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# FROM THE LOFT

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## News from the choir of Westminster Church

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### **“Once Upon a Night”**

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Westminster choir is pleased to present “Once Upon a Night” a contemporary musical composed by Pepper Choplin. Featuring the choir, soloists and our Sunday school, this musical tells the Christmas story through the eyes of St. Luke. This presentation is happening during our regular Sunday morning service, December 22nd, 2013.

### **New Faces**

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Our choir has seen some amazing growth in the past few years. We are excited to welcome the new people who have decided to make Westminster their choral home.

### **Yes, you can clap!**

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The end of our service has traditionally been marked by various settings of the word “Amen”, and on special occasions “Hallelujah!”. This season, our choral close- the spiritual “Amen” comes from the movie “Lillies of the Field”. We highly recommend the movie!



### **We’ve been busy!**

This Fall, the choir worked harder than ever to prepare the music for our Remembrance Day service. Music from John Rutter’s *Requiem* was learned in record time by the volunteers in our choir. Charmaine Bacon, Bronwen Garand-Sheridan, Karin Erhardt, and Anton Dahl Sokalski were our guest musicians joining Don Menzies on the organ.

Thanks also to Murray Wichert who provided the Last Post and Reveille. The service was a great success, and a beautiful way for the congregation to mark Remembrance Day.



The choir has also been occupied with the learning of a brand new musical, titled *Once Upon a Night*. This musical journey through the eyes of St. Luke is





## Your Support

The choir is grateful for the support that it receives from the congregation of Westminster Church. Your financial support goes towards:

- purchasing new music to supplement the large music library Westminster maintains
- larger scale productions like our Requiem on Remembrance Day, and our upcoming Christmas Musical, "Once Upon a Night"

## Choir Council

For the first time in several years, the choir elected a choir council for the 2013-2014 season. For many years, Fred Simpson acted as choir president, Judy Hill as treasurer, and Lynn Soens as librarian/gowns master. We are grateful for their service over the years!

### Choir Council 2013-2014

Brandon Johnston - President  
 Cass Smith - Secretary/Treasurer  
 Kim Nelson - Librarian  
 James Campbell - Social  
 Linda Campbell - Membership  
 Annette Kletke - Gowns Master

a fun and exciting way for us to celebrate Christmas. Cathryn Harrison, Nicki Kirton, Wes Rambo, and Fred Simpson all have roles to sing in this production, with the choir acting as backup throughout. You don't want to miss it!

## A Choral Christmas Eve

As per tradition, the choir will be featured heavily on Christmas Eve at our choral candlelight service. Several new carols have been selected for this service, including a new setting of *Away in a Manger*. It has become tradition for the choir to sing a new setting of this famous carol every year. This new arrangement is by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo. As our tenor soloist Wes Rambo sings the verses, he is supported by a softly humming choir, sure to give chills.

### *Be sure to listen for...*

...a jubilant new setting of the Christmas favourite *Ding-Dong Merrily on High*. Featuring both the organ and piano, this arrangement is a blast to sing, and an energetic way to start our late service. Thanks to Helen La Rue for tackling the difficult piano part.

Plus, Fred Simpson will be featured as soloist, singing *I Wonder as I Wander*, and Nicki Kirton will be singing the glorious *O Holy Night*, arranged by John Rutter.

