

TENTATIVE 2022-23 Season Planning

September, 2022: GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING –

- Date TBD by planning committee, but sometime in September
- Tentative venue – Windmill Island
- Planning committee will keep Artistic Committee updated as plans firm up.

October, 2022: ADVENTURES IN HARMONY –

- Date TBD, but sometime in early October.
- Pam Pierson has stepped down from her role as coordinator, so Patrick and Sarah VandenBrink (the board's community engagement chair) are working to recruit someone to fill that role.
- We have a verbal commitment from Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams to be the clinician, but that is dependent on securing a date and venue.
- Venue possibilities include one of the high schools (Zeeland, West Ottawa and Holland have the best facilities for the event), or possibly Fellowship Reformed Church (which offered to host last year before the event was canceled.)

December, 2022: HOLIDAY CONCERT

What Sweeter Music

- Tentatively Sunday, December 11, 2022 *(This is a change from the Artistic Committee's discussion last night. Hope Vespers will be Sat-Sun, December 3-4.)*
- Featuring the holiday music of John Rutter, a J.S. Bach Christmas Cantata and more.
- Potential collaborators include Holland Bach Society and West MI Children's Choir.
- One performance or two? Will depend on final choices of collaborators. With other events happening (Hope Vespers, HSO concerts), two performances gives people more option to attend, but is demanding for singers and collaborators.

WINTER CONCERT

Considering Matthew Shepard

- Sunday, February 26, 2023 in Holland
- Potential additional out of town performances: Kalamazoo First Congregational Church, St. Mark Episcopal or Park Congregational Church of Grand Rapids.
- <https://youtu.be/72QZJ-uJFKk>
- In October of 1998, Matthew Shepard, a young, gay student at the University of Wyoming in Laramie was kidnapped, severely beaten, tied to a fence and left to die in a lonely field under a blanket of stars. Five days later, when Matt passed away, the world was watching. This three-part fusion oratorio speaks with a fresh and bold voice, incorporating a variety of musical styles seamlessly woven into a unified whole. Johnson sets a wide range of poetic and soulful texts by poets including Hildegard of Bingen, Lesléa Newman, Michael Dennis Browne, and Rumi. Passages from Matt's personal journal, interviews and writings from his parents Judy and Dennis Shepard, newspaper reports and additional texts by Johnson and Browne are poignantly appointed throughout the work. – *Program note from conspirare.org.*

- *CMS is a contemporary oratorio by composer Craig Hella Johnson: “Matt Shepard and his story have led me on an inspiring, challenging and deeply meaningful journey that I continue to this day. In composing ‘Considering Matthew Shepard’ I wanted to create, within a musical framework, a space for reflection, consideration and unity around his life and legacy.”*

SPRING SING

***Let Our Love Be Heard* (working title)**

- Sunday, April 23 or 30 (but would have to be later if we want to partner again with Tulip Time, which is May 6-14).
- Theme is celebrating what we have in common, rather than what divides.
- With works by Jake Runestad ([*Let Our Love Be Heard*](#)), Dan Forrest, Sweet Honey in the Rock founder Ysaye Barnwell, Gwyneth Walker, and Shawn Kirchner.
- Potential additional out of town performances: Basilica of St. Adelbert, Grand Rapids; Muskegon
- Potential Collaborators: Muskegon Chamber Choir