



The Bach Choir of Bethlehem

Leela Breithaupt, MBA, Executive Director

Dr. Christopher Jackson, Artistic Director

Cheryl Dungan, Director of Development





Who We Are

- The Choir - 115 singers
- Orchestra and Soloists
- The Board of Managers
- Bel Canto Youth Chorus
- Volunteers
- Staff

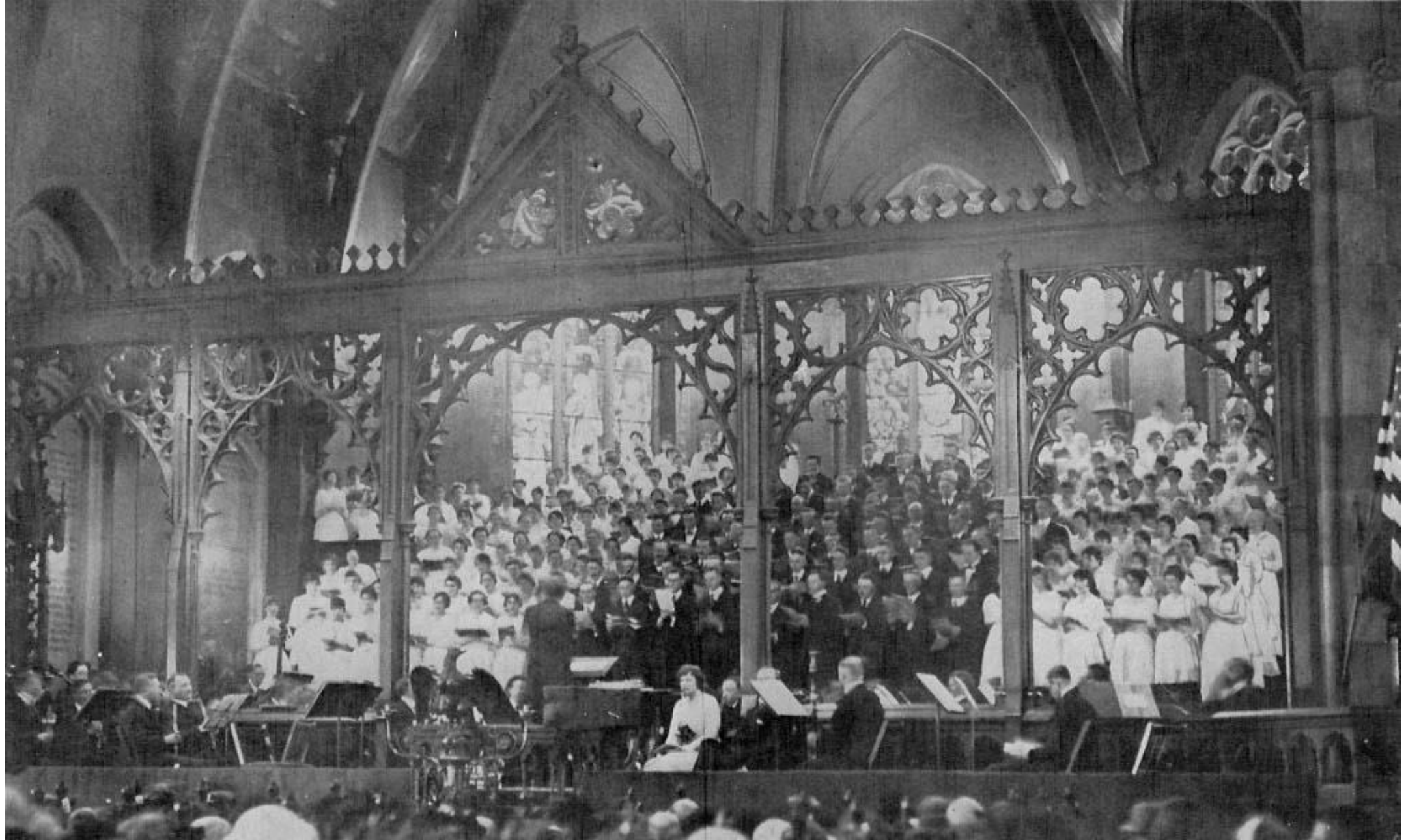
A LANDMARK OF AMERICAN MUSIC
CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH
THE ANNUAL FESTIVALS OF THE BACH CHOIR
OF BETHLEHEM WERE INITIATED ON
MARCH 27, 1900 BY THE FIRST AMERICAN
PERFORMANCE OF THE "MASS IN B MINOR"
OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH.

PRESENTED BY THE
NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL,
BACH CHOIR OF BETHLEHEM
AND NIXON



Since 1898
Long lasting
partnerships

- Central Moravian Church –
J. Fred Wolle
B Minor Mass 1900
- Lehigh University –
Festival since 1908
- Bethlehem Steel – Charles
Schwab

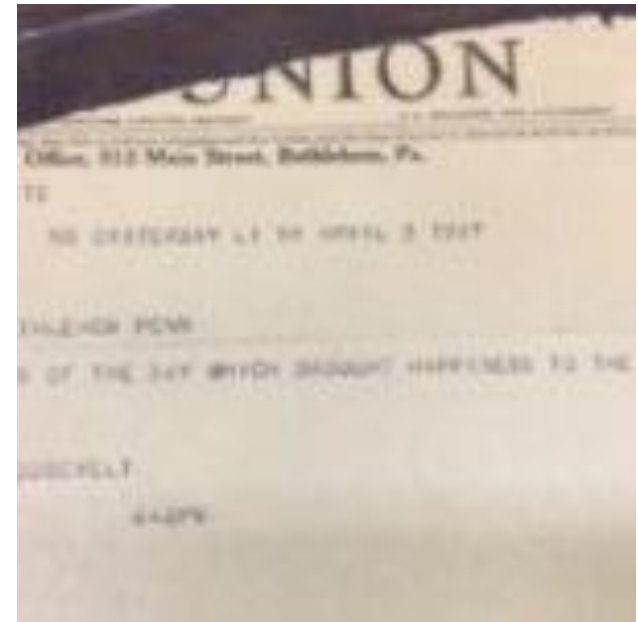


Bach Choir and Festival Orchestra: Packer Chapel – Lehigh Campus 1950s



Guarantor, John Daniel, enjoying a picnic in the sun with his family – Festival 1944.

John will be attending the Festival in 2025.



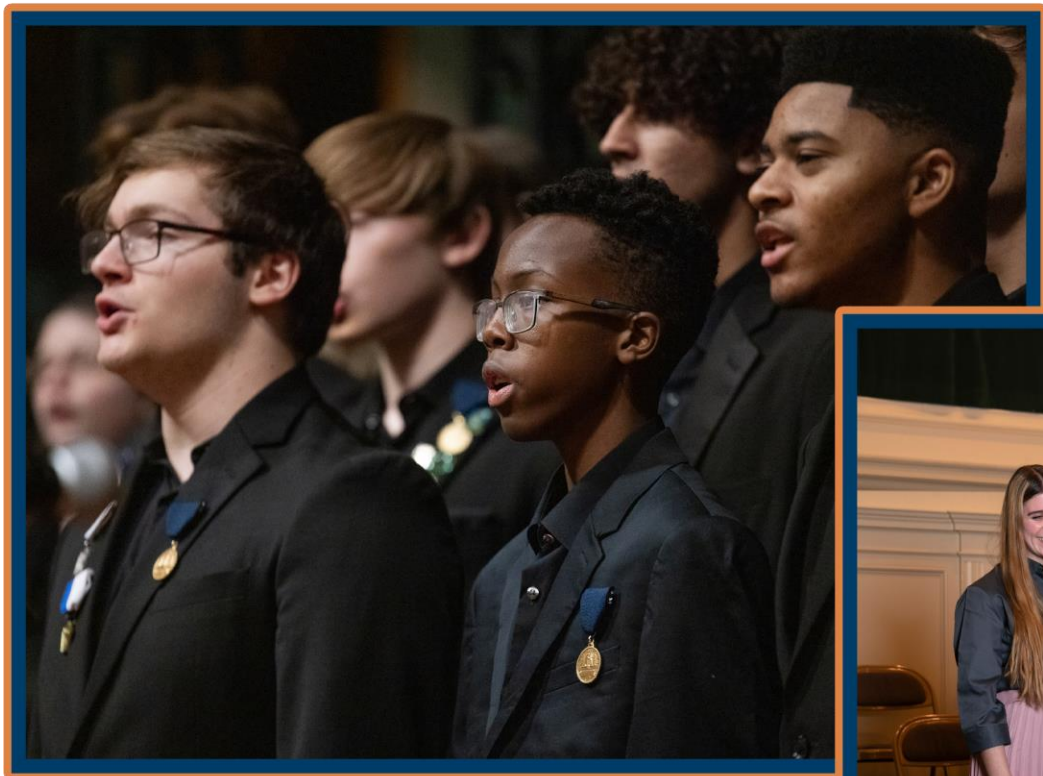
Telegram dated April 5, 1927

To: J. Fred Wolle

From: Edith Roosevelt (First Lady)

“Happy returns of the day which brought happiness to the listening world.”

Who is The Bach Choir of Bethlehem today?



2023 Bach
Festival Mass
in B Minor,
Dona Nobis
Pacem



FESTIVAL TODAY



Programming and Impact

22,000 people
annually

- Bach Festival
- Core Concert Season
- Bach at Noon – 5,000/year 10 free concerts
- Live Broadcasts and Livestreamed performances
- Family Concert
- Bach to School - 5,000 students/year
- Bel Canto Youth Chorus – 80 singers
- A Musical Heart – music in hospice
- Important Cultural Relationships





125th Anniversary Projects

Mendelssohn/Bach Saint Matthew
Passion World Premiere

- Live Recording on Analekta label
- New Scholarly Edition

2024 European Tour

- Invitation to Bachfest in Leipzig
- Visits to Schwäbisch-Gmünd and Herrnhut

Mendelssohn/Bach Saint Matthew Passion Recording



2023-2028 Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem inspires and enriches people through the transformative power of the music of J.S. Bach and composers who influenced or were influenced by Bach, by pursuing excellence in performance and education to build, strengthen, and sustain communities, and to foster a life-long passion for the choral arts.



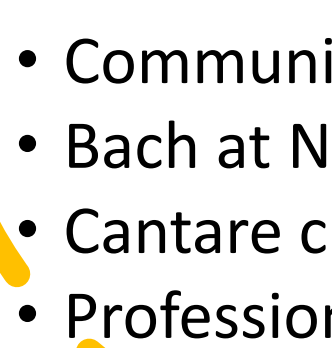


Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a world in which choral music, anchored in the timeless works of J.S. Bach, inspires and enriches the lives of all individuals and communities. We are committed to leading with excellence and innovation. Our ultimate goal is to foster a society in which choral music plays a vital and life-changing role, bringing people together, strengthening relationships, and nourishing the human spirit.



New Initiatives from Timeline

- The Mendelssohn St. Mathew's Passion performance and recording
 - Tour of Germany
 - Reconfiguring Festival
 - Christmas Carol Project
 - "Outside of the Bachs" immersive project
 - UNESCO World Heritage Site participation
 - "You Belong" outreach program
 - Community Sing
 - Bach at Noon to Easton
 - Cantare children's choir program
 - Professional Development Credits for local teachers
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Ways to engage with The Bach Choir

- Join us for our concerts – bring friends and family!
- Bach at Noon and Family Concerts are great ways to introduce yourself and others.
- Watch our recorded or live broadcasts of concerts online, on WWFM radio, or visit the Bach Choir YouTube channel.
- Visit our website, bach.org, to find out more or be added to our mailing lists
- Volunteer with us! We are always looking for singers (by audition), ushers, and volunteers to help us with events.
- Support our season and our organization through a donation of any amount or by becoming a Guarantor.