

2020 New Creation Chorus

Application Process. We invite anyone with interest to fill out the *online* application form. The link was provided in the email containing this document. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age as of June 1. The application deadline is June 9. Applications received after June 9 may not be considered. After your application and pastoral reference are received and reviewed, you will receive communication from the directors by email regarding your membership status. You are welcome to attend the first several practices even if your membership has not been finalized.

Cost. A \$50 membership fee is charged to cover administrative expenses, including music costs, building rental, bulletins, etc.

Rehearsals. The following information is tentative and may need to be revised.

- Rehearsals will be held *most* Tuesday evenings from May 26 through September 8.
- Rehearsals will be held at Terre Hill Mennonite High School unless otherwise announced.
- Tuesday evening rehearsals will start at 7:00 p.m.
- Three Sunday rehearsals are planned – June 28, July 26, and August 23.
- Sunday rehearsals will consist of an afternoon practice session (3:00-5:15), supper, an evening practice session (6:30-8:00), and a recreational time.

Itinerary. Programs are Sunday evenings except as noted.

Sep. 6	New Life for Girls	Oct. 18	Faith Mennonite
Sep. 13	Word of Life Mennonite	Oct. 25	Hampden Mennonite
Sep. 20	Myerstown Mennonite	Nov. 1	TBD
Sep. 27	Fairview Mennonite	Nov. 8	Rawlinsville Mennonite
Oct. 4	Day Tour	Nov. 12-16	Tour to Ohio & Indiana
Oct. 11	Living Water Mennonite		

Attendance Policy

- We realize 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.
- Members are expected to attend all programs. The only 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.

Communication. Most communication with the choir is via email. It is recommended that you find a way to receive emails. If you do not have an email address, you could possibly have a friend or family member alert you to whenever an email comes through. It would be helpful for you to check email regularly during the rehearsal and program season. We will also create a chorus text messaging group chat.

Personal Appearance. Members are asked to avoid overly casual attire for rehearsals and tours and to observe the standards of the Keystone Mennonite Fellowship.

- Men shall wear full length trousers and shirts with collar or buttons. T-shirts are permitted only for recreational activities.
- Ladies shall wear dresses of simple design and modest length and cut.
- Men shall keep their hair trimmed in such a manner as to fulfill the meaning of “short hair,” not allowing the hair to fall over the ears or shirt collar.
- Ladies shall consistently wear their hair up under a white cap veil of adequate size or the white, flowing, unadorned veil that will flow to the dress collar.
- Both men and ladies should avoid vain display and worldly fads in hairstyles.
- The directors have the responsibility to interpret the above guidelines as necessary.

Miscellaneous Expectations. Chorus members are expected to...

- Provide a black music folder and pencil to be used during rehearsal season
- Practice music and/or do singing exercises outside of group rehearsal if assigned

Purpose of New Creation Chorus. The structure and activities of New Creation Chorus are designed to promote the spiritual, social, and musical 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. Dating couples are expected to refrain from all physical displays of affection and should avoid spending excessive alone time with each other.

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.

Again, thanks for your interest. 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