

Holiday concert preparations:

- We currently have 39 singers participating in the holiday concert.
- Since our meeting last month, we had to change our recording plan. We felt it is no longer safe for the “in person” singers to lead the rehearsals. Likewise, it is no longer safe for the chorale to record in groups of four.
- I recorded a brief tutorial to encourage singers to record their own videos at home. Some have done so, and many recordings are coming in this weekend.
- We also offered the option of recording one at a time in a “photo booth” type setting. Jean set up one location at Community Church of Douglas and I set up another at Calvary Baptist Church. Quite a few members recorded in those two settings.
- I have recordings from the following special guests for the holiday concert:
 - The Handbell Choir of First Reformed Church
 - Judi and Kurt Stroh (Handbell duo from Hudsonville)
 - Rick VanOss (organ) with Norma and Bill Ashby and Cheryl VanOss (handbells)
 - The Chancel Choir of Park Church, Grand Rapids
- Planning to record the video of organ duo Kristin and Aaron Goodyke this week.
- Concert will premiere on YouTube on Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 PM.

Spring Concert Preparations:

- The virtual recording is starting to wear thin with a number of our singers, so I'm looking to shake up the routine for the spring concert. We will still have to rehearse virtually for the concert.
- There will be four small ensembles of 8-10 singers, each charged with preparing two selections on their own, plus one that will be performed (virtually) by the full Chorale.
- The four ensembles will be led by different conductors (Chorale members if possible) who will also sing with the group. I'm still working to recruit those directors, who will also need an accompanist unless the conductors play.
- The music will NOT be the scheduled BEETHOVEN AND THE BEATLES. Instead I'm choosing simpler, familiar music with a theme of hope and faith. The title will be SPRINGING FORWARD and will start rehearsals Jan. 19.