

Chancel Choir Tour to England

John Wesley Tercentenary - A celebration in American music

As you would suspect, we had an amazing time in England. We probably learned more than we ever wanted to know about John Wesley and family but also saw many wonderful sights of England and sang simply fantastic concerts.

Our journey began with a long trip from London to Sheffield where we stayed for two nights. While there we traveled to Epworth, a small historic market town in North Lincolnshire, and sang in the Rectory where John and Charles Wesley were baptized and their father was Rector for many years.

Some kind words were shared via e-mail to our website after participating in their worship service by one of the members of the Rectory or St. Andrew's Parish. "Just visiting your web page to say how wonderful we thought your Chancel Choir was when it visited our little church in Epworth as part of the Wesley tercentenary celebrations. Thank you, thank you, thank you it was a joy."

It was a wonderful beginning to our tour of England.

From there we went to Oxford while on the way visiting Shakespeare's birthplace and Anne Hathaway's cottage in Stratford-upon-Avon. Oxford is a unique and fun place to hang out for a day. We saw many of the colleges that make up the University of Oxford.

In addition to performing at Christ Church Cathedral, the chapel for Christ Church, one of the colleges at the University, we saw some of places where Harry Potter was filmed, like the dining room and the famous hallway. It was fun to say the least as well as a great experience. In addition, several members of the group toured Lincoln College where Wesley studied and taught.

The next few days took us to Bristol, which is only a hop, skip and a jump away from Wales. We sang in the "very first Methodist Chapel" at Bristol, called the New Room, where John and Charles spent many hours preaching and singing.

On a side note, John Wesley didn't believe in having piano or organ in the

chapel so we took the liberty of singing an historical performance of "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit," sung a cappella in the New Room.

From Bristol, we went to the famous Roman Baths in Bath and spent a few hours touring the town and marveling at the incredible construction and vision of the baths. It's fascinating to think that we were walking the same path and spending time in the many rooms that Romans and others did 2000 years ago. The water that still springs up today is nearly 120 degrees when it comes out of the ground!

From our day trip to Bath, we went back to Bristol and had a wonderful concert at the Redland Park United Reformed Church that evening.

The next morning, we headed for London stopping by Windsor Castle along the way. During this trek, we got to see a lot of the landscapes of southern England, simply beautiful countryside. Windsor Castle was a site to behold.

This massive compound holds many amazing features, including the Chapel of St. George where many kings and queens are buried or have memorials and the ever-impressive State Apartments. The State Apartments are adorned with many relics of past wars, gold laden artifacts, larger than life paintings, and so much more. Without a doubt, you were in sensory overload after you experienced Windsor Castle.

We left for London and checked in to our hotel for the evening. In London, we toured Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, which holds the Crown Jewels, and saw many, many sites including Buckingham Palace, Picadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square, Tower Bridge, the sharp looking Horse Guards and of course, Harrods Knightsbridge, the famous department store with over 330 departments!

We had a wonderful performance in Covent Garden at St. Paul's Church, where we took our group photo in the sanctuary because it was such a beautiful church.

Our final performance took place in the Wesley Chapel, not far from where



Members of the St. Luke's Chancel Choir gather before one of their concerts while in England.

John had his Aldersgate experience. We toured Wesley's home and saw his burial site behind the church. The remaining day on Saturday, July 5, everyone did their own thing, going back to places already visited, seeing more sites or even taking in a show.

The next day, we headed for home after a highly successful tour, our first European tour! All in all, the music was the central part or heart of this tour and it couldn't have been a more satisfying experience. We achieved so many great musical moments that I found myself simply stepping back and being present to the beautiful sounds made by an amazing and gifted choir.

I've said thank you many times and I'll say it again. Thank You!!!

I also want to thank our greater family at St. Luke's for holding us up in your prayers and thoughts while we were away. It truly was comforting to know you were with us in spirit all the way.

Because of the amazing amount of success from this tour, plans are already being made for another tour in two years for places like Vienna, Prague, Innsbruck, Bern, or maybe Rome. We'll see how it shapes up. In the mean time, mark your calendars.

James Ramsey
Director of Music Ministries

Descriptions of Instrumental and Choral ensembles

You can inquire about all music programs by e-mailing or calling James Ramsey or Carrie Mallery.

James Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries
jim@stlukeshr.com 303-791-0659 x23

Carrie Mallery, Associate Director of Music
carrie@stlukeshr.com 303 - 791-0659 x48

Brass Ensemble

The Brass Ensemble is active in Sunday morning worship services throughout the year either performing brass music or accompanying choirs. Ages high school and above are encouraged to join in the fun.

Rehearsals: Saturdays at 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. in Asbury Music Team Coordinator: Erik Wangness (303) 470-8579

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir rehearses for and participates in Sunday morning worship services regularly during the year. The choir sings a wide variety of music ranging in diversity from traditional to contemporary sacred. All are encouraged to join whether you've had a lot of singing experience or you've had a little and would like to learn more.

Rehearsals: Thursday at 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. in Asbury. Music Team Leader and Director: James Ramsey

Cherub's Choir (Age 2 - K)

The Cherub's Choir includes children 2 - Kindergarten who rehearse to sing the prelude for a Sunday morning worship service but more importantly learn about Christian values through song in a nurturing environment as well as developing motor skills through movement and playing instruments.

Rehearsals: Wednesday at 6:15 - 7:00 p.m. in David Music Team Coordinator & Director: Stacey Baird (303) 470-5270 and Nancy Betts (303) 713-9293

Children's Choir (First - Sixth Grade)

The Children's Choir includes children First through Sixth grade. They rehearse Sunday mornings to sing the prelude for Sunday morning worship four to five times a year and learn Christian principles through song.

Rehearsals: Sunday at 8:45-9:25 a.m. in Asbury Music Team Coordinators & Director: Kay & Ed Coryell (303) 741-1748

Flute Ensemble

The Flute Ensemble participates in Sunday morning worship services approximately once every month. If you want to dust off the old flute or other woodwind instrument and get back to playing again, now is your

chance.

Ages high school and above are encouraged to join.
Rehearsals: Saturday at 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. in Asbury Music Team Coordinator: Ruth Smith (303) 683-0676

Kidz Prayz I and II

Kidz Prayz is an opportunity for Children ages First Grade through Sixth Grade to participate in learning to sing and play instruments as well as have fun. Kidz Prayz I is for kids First and Second Grade and Kidz Prayz II is for kids Third through Sixth Grade. The Kidz Prayz program is designed to develop cognitive skills by engaging your child in a variety of musical and movement activities.

Rehearsals: Wednesday at 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. in Asbury and Goliath

Directors: James Ramsey and Carrie Mallery

Ministers of Swing

The Ministers of Swing or formerly know as the St. Luke's Big Band rehearse to play benefit concerts and dances throughout the year at St. Luke's or in the community. The band is currently a full compliment Big Band however, you are invited to participate and have fun making music a la swing.

Rehearsals: Selected Saturdays from 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. in Asbury

Music Team Coordinator and Director: James Ramsey

Sonrise Band

The Sonrise band rehearses for Sunday morning worship at 8:00 a.m. throughout the year. The music ranges from contemporary to gospel. All are encouraged to participate who wish to play or sing.

Rehearsals: Wednesday at 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. in Sanctuary
Music Team Coordinator: Jim McCurry (303) 470-6198

Tintinabulators Handbell Choir

The Tintinabulators handbell choir rehearses every Tuesday to prepare for morning worship services once a month. All are encouraged to participate who have the desire to get ringing again.

Rehearsals: Tuesday at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in Asbury Music Team Coordinator and Interim Director: James Ramsey

Women of Note

Women of Note is an auditioned group of seven women who perform contemporary music for worship services and concerts. They have a very active and fulfilling prison ministry in the Denver area.

Rehearsals: Thursday at 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Asbury
Music Team Coordinator: Sallie Suby-Long (303)

Music Ensembles begin practicing

Flute Ensemble

- Saturday, Sept. 6 at 8:00 a.m.

Tintinnabulators Handbell Choir

- Tuesday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Brass Ensemble

- Saturday, August 23 at 9:00 a.m.

Ministers of Swing

- Saturday Sept. 6 at 10:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir -

Thursday, Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Children's Choir

- Sunday, Sept 7 at 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. (Special time due to one service)

Cherubs Choir -

Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:15 p.m.

Kidz Prayz I -

Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:15 p.m.

Kidz Prayz II -