



September 6, 2017



## News of Note

### Registration and First Rehearsal

Hi Everyone!

This newsletter contains two main areas: registration and other housekeeping information and a welcome letter from President Solomon Berman. Please read everything, thank you.

Registration:

Registration is held for the first three rehearsals of each semester starting at 6:30. Registration forms are available on-line in the [Members](#) section of the [website](#). Member Skills Surveys are also available in the same location. Please fill both out and bring to the first rehearsal you attend.

Process:

Arrive at the Belleville Church for registration with your pre-filled form and member survey. Go to the payment area. If you do not have a form with you, you may fill out the form and a member survey at the hall then proceed to the payment area. Once you have paid, you will be issued the music you need and paid for.

Location:

We rehearse at the Belleville Church, 300 High Street, Newburyport, MA in the Stage Room. Parking is available on the street, so carpooling is always a good idea. Please enter on the side street to the Parish Hall quietly. There may be other groups meeting in other parts of the Parish Hall.

Other Information:

There are Calendars of Events available on-line for both the Fall and Spring semesters in the [Member](#) section of the [website](#).

Letter From Solomon

September 5, 2017

Friends and Fellow NCS Members:

With our annual Summer Sing, and Newburyport Chamber Music Festival concerts, now ethereal

[Visit the NCS website](#)

[Get current music info](#)

[Become a Sponsor](#)

[Cancellation Policy](#)

[Registration Form](#)

Rehearsals (unless otherwise noted) -

Mondays 7:15 – 9:45

Belleville Church

300 High Street

Newburyport, MA 01950

memories to be shared, and the beginning of our 83rd season less than a week away, I have been thinking quite a bit about NCS, and the power, the awesomeness, the joy, and the comfort of community. Especially a community that engages in one of the purest acts that we have as people, and do so with arms wide open to whomever wishes to sit down in a chair with us: the act of making wonderful music, together.

In a week, we'll all be gathering back home at Belleville Church, and going through the semi-annual tradition of registration which, for many of us, is but a simple act, no more complicated nor contrived than going to our corner convenience store to grab the same favorite snack that begins a long car ride.

My youngest brother, Jacob, having just graduated from high school, has decided to take a "gap year," and live abroad, first in Madrid, then in Oslo. We chat regularly, usually sharing a diary of what we have done, and what is to come. After a recent exchange, he quipped at me, "Why do you do everything that you do?"

His question wasn't postulated out of derision. I suppose that, through his eighteen-year-old lens, he doesn't quite yet fathom why we all "run" as much as we do as adults, or perhaps why many of us delve deeply into that which brings us both comfort and joy, driving us to leave the house as the sun rises, and returning many hours after that same sun has set.

I sent him the following words in reply to this question:

When you arise in the morning, Jakey, think of what a privilege it is to be alive, to think, to enjoy, to love. You must accept the things to which fate binds you, and love the people with whom fate brings you together, but do so with all your heart.

Okay, total disclosure: If you found those words to be in any way poetic, let me just say here and now that I'm not that poetic. Not at all. Not even a little!

I gave Jacob a copy of Marcus Aurelius's *Meditations* last holiday season, and have been on his case about actually reading the work. So, I

couldn't pass up an opportunity to use some of Marcus Aurelius's words with the young Prince.

My exchange with Jacob has had a growing resonance within my mind as we head towards registration.

*What a privilege it is to be able to have music, make music, enjoy music, devour music!*

*What a privilege it is to have both the means and the opportunity to sing, and sing as a community, sharing our gifts with one another.*

*What a privilege it is to be able to sing alongside a community, this community, that fate has brought together, allowed to become friends, a vibrant community that loves and supports to one another.*

Registration has transformed, and transmogrified, into something much more than just handing over a form and picking up some music. It's become a moment of affirmation, a moment of acknowledgment, and a moment of reflection of where I with, with whom I am, and the opportunity that lays before me.

I challenge all us, regardless of rank, position, experience, vocal part, role, or any other manner of caste: **let us make the 83rd season of the Newburyport Choral Society the best season that we have ever had.**

We delivered a 9.9 out of 10 set of concerns in the Spring. Let us "one up" that, and strive for a 10 out of 10 at the end of the season, so that everyone in our community knows who we are, how powerful, inspiring, and phenomenal our performances are, and always associates "NCS" with not just musical excellence, but also the bar-setter for the arts in our community!

Finally, listen to the following recording, and let the sheer power of choral music, without any accompaniment, fill your heart and soul, as we sprint forward to registration.

<https://youtu.be/WyxXGdG3-lo>

I very much look forward to seeing, and singing with, everyone this coming Monday night. It will be a true joy, privilege, and honor.

Warmest Regards,

Solomon Berman, Bass 1  
President, Newburyport Choral Society

P.S. For those that are curious, the composition is written for TTTTTBBBB, or, in reality, a soloist, Tenors 1, 2, 3, 4, Baritones 1, 2, 3, and Bass. It's a clinic in pronunciation, articulation, fidelity to pitch and rhythm, listening across an entire group, and a real tenacity and attentiveness to maintaining pitch cleanly, especially when either crossing one parts, or in tension because of a dissonant interval.

Tel: (978) 465-0650

Email: [info@newburyportchoralsociety.org](mailto:info@newburyportchoralsociety.org)

---

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

---

Newburyport Choral Society  
P.O.Box 92  
Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

**vertical** DELIVERED BY  
**response**  
Try It Free Today!