

Presents

# Hear us... and Listen

STILL CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF MUSIC

Featuring music from our past 30 years and looking to the future!



Dr. Kyle J. Weary  
Artistic Director

S. Max Mitchell  
Accompanist

**Saturday, May 17, 2025**  
**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
**22 S 6th Street**  
**Lebanon, PA**  
**7PM**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**  
**Silver Spring Presbyterian Church**  
**444 Silver Spring Rd**  
**Mechanicsburg, PA**  
**3PM**

Free Admission - Donations Appreciated  
For more info: [www.cpwchorus.org](http://www.cpwchorus.org)



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# Director's Letter

Welcome to Hear Us, and Listen.

Our program is a journey—a tapestry of hope, resilience, memory, and rising voices. Each piece you'll hear was chosen with intention, not only for its artistry, but for the truth it carries and the courage it demands. This program is more than a collection of songs—it is a collective call. A call for awareness. A call for courage. A call for change. Through each piece, we amplify voices too often silenced: voices of women, voices of ancestors, voices of justice-seekers, voices of the marginalized, the truth-tellers, and dreamers.

We begin with Give Us Hope and Brave, calling us to stand firm in uncertain times. There Will Come Soft Rains whispers a haunting reminder of nature's indifference and humanity's responsibility. 1000 Grandmothers draws us into the sacred spaces of grief, legacy, and intergenerational wisdom.

Harriet Tubman reminds us that freedom was never given—it was claimed through vision, faith, and fearless action. Hear us as we soar with Defying Gravity, celebrating the audacity to rise and transcend limitations.

In I Ain't Afraid and Wanting Memories, we face fear and longing with honesty and grace. Dylan's The Times They Are A-Changin' echoes across generations as both warning and promise. And in What Happens When a Woman Takes Power and We Are the Voices, we find a resounding declaration: that voices—especially those long silenced—will not only rise, but lead.

Hear us, and listen.

Not just with your ears, but with your whole being.

Let these songs stir you, challenge you, and stay with you.

We do not ask for silence.

We ask you to lean in.

To truly hear.

Can you hear it calling?

You just need to listen.

Thank you for joining us.

Dr. Kyle J. Weary

# President's Letter

"Our path will be twisted and risky and slow, but the world can be changed. We've done it before."

*~Lyrics from Keep Marching from the musical, Suffs*

In treacherous times like these, that path ahead can seem barely visible. But it is there. And this chorus is doing our best to not only walk it, but lead others to and through it. As we have done for 30 years and will continue doing for the next 30 and beyond. Finding one another and connecting to one another by sharing music.

Music is the ultimate conduit for connection, and what the world needs now, more than ever, is that connection. That community. Music is a common language - one that we feel. It lifts us up, gives us strength, shines light in the dark, and provides a form of hope in action.

Our story is one of resilience, hope, compassion, strength, and love. It is also of rebellion and defying the status quo, maybe being afraid but singing truth to power anyway. We believe in social justice. We believe in human rights - that all humans have the right to health and safety, to live and work, play, sing, and create and to engage in all the beautiful things life can offer. To experience all forms of music - to listen - and to be heard. To be seen and to unabashedly live our truths.

We will keep playing our part, singing passionately, bringing our whole selves to every performance and in our daily lives. That's what being a chorus member means. We welcome all our friends and supporters to do the same.

Hear us. Be Heard. And Listen.

Laura Edinger

# Song Order

**Give us Hope.** . . . . . Jim Papoulis  
(first sung Spring 2017) Arr. by Francisco J. Nuñez

**Soloists:** Bailey Monroe, Andrea Dundore, Melanie Luckenbaugh,  
and Rima Cameron

Sponsored by Linda Mussoline

**Brave** . . . . . Sara Bareilles and Jack Antonoff  
(first sung Spring 2009) Arr. by Kerry Marsh

**Soloists:** Lex Finley, Heidi Whitaker

Sponsored by Jody Blouch and Amy Sauertieg

*Dedication: "... let the words fall out, honestly ...".*

**There Will Come Soft Rains** . . .Kevin A. Memley and Sara Teasdale

Sponsored by Marie Baldys, Kirsten Jones, Bailey Monroe, Tiffany Golobek,  
Lex Finley, and Candice Heyward

**1000 Grandmothers** . . . . . Holly Near  
(first sung Spring 2002) Arr. by J. David Moore

Sponsored by Heidi Whitaker

*Dedicated to Noreen Haines and Martha Fanus.*

**Harriet Tubman** . . . . . Walter Robinson  
(first sung Spring 2013) Arr. by John Coates, Jr.

Sponsored by Laura Edinger

**Defying Gravity (from Wicked)** . . . . . Stephen Schwartz  
Arr. by Deke Sharon

Sponsored by Amy Firestine

# Song Order

**I Ain't Afraid** ..... Holly Near  
(first sung Spring 2006) Arr. by J. David Moore  
Sponsored by Lucy & Deb Glorius

**Wanting Memories (from Crossings)** ..... Ysaÿe M. Barnwell  
Sponsored by Darla Henry

**The Times They Are A-Changin'** ..... Bob Dylan  
Arr. by Adam Podd  
**Soloists:** Katie Knorr, Kirsten Jones, Laura Edinger  
Sponsored by Arleen Shulman

**What Happens when a Woman** ..... Alexandra Olsavsky of Artemisia  
**Soloists:** Melanie Luckenbaugh, Candice Heyward  
Sponsored by Melanie Luckenbaugh

**We Are the Voices.** ..... Jim Papoulis  
Sponsored by The CPWC Board  
*Dedicated in honor of Donna Gomboc, the founder of the CPWChorus*

## Encore

**Keep Marching (from Suff's)** ..... Shaina Taub  
Arr. by Allen René Louis  
Sponsored by Mary Nancarrow



# Song Notes- Legacy Songs

**1000 Grandmothers.** Performed by the chorus many times, the song speaks of the power of older women -- loving, listening, peacemaking, and fighting when necessary. It is one of two songs in this concert written by feminist, activist, composer and performer Holly Near.

**Brave.** Sung previously by the chorus in another arrangement, this one proves our voices are up to a new vocal challenge. Brave?? Yes, we are.

**Give Us Hope.** The song is from the project Sounds of a Better World, a series of songs focusing on children and how small steps can be made to improve their world. Music can be a bridge to take those steps and bring joy into the world, says the composer.

**Harriet Tubman.** This song was performed by the chorus at its first full concert and often thereafter. The song tells us that strong women performing brave deeds can be a lifeline in a malignant world.

**I Ain't Afraid.** A song by Holly Near commissioned by Muse, one of the country's oldest social justice women's choirs. Our own chorus is firmly secular but many members hold their faith dear. This song honors both.



# Song Notes- Songs for the Future

**Defying Gravity.** From *Wicked* and written in 2003, it's a song for these times: "it's time to try defying gravity and you won't bring me down."

**There Will Come Soft Rains.** Spring! Nature! But is it true that "not one would mind if mankind perished utterly and spring herself...would scarcely know that we are gone?"

**The Times They Are A-Changin'.** Not your (grand)mother's Bob Dylan song! The composer says, "My hope with this arrangement (is that) it would bring a new attention and poignancy to these well-known words and give this song a second musical home with choirs and in concert halls where it might not normally be found."

**Wanting Memories.** The words speak to the power of relationships and how they shape who we become as people. "I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty of the world through my own eyes."

**We Are The Voices.** Written by the same composer as *Give Us Hope*, this song emphasizes standing up for who we are. And when we do, we will be heard.

**What Happens When a Woman?** The song was written for *Artemisia*, a three-woman vocal theater ensemble exploring complex social issues through the vocal traditions of the world. The words are worth repeating: What happens when a woman takes power? What happens when she won't back down?..What happens when she wears the crown? We lead with love, we have won, we are one, we've just begun.

**Keep Marching.** In the musical *Suffs* writer and actress Shaina Taub roots her song "Keep Marching On" in history. Her song also speaks loudly to our present. It reminds us that progress is hard-won, that change takes time, and that the most important battles are often carried forward by those willing to keep marching—together, undeterred. Our performance of this piece as our Encore marks the first time this song has been performed outside of the Broadway Cast, which we are honored by.

# Singers

<b>Soprano 1</b>	<b>Soprano 2</b>
Theresa Alberici Jody Blouch Laura Dalton Laura Edinger Lucy Glorius Darla Henry Bailey Monroe Tina Monroe Rachel Washic Heidi Whitaker	Hannah Belser Lindsay Byron Rima Cameron Autumn Edwards Tiffany Golobek Nicole Hate Gail Jackson Jennifer King Katie Knorr Laura Shemick
<b>Alto 1</b>	<b>Alto 2</b>
Marie Baldys Andrea Dundore Lex Finley Deb Glorius Kirsten Jones Melanie Luckenbaugh Florence March Linda Mussoline Genni Piatt	Becca Bowen Amy Firestine Candice Heyward Kate Lubomski Kelsey Morris Amy Sauertieg Carissa Shobe Peggy Shuff Arleen Shulman

# Board Members

**President:** Laura Edinger

**Vice President:** Laura Shemick

**Secretary:** Melanie Luckenbaugh

**Treasurer:** Lucy Glorius

Theresa Alberici

Rima Cameron

Rebecca Eury

Nicole Hate

Darla Henry

Arleen Shulman

# Committee Chairs

**Music Librarians:** Lucy and Deb Glorius

**Production:** Rebecca Eury and Amy Firestine

**Public Relations:** Katie Knorr

**Membership:** Nicole Hate and Melanie Luckenbaugh

**Chorus/Talent Liaison:** Katie Knorr and Erin Eckert

# Artistic Director

Dr. Kyle J. Weary is the Coordinator and visiting Assistant Professor of Music Education at Gettysburg College as well as Artistic Director of Gettysburg Children's Choir. Kyle is a PhD graduate of Auburn University in vocal music education, where his research focused on music literacy skills in secondary choral classrooms. He graduated with both bachelor's and master's degrees from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music in Winchester, VA, where he was awarded the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award for Young Career Achievement. Kyle is recognized as a leader in teaching music literacy and contemporary commercial music. Kyle has been invited to present educational sessions at the State, Regional, and National levels.



Kyle's articles on teaching music literacy and vocal pedagogy in the choral rehearsal have appeared in Choral Director Magazine, Maryland Music Educators Journal, and Teaching Music Magazine. Kyle has twice earned nominations for the GRAMMY music educator award where both times, he advanced as a quarterfinalist. Kyle has also taught piano and voice privately and served on the faculties at Shepherd University, Harrisburg Area Community College and Hagerstown Community College. As guest conductor, Kyle has conducted The Maryland Symphony Orchestra, as well as honor choirs in Dauphin County Elementary Honors Choir (PA), District XVI All District Middle School Choir (VA), Baltimore County Public Schools (MD), Cumberland County (PA), Prince George's County (MD), Allegany County (MD) Washington County (MD), Vermont (VT-ACDA).

Kyle was the founder of the Vocal Music program at the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts in Hagerstown, MD. Vocal majors were selected as members for Maryland All State Junior and Senior choirs, All Eastern Choirs, and All National Choral ensembles. The Barbara Ingram Choral ensembles performed at multiple regional and state conferences, and had their first Carnegie Hall appearance singing under the direction of Eric Whitacre in the premiere of his new opera: "Paradise Lost: Shadows and Wings." The choir was also invited to sing as the backup choir for Todd Rundgren's fall tour in Philadelphia, which was subsequently released for DVD. Kyle's choirs were invited to sing at the inauguration of Martin O'Malley, Governor of Maryland in 2011. While at Barbara Ingram, Kyle was Music Director for the Spring Musical with annual attendance of over 4,000 patrons for the yearly event. In addition to his work at Gettysburg College, Kyle is the Director of Music at Silver Spring Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsburg, PA, and is the Artistic Director of the Central PA Womyn's Chorus. He has served on the graduate faculty at Towson University as an adjunct since 2021. In the Fall of 2025 his book "Foundations of Music Literacy in Beginning Choir: Connecting Repertoire and Music Literacy" will be published by Taylor and Francis.

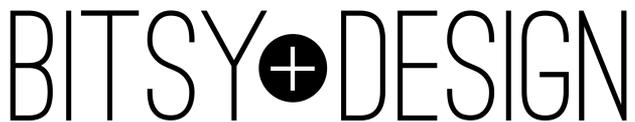
# Accompanist

**Accompanist, S Max Mitchell**, from Perry County to Dallas, Boston, Pittsburgh, New York City, and Amsterdam, Max has had a career as a pianist who specialized in dance. Most recently Max was the ballet rehearsal pianist for the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Now back in Harrisburg, Max works proudly as a Community Service Provider at Keystone Human Services and is serving as the pianist for the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus and also at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Cumberland Valley. His music was included in the recent movie release Killers of the Flower Moon.



## Special Thanks

We would like to thank Heather Holloway at Holloway Media Services and Bitsy McCann from Bitsy Plus Design for their work with us this season!



# *Honoring Donna Gomboc*

*Founder of the CPWC*



In 1993, Donna Gomboc heard the Harrisburg Men's Chorus and asked to join. She was encouraged by their director, Daniel Kraynak, to start a women's chorus and thus, the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus (CPWC) began. Donna was a one-woman force, recruiting singers, advertising, fundraising, establishing by-laws and a board. She provided weekly updates and organized spaghetti dinners, Pride booths, and yard sales. She attended national GALA conferences to learn of the national movement for gay and lesbian choruses. A quiet, self-deprecating, positive, "do-er", Donna was never discouraged using her spoken determination to "Believe" in the mission of highlighting women's voices. She even had the chorus to sing back up for Judy Collins when she appeared in Harrisburg.

**We honor the gentle, strong spirit of our founding mother, Donna, at this concert and dedicate the song, We Are The Voices, to her as we continue to keep her dream singing.**

**COME SING  
WITH US!!!**



Interested in singing with a great group of folks who love singing, love supporting the LGBTQIA+ community, and love connecting with Central PA?

Can you sing in the Treble (Alto or Soprano) range? Email [talentliaisoncpwc@gmail.com](mailto:talentliaisoncpwc@gmail.com) with your name and if you know your part (or can tell us if you sing higher or lower notes), and we'll get back to you about next steps. Auditions will take place later this summer.

[Click Here to sign up for an audition!](#)

## *Become a Non-Singing Member*

Did you know that you don't have to be a singer to be a member of the chorus? Our non-singing members are integral to the work of the chorus, supporting our work by employing an assortment of musical and non-musical talents that are all needed and valued. In fact, one important function that all members are eligible to serve is as a member of our Board of Directors! Do you have leadership skills you would like to develop? Do you have a love for or gift for process and policy and vision for driving an organization forward? Do you enjoy working with a friendly, collaborative group of leaders who welcome new ideas?

Then we are looking for you! For more information, please email our Membership Committee (Mel and Nicole) at [cpwchorus1994@gmail.com](mailto:cpwchorus1994@gmail.com).



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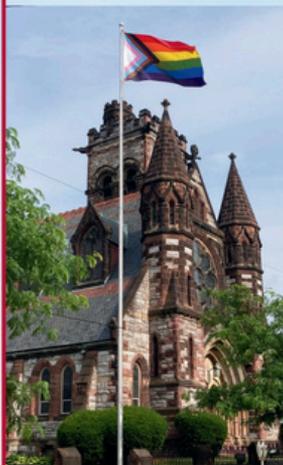




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to our supporters, our friends, our family, and all who attended our concert! You are a beautiful part of our **30-year story** and we are grateful for you. Please consider donating what you are able to help support the next CPWC chapter.

All gifts will be gratefully received!

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