Bring me little water now	Bucket in her hand
Bring me little water Silvy	I will bring a little water
Ev'ry little once in a while.	Fast as I can.
Bring it in a bucket Silvy	Can't you see me comin'
Bring it in a bucket now	Can't you see me now
Bring it in a bucket Silvy	I will bring a little water
Ev'ry little once in a while.	Ev'ry little once in a while.
Carol Choir and Prelude Music For Us	Randall Goodgame
from 1 John 3:16	
This is how we know what love is	And we ought to lay our lives down
Jesus Christ laid down his life for us	For our brothers and sisters
	For us, Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.
Men's Ensemble	
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning	Traditional Spiritual
	arr. Greg Gilpen
	Body percussion by Jonathan Shoff
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning.	Children don't get weary,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, The time is drawing nigh.	Don't get weary till your work is done.
Chamber Choir	
We are Not Alone	Penner Chonlin
We are Not Alone	Body percussion by Matthew Woodson Soloists: Sophia Wenger & Carter Palmer

We are not alone, God is with us.

And God will make us strong, for God is with us. We will press on, for God is with us.

We are never alone, for God is with us. Now, through all our days, always. Forever and ever.

Concert and Chamber Choirs

We who walk in darkness deep now See the light of morning

The mighty God, the Prince of Peace

A child to us is born.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Behold, the Lamb of God, the life and light of men. Behold, the Lamb of God, who died and rose again.

Behold, the Lamb of God,

Who comes to take away our sin.

Wand'rers in the wilderness Now hear a voice is crying

Prepare the way, make straight the paths

Your king has come to die.

Son of God (Emmanuel)
Son of Man (We praise You)
Behold the Lamb, the hope of man

Behold the Lamb.

Bolingo...... Nigerian Traditional

arr. Bryan Welton

Choreography by Janet Peck, Percussion by Tammi Hessen

Soloist Juliana Umble

Bolingo kwasambe

Our love for God is beyond my understanding
Walike, baline

He sent his only son Jesus to die for us.

He, walidi deli bi soh yeh,

Sumo bi kesi.

Sailela ke mukosi There is great joy in serving my king.

Okoia menesembo.

Carol Choir

Uyai moseZimbabwe, Alexander Gondo

arr. John Bell

Choreography by Darlene Hein, Percussion by Tammi Hessen

Uyai mose, Come, all you people,
Tinamate Mwari. Come and praise your Maker.
Uyai mose zvino. Come now and worship the Lord.

Carol, Concert, and Chamber Choirs

Silent Night Franz Gruber (music), Joseph Mohr (text)

Accompaniament Arr. Jonathan Shoff

Descant: Tirza Martin & Sophia Wenger

Sign Language Soloists: Chloe Friesen, Delaney Lewis, Noelle Brubaker

Jared Bowman, Sarah Nolt, Jared Rothenberger

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht

Alles schläft, einsam wacht.

Silent night, holy night

All is calm, all is bright.

Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.

Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,

Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,

Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

Round yon virgin Mother and Child.

Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace!

Thank you for being at our concert showcase today! May you be inspired by young singers glorifying Jesus Christ through excellent choral music. We invite you to generously give to support the mission of MCCL. Giving options listed in program insert. Soli Deo Gloria!

Prelude Music

Micah Blessing
Emmett Brubaker
Adalyn Carlson
Mya Hershey

Ayasha Kauffman Isaiah Knappman Rose Packard Shaun Rhinier

Clara Rohrer Josiah Siegrist Daniel Shoff Catherine Stetler Edward Weaver II Nathaniel Weaver Kai Zook

Carol Choir/Choristers I

Simon Bird		
Joelyn Blessing		
Collette Carlson		
Micah Carlson		
Martha Colfer		
Landry Cox		
Chloe Friesen		
Grace Gallinaugh		
Kaia Helmuth		

Elyse Hershey Tayah Julian Carmelo Kauffman Arie Lapp Delaney Lewis Jesse Livengood Seth Livengood Lydia Manyara Sara Manyara

Hagan Nolt Elijah Pierce Isabel Reinford Brian Rhinier Bennet Rohrer Elsie Kate Rohrer Tage Rohrer Meredith Shoff Michael Shoff

Abigail Siegrist Kate Stuart Ethan Weaver Lily Weaver Samuel Weaver Sophia Weaver Toby Weaver

Concert Choir/Choristers II

Melina Beidler
Ava Bird
Jared Bowman
Meiryn Brady
Noelle Brubaker
Sofia Brubaker
Delaney Cox

Lexi Cox Brennan Kauffman Maria Kelly Caleb Kreider Rachel Landes Seth Lantz Annika Locke Malloree Marshall Katrina Martin Katurah Martin Caleb Nolt Hendrik Nolt Hugh Nolt Jada Rohrer Sophia Spurrier Anna Stuart Arturo Veras Miranda Veras Noah Weaver Mia Wenger Rakela Zguri

Chamber Choir

Julia Fisher Kirsten Kauffman Tirza Martin Maddalena Masciale-Walmer Pree Pree Paw Mi Mi Poe

Soprano

Pree Pree Paw Mi Mi Poe Deanna Smoker Elsa Weaver Sophia Wenger

Alto Lauren Keeny Abrianna Nissley Sarah Nolt May Shee Hta Po Juliana Umble

TenorNathan Bowman Aaron Hershey August Nolt Carter Palmer Alejandro Veras

Bass Josiah Gingrich Josiah Kerr Dylan Leed James Rothenberger Jared Rothenberger Micaiah Weaver

Guest Artists and Clinicians



Randall Goodgame

Slugs & Bugs by Randall Goodgame creates music and stories full of faith and silliness for the whole family to delight in and sing for years to come. Slugs & Bugs believe those shared experiences will translate into stronger relationships in the family and a deeper understanding of their relationship with Jesus. In 2006, Randall and Andrew Peterson released the album Slugs & Bugs & Lullabies. Slugs & Bugs music is among the most revered and critically lauded series in Christian family entertainment, garnering multiple Dove Award nominations and millions of streams online. In 2019, Randall released his first 4 picture books and in 2020 released 5 more picture books. In 2019, a new Slugs & Bugs Show featured good times, good music, and the Good News in a 13-episode TV series.

Engagement with MCCL singers: Randall Goodgame shared his joy and love of writing children's music with Carol Choir, Choristers I, and Prelude Music singers. Singers learned and listened to Goodgame's music in the weeks leading up to an evening together. During the Zoom session, Goodgame shared a mini concert. He answered singer questions, including when he wrote his first song, why he writes music, how many instruments he plays, and whether he likes to play games. His enthusiasm was infectious, and singers were inspired by his music gifts and love for Jesus. Singers had a great time pulling together their virtual *For Us* choir project with Randall.



Tammi Hessen

Tammi Hessen is drawn to transformative arts—she is a local therapist and drumming teacher in the Lancaster, Reading, and Harrisburg areas. Tammi teaches African drumming at Franklin & Marshall College and has taught at Millersville University. She has a small private therapy practice and teaches empowering local drumming classes. Tammi is a member of several music bands and performance groups, is a mother, and lives with her family in Lancaster.

Engagement with MCCL singers: Tammi Hessen shared expertise and knowledge on African music and drumming. Each choir learned an African vocal piece (*Uyai Mose* or *Bolingo*). Hessen then took the choir on a journey of exploring traditional African drumming rhythms to accompany these pieces. Singers learned to perform and respond to specific African rhythms in a drum circle. They also learned characteristics of the genre and came to understand the many layers of their piece (vocal, movement, and percussion).



Andrew Peterson

Andrew Peterson is a singer-songwriter, author, and founder of the Rabbit Room. Andrew has released more than ten records over the past twenty years, earning him a reputation for songs that connect with his listeners in ways equally powerful, poetic, and intimate. As an author, Andrew's books include the four volumes of the award-winning Wingfeather Saga, released in collectible hardcover editions through Random House in 2020, and his creative memoir, *Adorning the Dark*, released in 2019 through B&H Publishing. In 2008, Andrew co-founded the Rabbit Room, a nonprofit organization based in Nashville, Tennessee that fosters Christ-centered community and spiritual formation through music, story, and art.

Engagement with MCCL singers: Andrew Peterson inspired Concert, Choristers II, and Chamber Choir singers with his passion for music, Jesus, and sharing faith through story. Singers listened to many different Peterson songs and interviews as part of their weekly practice assignments in preparation for an evening Zoom and virtual collaboration of *Behold the Lamb* with Peterson. In a captivating evening on Zoom with singers, Peterson shared his life story telling how he began songwriting and performing, of the challenges and joys of writing music; and he responded to singer questions such as how he works through writing blocks and the recording process.



Matthew Woodson

Matthew Woodson is an educator, performer and entrepreneur based out of Lancaster, PA. A percussionist by trade, he can be seen with local band Big Boy Brass and other local production companies. As the Director of Community Percussion for the local non-profit Music For Everyone, he instructs students in the School District of Lancaster and facilitates numerous group drumming events and programs.

Engagement with MCCL singers: Matthew Woodson spent time with each choir exploring how rhythm and body percussion connected to the fall repertoire. Singers actively engaged their whole bodies in coordination activities to develop their listening skills, focus, and independent sense of rhythm. A highlight for Chamber Choir was learning Woodson's original body percussion arrangement for *We are not Alone*.

Artistic Staff



Rosemary Siegrist Blessing Artistic Director, Chamber Choir

Rosemary holds degrees in piano performance and business administration from Eastern Mennonite University and has pursued graduate study in choral music. She maintains a private piano studio and teaches piano at Franklin and Marshall College. Rosemary is an active pianist in the Lancaster area, having accompanied various choral groups, and currently plays with the Allegro Orchestra. Rosemary and her husband, Josh, attend Landis Valley Christian Fellowship with their two young children.



Jonathan Shoff Director, Men's Ensemble / Accompanist, Chamber Choir

Jonathan earned his bachelor's degree in music education from Millersville University with a concentration in piano and a minor in voice. He also holds a Master of Music from West Chester University. Jonathan teaches elementary school music in the School District of Lancaster. He teaches private instrumental and voice lessons and serves as artistic director for the Music For Everyone Lancaster Community Chorus. Along with his wife and their three children, he worships at Lancaster Alliance Church.



Sarah Wingard
Director, Carol and Concert Choirs

Sarah earned her bachelor's degree in music education from Messiah College with a concentration in voice and extensive study in piano. Growing up in Virginia, Sarah gained early musical experience singing with the nationally acclaimed Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir. Sarah teaches elementary music at the Locust Grove campus of Lancaster Mennonite School. In addition to helping with local music camps and events, Sarah teaches private voice lessons. Sarah also sings and regularly solos with the Susquehanna Chorale.



Sharon Ho
Accompanist, Carol and Concert Choirs

Sharon graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance. She teaches elementary orchestra at Conestoga Valley School District. Sharon also teaches piano lessons at Linden Hall School. Sharon has been featured as the piano soloist with the Pennsylvania Academy of Music Orchestra, Hershey Symphony Orchestra, and Millersville University Orchestra. Sharon has accompanied various vocal and instrumental soloists, pit orchestras, and choirs of all ages.



Monica Hochstedler Carlson Director, Prelude Music

Monica holds a Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy and Performance from Westminster Choir College and a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Goshen College. She has taught general elementary music in public schools as well as at Eastern Mennonite Elementary School in Harrisonburg, VA. In addition, Monica built a thriving private piano studio in VA and has served as a private and group piano instructor at Goshen College (IN), Southern Methodist University (TX), Shenandoah Valley Preparatory Music (VA) and Woodberry Forest School (VA).



Melody Martin
Director, Choristers

Melody holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education with a focus in piano from Millersville University. As an undergraduate, she served as a Music Research Fellow, as an accompanist for the University Choir, and as a supervisor for the Pre-college Program associated with Lancaster Mennonite School. Melody is an MCCL alumna who sang for eight years in Carol, Concert, and Chamber choirs. Melody also taught middle school music and choir at Lititz Area Mennonite School.

Additional Music Staff, Fall 2020



Elisa Chodan

Assistant, Carol Choir/Choristers I & II/ Concert Choir

Elisa is a full-time music educator, teaching choir and general music at Veritas Academy and Lancaster Academy for the Performing Arts. She also leads the women's chorus at Lancaster Bible College. Elisa holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education and a master's degree in Voice Performance from Bob Jones University with additional graduate credits from Westminster Choir College. She was a 2019-20 VOCES8 US Scholar and a two-time summer intern with VOCES8 in Europe.



Darlene M. Hein Assistant, Carol Choir/Choristers I

Darlene earned her master's degree in music education from Towson State University and bachelor's degree in music education from Lebanon Valley College where her performance area was voice. She has taught music in public and private schools and has served as a church musician. Currently, Darlene teaches music to students in prekindergarten through fifth grade for Lancaster Mennonite School at the New Danville Campus. Darlene served as MCCL's Carol and Concert Choir artistic director for nine years and Prelude Music instructor for a semester.



Laura Metzler Assistant, Prelude Music

Laura has a degree in Elementary Education, with a concentration in Spanish and significant coursework in music, from Houghton College. She has enjoyed teaching private piano, guitar, and violin lessons over the last 15 years and leads worship in her home congregation at Laurel Street Mennonite.



Lindsey Stauffer
Assistant, Carol Choir Choristers I & II/Concert Choir

Lindsey is a music educator living in East Petersburg, PA. She studied music education at Millersville University and completed her master's degree in choral conducting from West Chester University. Lindsey teaches choir, elementary strings, and general music at Dayspring Christian Academy and has a small private piano studio. She has assisted with MCCL in small roles in the past and has enjoyed working with the delightful MCCL singers each week this semester!

Administrative Staff



Maria Bowman Managing Director / Choir Manager

Maria holds a Bachelor of Arts with concentrations in psychology, education, and English from Eastern Mennonite University and has taken graduate level classes in education. She serves as a Family Life Educator at COBYS Family Services, facilitating classes for families. Previously, she worked as a special education teacher and in Human Resources at Eastern Mennonite Missions. She attends Rossmere Mennonite Church with her family.



Monica Hochstedler Carlson Program Assistant

Monica holds a Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy and Performance from Westminster Choir College and a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Goshen College. Administratively, Monica managed her own piano studio and served as operations manager at a children's museum and as Director of Piano Preparatory departments at Southern Methodist University (TX) and Goshen College (IN).



Donna Hershey Bookkeeper

Donna holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Millersville University. Donna has worked in the construction field as a bookkeeper or controller for more than 19 years. She loves details and numbers. She attends Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community. All her four children have sung in MCCL.

Mission

... training children and youth to glorify Jesus Christ through excellent choral singing.

Vision

We will develop musical excellence and discipline in children and youth, equipping them for a lifetime of worship and service to the Christian community.

We will pass on our singing heritage through Christ-centered repertoire that affirms Anabaptist beliefs and reflects the musical diversity of the church around the world and through time.

Who We Are

The Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster is a program of Lancaster Mennonite School. MCCL is composed of three auditioned choirs and two programs:

Carol Choir grades 2-5
Concert Choir grades 6-8
Chamber Choir grades 9-12

Prelude Music kindergarten - grade 1

Choristers I & II grades 2-8

We invite singers and families whose personal mission and vision align with ours to join us next season. Please contact one of the directors to schedule an audition or the administrative assistant to schedule a concert.

MCCL Advisory Board

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Diana Locke, Secretary

Lamar Myers, Treasurer

Jeremy Brubaker

Lyn Carlson

Larry Guengerich

Noah Martin

Lauren Pierce

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Contact Information

Rosemary Siegrist Blessing Chamber Choir and Men's Ensemble chamberchoir@lancastermennonite.org

Sarah Wingard
Carol Choir and Concert Choir
carolandconcertchoir@lancastermennonite.org

Maria Bowman
Prelude Music and Choristers
Information on booking MCCL
mccl@lancastermennonite.org

www.mennonitechildrenschoir.org

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Thank you to these business sponsors who support the choir's mission to train children and youth to glorify Jesus Christ through excellent choral singing. Donor list is current as of November 3, 2020.

Presto, sprinting with us
Friend of MCCL
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Allegro, running with us University Music

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If you are interested in joining with MCCL, contact our choir manager at mccl@lancastermennonite.org.

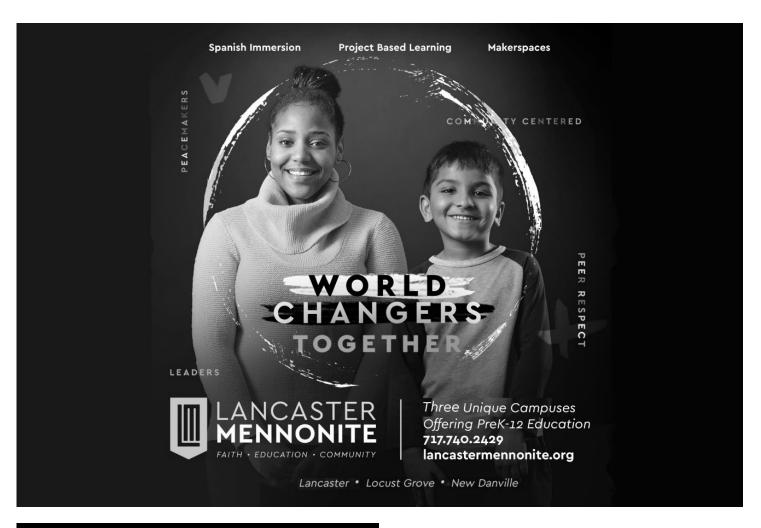
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Thank you to a friend of MCCL for donating the food mixes for our fall 2020 fundraiser. Your generosity helps us keep singing in new ways.





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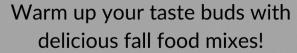
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100% of proceeds support MCCL singers.

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Excellent choral training for children and youth in kindergarten through grade 12.



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For information about becoming a business sponsor contact mccl@lancastermennonite.org / 717-455-7025



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MCCL

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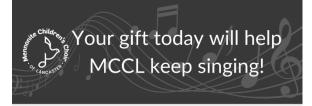
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Lauren Westgate Tony Wright

Leon & Naomi Zimmerman Richard & Ethel Zimmerman



MCCL singers receive over 80 hours of excellent choral training through rehearsals, concerts, masterclasses/retreats, and local tour days each year.

\$50 provides 4 hours of excellent choral training
\$100 provides 8 hours of excellent choral training
\$250 provides 20 hours of excellent choral training
\$500 provides a full semester of excellent choral training

Visit www.mennonitechildrenschoir.org/donate to give the gift of singing!

Special thanks to:

- Parents and families who volunteer their time, encourage their children, and faithfully transport them to MCCL functions
- Chris Freeman, volunteer music librarian
- Kay and Silvanus Martin, volunteer bus drivers
- Meredith Fisher, Leslie Spurrier, and Elizabeth Masciale-Walmer, volunteer editors
- MCCL Advisory Board members
- Lancaster Mennonite School administration and staff
- Blossom Hill Mennonite Church and Neffsville Mennonite Church for rental space

Our fall semester would not have been possible without the time, energy, and creativity from the following individuals and businesses. Thank you to:

- Sue Cox, grandparent of four MCCL singers, for sewing all the singing masks!
- Beth Leaman, grandparent of two MCCL singers, for assisting with cutting materials for singing masks.
- The Old Country Store for donating fabric for singing masks.
- Paul and Sue Pearce, MCCL supporters, for providing resources for the remaining materials needed to make singing masks.
- Ryan Rohrer, Lancaster Mennonite School Technical Director, for providing a sound system for our outdoor rehearsals and helping with concert showcase logistics.
- Kevin and Letitia Weaver, parents of five MCCL singers, for providing a sound system for our outdoor rehearsals and helping with set-up each week.
- Jon Carlson, parent of three MCCL singers, for videography and video creation of concert showcase.
- Todd Bowman, parent of two MCCL singers, for running sound during concert showcase and for the video creation of "For Us."
- Rosemary Blessing, MCCL Artistic Director, for organizing audio and video recordings.
- Sarah Wingard, MCCL director, for investing countless hours in creating compiled audio tracks.
- Martin's Flooring and Stiegel Valley Flooring for providing carpet squares.
- Lancaster Mennonite School Locust Grove campus for loaning hula hoops.
- Parents and community members for providing logistical assistance at rehearsals each week:

Addie Bird Marcy High Dawn Keeny Lauren Pierce

Lyn Carlson Nicole Julian Linda Kerr Matt and Leslie Spurrier

Alicia Colfer Dawn Kazcor Wendy Palmer Randy Westgate



Fall 2020 Concert Showcase

Saturday, November 14 2 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

Lancaster Mennonite School (turf field)

Pre-registration and tickets (free) required

A video recording of the concert will be posted on our website on November 20. Visit one of the following websites to view the recording.

www.mennonitechildrenschoir.org www.bit.ly/ExtraGiveMCCL

Lititz Springs Outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 4

6:30 p.m.

Lititz Springs Park

Pre-registration and tickets (free) required

Details will soon be available on the Lititz Springs Park Facebook page and at

www.lititzspringspark.org

A small group of MCCL singers will share music in a format like the concert showcase (recorded audio with live drumming, body percussion, and sign language).

Landis Homes and Moravian Manor Communities

Sunday, December 6 Not open to the public

Small groups of MCCL singers will share music outside in a format like the concert showcase (recorded audio with live drumming, body percussion, and sign language).

