

Welcome!

Thank you for coming! Having the opportunity to talk face-to-face is such a wonderful gift!

The agenda for the meeting today is to:

1. Give an update on the Month of Giving campaign
2. Talk about concert tickets
3. Uniform details
4. Details concerning the schedule for the Mt. Vernon High School concerts
5. Give details about concert preparation and set up our service teams
6. Give important details concerning our concert at SSPPC

Month of Giving

We are in the final 2 weeks of our Month of Giving for this year – and yes, it has lasted more than 1 month. We thought that it might be nice to do the Month of Giving campaign in October and have it finished before November. However, we quickly discovered that as families take a well-earned fall break, there is not enough time left in October to complete the job. So, the Month of Giving campaign has been extended through November 13. Next year, it will be in November.

Our first MOG was last year during the month of November, and it was highly successful – so successful that the proceeds of that fund plus the grants that we had received carried us through the remainder of the season.

There are many advantages of this type of fundraising program.

- First and foremost, we are not asking our students and families to sell things, keep track of inventories, etc., etc.
- It's really a very short duration campaign
- Helps us engage with community members who may never have heard of us before.

As a not-for-profit organization, the Month of Giving helps us to be more attractive to grantors. As I write grant narratives, one of the questions that is always asked is about member engagement. It's important to grantors that our own members are engaged in some activity that supports the choir. This campaign sends a huge positive message about the choir.

Our goal for this program is 100% participation from every family in the choir. If every family met the \$100 per family goal, we would net \$6600, which would help the choir substantially.

Please remember to send selfies and fill out Google Form! (hccc.mog@gmail) - selfies, and <https://goo.gl/forms/9gcP4tM7z2telWp72> for the form.

Concert Tickets

We have sold 310 of our potential 1200 seats for our Mt. Vernon High School concerts. We have a lot of seats to fill! Honestly, this concert is going to be really, really wonderful. Let's fill that auditorium. Again, when I break down that number of tickets we need to sell, it is only about 10 more tickets per family.

Having our ticket sales online is such a huge timesaver for Joanna, but it does present a little challenge when you ask people to come to the concert, but you can't sell a physical ticket right then. To help you with that, I have some cards that you can take to give to people as you invite them to our concerts. The cards have all the concert and ticket information so that your guests don't have to try to remember all the details. Please take a stack with you today.

Remember to tell your guests that tickets can be purchased over the phone as well as at the door. We really want to encourage people to purchase tickets before the day of concert. We do have reserved seating at Mt. Vernon, so it is advantageous to purchase tickets in advance.

Uniform Details

The uniform department has been hard at work. They are now returning altered uniforms. Since they are receiving uniforms in the mail during the week, they are altering them as fast as they receive them. If you are still expecting your uniform, would you make it a habit of tucking your concert shoes and undergarments in a bag and bringing them each Monday until your uniform is returned to you?

Uniform specifics:

1. Boys need to wear a plain white undershirt under their shirts. No logos or designs.
2. Girls – hair must be secured and may be worn up or down – your choice. Hair ties, headbands, etc. must match the color of your hair. We don't want any hair ornaments to be seen.
3. Clear nail polish, clear or pale pink lip gloss may be worn.
4. Hair must be a natural color.
5. Stud earrings only. No necklaces or bracelets.
6. Nude colored hose. A slip is necessary.
7. Girls may find that a little extra blush is helpful since the lights can wash out skin tone.

Mt. Vernon Concert Details

Please arrive at Mount Vernon High School no earlier than 4:00 pm. The school has asked us not to enter the building until their students have been dismissed for the day. Park on the west side of the building near Door 7. The doors are well marked, so you will find Door 7 easily. Once you enter the doors, we will either have a person there to direct you, or we will have signage to direct you to the dressing rooms and auditorium.

On Friday, pictures of the RC, BV, CC/PA, and PC ensembles will be taken. Please be completely dressed in your concert uniform and ready to be photographed at the appointed time set for your ensemble. Pictures will be taken in the auditorium on the risers. Directors will be photographed with their ensembles. RC and BV should come directly to the auditorium for pictures. CC/PA and PC should report to the hallway which is on the left (west) side of the auditorium to be lined up by height for the pictures.

We have a limited amount of time for pictures, so unfortunately, we cannot wait for students who are not in place when their ensemble has its picture appointment. Please plan to be early to your picture appointment. We don't want to miss anyone!

Picture Schedule:

4:30 PM: RC

4:35 PM: BV

4:40 PM: CC/PA

4:50 PM: PC

Rehearsal Schedule:

5:00 PM: Walk through program in full concert dress.

6:10 PM: Change out of concert uniforms into street clothes for dinner.

6:15 PM: Taco Bar dinner served in cafeteria

7:00 PM: Full rehearsal begins. Choir will remain in street clothes except for emcees. Please plan your time accordingly during dinner to assure that you are dressed and ready for rehearsal to begin promptly at 7:00 PM.

Parents: We are planning to be finished with rehearsal at 8:30 PM. We have advertised a 9:00 PM end time to give us a cushion in case we have technical difficulties. Would you please plan to arrive by the 8:30 PM target ending time? There is a chance we will not finish promptly at 8:30 PM, but I would rather have you there to be able to pick up your children as soon as we do finish. Thank you so much!

Saturday Schedule

9:30am: Arrive at Mt. Vernon.

10:00am: Rehearsal begins for BV, RV, AV, and CL

11:30pm: Rehearsal begins for PA/CC and PC

12:30pm: Lunch (Students bring a sack lunch. Choir will furnish water and dessert.)

1:15pm: AV pictures

1:25pm: CL pictures

1:35pm: Combined choir pictures

2:00pm: Doors open

- 2:30pm: Concert
- 4:00pm: Meet and greet your guests after the concert
- 4:30pm: Change out of concert uniforms and hang them neatly in dressing rooms.
- 5:00pm: Pizza feed!
- 5:45pm: Gather belongings and take anything you don't need out to the car.
- 6:30pm: Dressed and ready - meeting backstage with Mrs. Roschi
- 7:00pm: Concert
- 8:00pm: Meet and greet guests
- 8:30pm: Change out of uniforms. REMEMBER that they must be neat for Sunday's concert! Hang them carefully! Boys may need their shirts washed for Sunday.
- 8:45pm: *All hands on deck* for cleanup and loading of cars. The goal is to be out of the school by 10:00pm

** For the littles – In order to fight fatigue, it might be best for you to leave immediately after the afternoon performance and plan to stay during the evening performance.

*** The hours between the afternoon concert and the evening concert are going to need to be well-supervised so that they are restful and rejuvenating for the students. We will definitely need lots of parent support, and I think it would be great to do something fun for the students so that the time is enjoyable. Your ideas and suggestions are welcomed!

Concert Preparation

Many hands make these wonderful concerts come together! I have a Committee Assignments document that lists all the jobs that need to be completed for concert preparation. I will describe the positions available and then pass around the chart for you to sign up. The beautiful thing about having 2 concerts is that you can work for one concert and watch for another. Lots of jobs are available, and they have been divided into categories: backstage, student meals, foyer committee, and auditorium committee. The Committee Assignments document lists all the jobs along with the number of people needed for each job.

Each parent will have a job – so please choose the one you want!

Meals for Concert Weekend

We provide 2 dinners on concert weekend for students and working parents. The first meal is a taco bar that is served on Friday night. The second is a pizza feed served on Saturday evening. We charge \$5 per student or \$15 per family per meal. The PayPal buttons will be on the website by tomorrow, and meals should be ordered by November 20. We are asking that students bring a sack lunch on Saturday. The choir will provide water bottles and a dessert.

The taco bar dinner on Friday is a fun, delicious, and easy meal. The choir purchases the food and then does it out to people who are willing to prepare the food. It's pretty easy – taking frozen corn and heating it in a crock pot, opening cans of beans and heating them in a crockpot,

dicing tomatoes and lettuce, making some rice, and fixing taco beef and chicken. The chicken we purchase is already cooked, it just has to be seasoned and simmered. So, you pick up the food on Monday, November 27 and bring it prepared and in a crock pot to dress rehearsal.

Details Concerning Saints Peter and Paul Concert

This is going to be a wonderful concert! We are gearing up for our first rehearsal with the orchestra next Sunday, November 12 from 2:30-4:00pm at Butler, Lilly Hall of Music.

Butler does have a parking garage right next to Lilly Hall – near Clowes Hall. That's the good news. The bad news is that Butler has a home basketball game on Sunday at 6:00pm. Incoming traffic for the game may be heavy when we are leaving the rehearsal.

Please plan to arrive by 1:30pm so that you can find a parking place and get to rehearsal a few minutes early.

As we move to the Cathedral for rehearsals on November 21 and 28, it's really important that we do some preparation ahead of time. The Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral has a huge ministry to homeless people and a heart to help those who are struggling. As such, they have one set of restrooms on the south side of the cathedral that are open to the public all the time. We will not be allowing our students to use those restrooms at all. Instead, we will use the other sets of restrooms inside the cathedral.

We need to caution students that being in downtown Indianapolis is different than the streets of Greenfield. We don't want students to go anywhere alone – no matter how old they are.

Also, this is a Catholic cathedral that must be respected and treated with reverence. It's imperative that students do not run or use loud voices in the cathedral. In addition, we are not free to touch statues, decorations, or the large marble bowl of holy water at the entrance to the cathedral. The Catholic diocese takes the care and treatment of the cathedral very seriously, and we do not want to be an offense in any way. This standard of behavior in a church may be foreign to some students, but we have to insist upon it.

We have not hired any security for our rehearsals at the cathedral. Students will leave their coats and belongings in the first couple of rows of seats in the cathedral during rehearsal, and we will have parents sit with the belongings.

For the concerts, we have hired IMPD officers as security. Nonetheless, it is wise not to bring valuables. That is a good standard to use for all concerts.

There is a parking lot for the cathedral on the east side of the church that we will use for the rehearsals. For the concerts, we will park on the west side of Meridian Street at the Catholic Center.

We will serve the students a box lunch from Penn Station on the day of the cathedral concert. PayPal buttons for this meal will also be on our member page of the website. Cost will be about \$5. These meals also will need to be purchased by November 20.

That's a lot of information to absorb! I will do my best to walk you through each step over the next couple of weeks to help you prepare.

One last reminder: All choir fees should be paid in full before the concert. If you have any difficulty doing that, please contact Joanna Crump right away. (jcrump@hccchoir.org)

So excited!

Lisa