



General Information – please keep this handy!

September 4, 2025

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Rehearsals in the 2024–2025 Season:

LOCATION:

Rehearsals will be held in the Hall at the Camrose United Church, 4829-50th Street.

TIMES:

The choir meets each Tuesday evening from 4:30-5:30pm (JUNIOR), 5:45-7:15 (SENIOR), and 7:30-8:30 (*Vivo Cantando* - members may determine that this group could meet another time, or for a slightly longer timeframe).

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 1) **For security reasons** (and depending on who else is using the building) the exterior doors to the church are kept locked. Someone will come open the doors for singers and parents at the start and end of rehearsal, or parents can wait outside in their vehicle. There is a doorbell, but text is most effective: Joy-Anne's text number is **780-781-4087**.
- 2) **Choristers are expected to come early enough** to go to the washroom beforehand. In order to avoid disruptions during rehearsal, choristers are asked to bring **a water bottle**. A break is provided, but singers' **presence and attention** during rehearsal time is expected. If singers bring a snack for break, please ensure it is easy to eat without mess, and contains **no common allergens such as PEANUTS**.
- 3) **Pick up** - because the door is out of view and our rehearsals follow closely, we cannot always supervise the pick up area. Parents are asked to make sure singers stay inside until their ride has arrived and someone can either watch them come from the building, or meet them at the front door. **NO SINGER should wait outside unsupervised**.

PRACTICING AT HOME:

Practicing at home between choir rehearsals is expected! Often only a little time is needed in the day or two following choir, to simply reinforce concepts and information from that week's work. Your memory works best if you look at something within 24 hours of learning it! Then another quick brush up before returning the following week (or you could try "performing" for friends and family) is always helpful.

Music scores will generally remain at choir, to reduce damage and loss. Each Junior choir member will be provided with a duotang folder with words to the pieces we are currently working on, as well as links to recordings with which they can sing along with while practicing. If Sr/Vivo members find they practice better with the music itself, they may sign out their music folders for the week. It is each chorister's responsibility to keep track of all scores. Replacement costs of \$5 (or more) per item/song are assessed by several of the lending libraries from whom we borrow, and will be passed on to choristers who lose or damage scores.

IMPORTANT NOTES AROUND HEALTH:

1. **STAYING HOME WHEN ILL** - out of an abundance of care and concern for everyone, singers who have symptoms of contagious illness are asked to not attend rehearsals or events while unwell (or if someone in the immediate household is showing such symptoms). Of course we hope to have all singers at each performance whenever possible, but the health of the whole group is our goal.
2. If a singer becomes unwell at a rehearsal, every effort will be made to contact parents to come pick them up, and to make them comfortable while waiting.
3. In the event a singer goes home and becomes ill immediately after a rehearsal, notice to the director/choir is appreciated as a courtesy to let others know of their potential exposure.

Uniforms

Singers will be asked to pay a shirt fee of \$20 for their “casual dress” choir T-shirt. Parent input will be requested in deciding which shirts to purchase and where (we try to use local as much as possible).

Items in orange are to be provided by each singer. **NOTE each item should be solid black please, no designs or logos.**

Items in purple may be individual or group purchases - to be determined.

Items in red are provided by the choir for each performance, to be taken back in at the end of each performance (ie: please do NOT take them home!).

Items in green are provided to singers by the choir through the shirt fee (above). **The shirts are to be kept in good repair throughout the current season**, after which the singer may do with them as they like. **NOTE:** a higher replacement cost will be assessed for lost or damaged T-shirts, as individual reprints are more costly than bulk purchase.

ALL CHOIR MEMBERS	JUNIOR	SENIOR & VIVO
black dress pants (or skirt)	white turtle neck/long sleeved shirt	white long-sleeved button up blouse/shirt
black socks (tights)	red velveteen vest	red scarf or black clip-on tie
black shoes	casual performance (and travel) T-shirt	casual performance (and travel) T-shirt

Communication

Email is the **primary means of communicating** with such a large group. If you do not have e-mail, I will have print-out copies of any messages I have sent each week at rehearsal, and we can set up a phone/text chain for important last-minute information.

Texts or other apps:

If possible, I will set up a group texting option, as well as individual messages where appropriate.

Please check your e-mail/texts for choir messages regularly.

Bulletin Board(s) - I make a point of having important information AND SIGN-UP SHEETS in view on our easel bulletin board just outside the rehearsal hall door, so please try to come in weekly to see what is happening and whether you need to sign-up for any activities or events. Having you sign up individually is much simpler than me compiling everyone’s answers from texts or emails.... thanks for your consideration.

Please come inside and check the bulletin board regularly.



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Schedule 2024-2025 (draft 1)

NOTE: Bolded, red items are those performances or events at which full attendance is required.

Other events are on an OPTIONAL sign-up basis

(ie: they depend on sign-up, and MAY go forward even if full attendance is not possible - watch the board and read emails/texts! Thanks)

September:

4 (Thu) Community Registration Night - demonstration group if possible

9 (Tues) First Rehearsals for all groups

16, 23 Bring a friend!

23 PARENT ORG. MEETING Sept 23 (between Jr and Sr, running approx. 5:15-6)

30 NO REHEARSAL (Day off for Truth and Reconciliation Day)

October:

25 (Sat) **Fall Workshop** Suggested time: 10:00am-3:30pm. Friends and family “mini-performance” at 3pm

(OR Nov 1?)

November:

11 (Mon) *OPTIONAL: Camrose Legion Remembrance Day service, 11am (usually lasts 1.5 - 2 hours, call time 10 am)*

13 (Tues) NO REHEARSAL (Fall break)

30 (Sun) **Combined Christmas performance(s)**- possibly two times: 4pm and 7pm. In collaboration with Camrose Camerata Adult Chamber Choir, and EmBellish Handbell choir.

December:

9 (Tues) Christmas outreach *OPTIONAL PERFORMANCE* - may be able to perform somehow for either SingAble (Augustana inclusion choir) or at care homes?

16 (Tues) Christmas party and games. LAST rehearsal before Xmas

January:

7 (Tues) First rehearsal back after Christmas Break - Bring a Friend!

25 (Sat) Midwinter retreat: Suggested time: 10:00pm-3:00pm. **WORKSHOP (10-12)** - Polishing individual parts to prepare for concert. **LUNCH (12-12:30)** - provided. **WORK BEE (12:30-3)** - work on any props or set pieces for dessert concert.

February:

21 (Fri) Dress rehearsal for "Star Power" annual Dessert Theatre Fundraising Concert

- probable 4:30 or 5pm call time, 9pm finish for older singers (7:30pm for younger)

22 (Sat) Dessert Theatre Fundraising Concert - "Stick to it!" or "Courage!" (TBD)

- 6pm live (desserts at 6, concert at 7) or live-streamed performance at 7

March:

31 No rehearsal (Spring Break)

April:

13 OR 14: Camrose and District Music Festival - usually a Monday (OR Tuesday) evening the week of Festival.

15 (Tue) Music Festival Grand Concert - by invitation only, keep open in case :-). We usually hear by the Friday before.

24 (Fri) Possible School Tour - MORNING or AFT. ONLY - TBD

(OR May 1?)

28 (Tue)	Community Outreach/open rehearsal
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May:

1 (Sat) OR 2 (Sun) Final Dress Rehearsal and Concert - "Sing in Spring"

END OF OFFICIAL SEASON!

EXTRA DATES:

June:

5 OR 6 Jaywalker's Jamboree - If enough singers are available! *one of these, time and date TBA upon sign-up, often Saturday around 10:30am*