

GUIDELINES FOR CHOIR MEMBERS

1. All choir members are to notify the Music Minister if they are unable to attend rehearsal and/or choir. It is expected that when any choir member is absent from any service, that they notify the pastor.
 2. Soloists: in case of sickness or emergency, call the Music Minister as soon as possible, so if you are scheduled to sing, or if a song has been picked out in which you are the soloist, other arrangements can be made.
 - ✓ 3. Choir members shall not have televisions in their home, unless there is an unsaved spouse who insists on it.
 4. Modesty and decency of dress, appearance, and attitude are to be the hallmark of all who are members of the choir.
- ✓ Women who wear shorts or pants in public, or men who expose their chest and/or legs in public, will not be permitted to sing in choir.
- ✓ MAKEUP - makeup (other than creams and skin care products) and colored nail polish are unacceptable

JEWELRY - gaudy jewelry, such as earrings, necklaces, or excessive and unmeaningful rings are unacceptable

HAIR - well kept and clean

MEN - keep their hair cut - beards and mustaches are unacceptable

WOMEN - keep hair uncut - it is preferred that hair is worn up if you are able

CLOTHING - MEN - dress shirt, tie, dress pants, and if at all possible, sport or suit coat

WOMEN - dresses and blouses that do NOT expose underarms, cleavage, or backs - dresses and skirts should allow knees to be fully covered when sitting

PROMPTNESS: With so few practices and our time being shortened, it is now even more important that everyone is on time in fairness to the rest.

CALL IN: If you are going to be late or unable to show, the Music Minister would like a phone call. This will enable her to find another song in case she had chosen a song that featured you as a soloist.

Also, if you are a soloist and you have a sore throat, please, if possible, notify the director in advance of practice. This eliminates wasting practice time looking for a different song.

HOLINESS AND SPIRIT OF COOPERATION:

The director tries to find songs within our range and tastes. If you have a problem with something that you have been asked to do, the Music Minister would prefer that you come to her personally and not in front of the whole group.

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TALKING AND VISITING:

As mentioned previously, practice times are few and now shorter in length, therefore, when there is talking and visiting, it takes from our practice time. The Music Minister would like everyone to keep their visiting until after practice.

GUM CHEWING:

So far this is not a great problem. We do need to be reminded that not only is it harder to sing with gum in our mouths, but there isn't supposed to be any gum chewing at any time in the church facility.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP:

It is important that we begin each practice session with prayer. The Music Minister has set aside the first 15 minutes for prayer time and she asks that should she forget, someone would please remind her. Also, why should we wait until service to consider the words we are singing? Why not start in practice and worship there? There is nothing wrong with worshipping in practice, in fact, it may even make our sessions go smoother.

TALKING IN THE CHOIR LOFT:

The Music Minister asks that we do not visit among ourselves or with those in the congregation while we are in the choir loft during service. This is a distraction to others in the congregation. We are the ones who start off worship in our service. We set the pace and the example to the congregation, so let us set a good example.

WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE?

Singing should be for edification. One of the principles of proper church order is that the service should be conducted for the benefit of the whole church, rather than the whole church suffering for the edification of one individual. If self is to be edified, and you are in choir for the sole purpose of self edification, then please excuse yourself from the choir. A choir member's purpose should be to lift up their voices in song with one mind and one accord so that the spirit of God can be edified. We are in the choir to entertain the spirit of God -- not each other.