## 2021 New Creation Chorus

**Purpose.** The structure and activities of New Creation Chorus are designed to promote the musical, spiritual, and social growth of its members. Members are required to be professing Christians with a desire to grow in their Christian lives. To provide a positive social experience for all, members are expected to promote group unity by avoiding cliquish behavior, choosing rather to interact primarily with the broader group during chorus functions. The programs presented by New Creation Chorus are intended to provide an opportunity for singer and listener to join in worship of God through choral music sung in a skillful and heartfelt manner. Rehearsal time will be spent learning music, learning how to sing it well, and meditating on the texts to be sung.

**Rehearsals.** Weekly rehearsals will be held Tuesday evenings from June 1 through September 7 in the Terre Hill Mennonite High School assembly room unless announced otherwise. Rehearsals will start at 7:00 p.m. and run until approximately 9:00 p.m. with snack following. Sunday rehearsals are planned for June 27, Aug. 1, and Aug. 29 and will consist of an afternoon practice session (3:00-5:15), supper, an evening practice session (6:30-8:00), and a recreational time.

**Program Itinerary.** Programs are scheduled for all Sunday evenings from Sep. 12 through Nov. 7. A day tour (programs morning and evening) is planned for Sunday, Oct. 3. Tour is planned for Thu. Nov. 11 – Mon. Nov. 15.

Attendance Policy. Rehearsals. We recognize that members will need to miss rehearsals occasionally due to family trips, summer Bible school, youth group mission/work trips, etc. Members are encouraged to miss no more than three rehearsals and are expected to talk to the directors if they anticipate needing to miss more than this. Anyone planning to miss a rehearsal shall indicate this on the sign-out sheet at least one week in advance of the absence. Programs. Members are expected to attend all programs. Acceptable reasons for program absence include sickness or medical reasons, significant immediate family-related events, church obligations (e.g. communion) and emergency employment-related obligations. Members are required to talk with the director about missing a program at least two weeks in advance of the program to be missed as well as notifying the director ASAP should a medical situation or other emergency interfere with attendance. Members shall plan to arrive for programs one hour and 15 minutes prior to program start times.

**Personal Appearance.** All members are asked to avoid overly casual attire for rehearsals and tours and to observe the standards of the Keystone Mennonite Fellowship. **Men.** Men shall wear full length trousers and shirts with collar or buttons. T-shirts are permitted only for recreational activities. Hair shall be trimmed in such a manner as to fulfill the meaning of "short hair," not extending over the ears or shirt collar, and to avoid extreme or worldly styles. **Ladies.** Ladies clothing shall be of modest design with skirt lengths extending below the knees. Hair shall be worn up under an unadorned white cap-style covering or flowing veil of adequate size.

**Miscellaneous Expectations.** Chorus members are expected to provide a black music folder and pencil to be used during rehearsal season as well as purchase their chorus program outfits. Members are expected to practice music and/or do singing exercises outside of group rehearsal as assigned.

**Cost.** A \$50 membership fee is charged to cover administrative expenses, including music costs, building rental, bulletins, etc. Members are expected to bring this along to the first meeting on June 1. Each member will also be expected to contribute \$50 toward tour expenses.

Application Process. We invite anyone with interest to fill out the *online* application form. Email joybubbles76@yahoo.com for the link. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age as of June 1. The application deadline is June 8. Applications received after this date may not be considered. After your application and pastoral reference are received and reviewed, you will receive communication from the directors regarding your membership status.

Thank you for your interest in New Creation Chorus. If you have any questions, please forward them to either Wilmer, Austin, or Lamar. We hope to see your application soon!

## **Directors**

Wilmer Gehman – (717) 598-2422, wgehman@gmail.com Austin Gehman – (717) 598-2079, austingehman31@gmail.com Lamar & Rhoda Harnish – (610) 842-1990, (717) 269-9664, joybubbles76@yahoo.com