

# Parents: Welcome to 45<sup>th</sup> Season of Joyful Noise Choir (2023)

Thank you for your interest in registering your child(ren) in the Joyful Noise Choir.

**Can we help you Understand The Program?** – We want new members and their parents to feel comfortable with the expectations. At the June Open House, experienced parent volunteers will be available to explain our program and answer your questions.

**Choir Season** starts with our first rehearsal August 30th. We normally complete the season at the beginning of January with the final service participation and family potluck at Trinity Christian Reformed Church.

**Choir Should Be Fun** – We have very few rules in choir but a very important one is “leave others alone” as the children are close contact with one another when rehearsing or performing. If your child comes home and reports problems with the behavior of another child, I would like to be informed as soon as possible. I want kids to have fun and share great memories of the experience.

**Learning Independence** – There will be two occasions this season when the children will be away on an overnight trip for Choir Camp for grades 3-8 (two nights) and Choir Tour for grades 5-9 (1 night). Usually we do not have any issues with separation, but I recognize that, for some of the kids, it may be hard to be away from home.

\* Talk To Your Kids and make sure they know how they can reach you if a problem arises. The leaders carry cell phones at all choir activities, and we post our numbers in the weekly Joyful Notes (e-mail).

In all instances, the leaders should be informed so that we can be prepared. Please feel free to talk to Linda Rosendal or myself after the rehearsals if you have any concerns.

**Choir Tour** – involves the older children as parent participation is limited to those on the Tour Committee and space on the bus. The destination for tour is determined by Rehoboth based on where communities have requested the choir’s involvement.

**Uniforms** -Children will be fitted for their blue Shirts and hoodies at the **June Open House**. Parents are required to purchase pants. Further information will be available at Open House.

**Long Hair** –When we perform, hair needs to be pulled back from the face by hair bands or barrettes. This also keeps the children from playing with their hair while performing (a movement that the audience immediately catches).

**Communication** – Each week, I will send out a note via e-mail. This is the only method we will use to communicate with you. **If you do not check e-mail, you will need to make alternate arrangements to have information sent to you.**

**Absences** - When children are not able to attend a rehearsal or performance you or the child is obligated to inform me of their absence by e-mail or text by phone to 780-965-0698 (cell).

**Team Work** – While the staff will be working to ensure a great time for the kids, there is another level of commitment required from parents for choir to be successful. We will be counting on your willingness to contribute some time to events or tasks that cannot be managed by the children themselves. We invite you to indicate your interest in participating in tasks or events noted on the registration form. I will work with the Parent

Advisory Committee to ensure that we fairly distribute the work among the families supporting the choir. **Note:** Every family in the choir is also requested to come to at least one rehearsal to assist with security and provide juice boxes for the refreshment break.

**Rehearsal Security** – Inglewood Christian Reformed Church has asked that we keep the front doors locked at all times. Two Parents are assigned to come to each rehearsal to assist in letting children and families in and out of the building. New parents will be assigned a partner who has experience with attending rehearsals.

**Registration Fees Are A Donation** – After confirmation that your child has been accepted you will receive further instruction and an invoice number. Fees are \$160 per child to a maximum of \$320 and are received as a donation by Rehoboth Christian Ministries.

**Should the cost be too much, please pay what you can.** Our goal is to have the children participate without barriers. The Lord will provide what we need.

**Receipts** - Rehoboth will send out donation receipts for your registration fees in February of the following year.

**Calendar** – A calendar of the choir’s scheduled activities for the season is located under “Schedule” on the choir’s web site. It is updated regularly should any event or rehearsal change.