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December 4, 2018

Hello Singers!

We're looking forward to spectacular choral singing in Spring 2019. Our concert's theme is "Songs of Peace and Rejoicing," featuring works by Michael Praetorius and others. The Praetorius works are from a collection published in 1619 that, with the subtitle "Songs of Peace and Rejoicing", was rather optimistic right at the beginning of the Thirty Years' War! For this we'll once again bring back the Washington Cornett and Sackbutt Ensemble to help us create the Baroque splendor Praetorius had in mind.

This will be my final concert, as I'm retiring at the end of May. With that in mind, many singers have suggested wonderfully beloved works from years of singing that will also fit the theme. I'm thrilled to include many of those works, such as "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place," and of course, our closing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." I believe all will find this concert deeply moving in many ways.

The concert is **Sunday, May 5**, at 3 p.m. in (Big) Baker Memorial Chapel at McDaniel College with a full rehearsal on **Saturday, May 4**, from 1:30-4:30pm. We will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, January 29, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Westminster Church of the Brethren, Chase and Bond Streets, and rehearse there every Tuesday until the final week, when we will be in Big Baker.

Enclosed is the Spring registration form. Please register and pay your dues as soon as possible. Early registration ensures we will have enough scores for everyone at the first rehearsal. In addition, we can accommodate a finite number of singers based on our performance and rehearsal venues and we strive to maintain a balance among the voice parts.

Singers are accepted as they register and should attend the first rehearsal. If a section becomes oversubscribed, we will wait-list late registrants in that section. We will notify wait-listed singers as soon as possible after we receive their registration.

This will be a fun and exciting Spring concert. You, with all of your individual voices, coming together in such a powerfully united and joyfully ecstatic sound, are what make choral singing such an incredible experience for our whole community. We're looking forward to making this year the best ever!

I'm so looking forward to seeing and hearing you all again in January!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Margie Boudreaux, Artistic Director