



Notes and Measures

February 4, 2019

Next Two Weeks: I Cannot Tell a Lie, We're Going to the Foothills

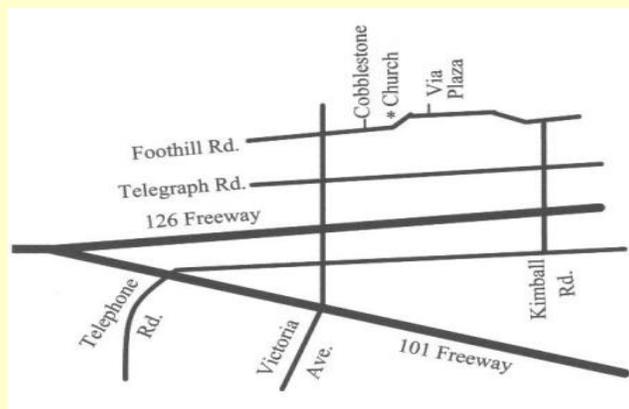
Welcome to February and welcome back to our regular rehearsal home at VACE! Alas, I wouldn't get too comfortable in your chairs if I were you; this month, the Ventura Unified School District (and thus VACE) will have two more Mondays where classes won't be held, requiring us to rehearse at our alternate location, Church of the Foothills. Here are the details.

For our rehearsals on **February 11th and February 18th**, we'll be meeting at Church of the Foothills, located at 6279 Foothill Road in Ventura; the zip code is 93003, for those of you who get everywhere using Google Maps or a similar website or app. For those of you who prefer written directions, here are directions to Church of the Foothills:

DOWNTOWN AND WEST VENTURA, OJAI & POINTS NORTH: Take U.S. 101 South to the Victoria Avenue exit. At the end of the ramp, make a left on to Valentine Road, then turn left at Victoria Avenue. Stay on Victoria (heading over Highway 126 and into the hills). After about 2 ½ miles, turn right at Foothill Road. The driveway for Church of the Foothills will be about a third of a mile up the road on your left (slow at Cobblestone Drive).

CONEJO VALLEY, CAMARILLO, OXNARD, AND POINTS SOUTH: Take U.S. 101 North to the Victoria Avenue exit. At the end of the ramp, turn right at Victoria Avenue. Stay on Victoria (heading over the 126 and into the hills). After about 2 ½ miles, turn right at Foothill Road. The driveway for Church of the Foothills will be about a third of a mile up the road on your left (slow at Cobblestone Drive).

EAST VENTURA, SANTA PAULA, FILLMORE, AND POINTS EAST: Take Highway 126 West to the Kimball Road exit. At the end of the ramp, turn left at Kimball Road. Stay on Kimball Road (heading past Telegraph and into the hills). After about 1 mile, turn left at Foothill Road. The driveway for Church of the Foothills will be about a mile up the road on your right (slow at Via Plaza).



Map courtesy of Church of the Foothills

As always, don't forget to allow extra time for your trip if you need it, since it may take longer to reach the church. Thanks to everyone for their patience and cooperation in what's been a very unusual rehearsal series! If you have any questions, please talk to your section leader or a member of the Board.

Ticket Time's A-Coming! (Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow...)

It's hard to believe that we're already five weeks in to rehearsals for *The Road Not Taken*; it seems like only yesterday that we started registering singers at Church of the Foothills. (It was only last week that we were rehearsing there, but I digress.) We're close enough to our concert dates that we need to start thinking about everything we'll need for the performances – and first and foremost, what we need is an audience!

Francine Redmond and her ticket team are getting ready to start ticket sales very soon – we'll make an announcement as soon as they're ready. In the meantime, now's a great time to start spreading the word about our concert and asking friends and family members if they'll be joining us and if they'd like us to buy tickets for them. As you tell them about the concert, don't forget to mention that this time, we'll only be performing once (on Saturday, March 16th), and that we'll be at a different venue – St. Columba's Episcopal Church in Camarillo. If everybody's ready, let's get set and get out on the streets to start talking up our concert! If you have any questions about ticket sales or the performance, please see a member of the Board.

We Need YOU (and Few People You Know) as Volunteers!

I want to thank everyone who contacted Pat to volunteer in response to our initial calls for singers, friends, and family members to assist us with getting things done during our rehearsals and performances. I hate to sound like a broken record, but it bears repeating: We absolutely could not do what we do without the kind help of our volunteers! That's why we're asking those of you who haven't volunteered yet to step up and assist us over the next few weeks.

So, what kind of things could you or your family members and friends do as GCCC volunteers? Well, here's a brief but by no means exhaustive list:

Rehearsal Set Up/Take Down: Everything we use at every rehearsal but the furniture – power cords, speakers, handouts, and music to be handed out – has to be prepared or put into place at the before everyone comes in on Monday and put away after rehearsal is done. We could really use a few people to come a little early or stay a few minutes later for to take out and put away all those things that we use.

Hospitality Set Up/Take Down: Snacks and drinks at break time come to us courtesy of a small but dedicated group of volunteers who come in a little bit early and help with setting up coffee and hot water pots, as well as put snacks on the table before rehearsal begins. Folks who volunteer to make or buy items for the singers to snack on are also greatly appreciated. Last chronologically, but certainly not least, we have the folks who are kind enough to stay for a little bit to help clean up and put away the hospitality items at the end of the night.

Concert Set Up/Take Down: Three times a year, we transform a church into a performance venue and change it right back, all within the space of a couple of hours or less. A bunch of people giving us a little of their time one morning before the show and for an hour or so after the final performance make those transformations possible, and the more people we have, the faster and more safely we can do it.

Ushers/Ticket Takers: On performance days, we need friends and family members to man the Will Call table and to serve as ushers – without them, we won't have a ready and waiting audience when we go on stage!

Do you have an idea for something that can be done by a volunteer that we're not currently doing? Talk to Pat or another Board member – we'd love to hear your ideas, and we'd love you to have you take the lead in making those ideas happen. If you'd really like to get involved with deciding what we do and how we do it, consider becoming part of the GCCC Board of Directors – the next Board election is only a couple months away, folks...

If you're one of those folks who regularly show your volunteer spirit, **THANK YOU!** We could never tell you how much everything you do means to the members of this choir. If I've inspired you to show us a little of your volunteer spirit, please see our hospitality coordinator Pat Chaney or another member of the Board and ask us how you can help, or tell us about a great new idea you've come up with to help the Chorus. Either way, thanks in advance for your support!

Singers Needed for Special Easter Concert, April 20th

As you know, I like to share news about upcoming musical events, in order to support other arts organizations in our county. Well, we received word of a church in our area that'll be putting on a concert in a few weeks; while I'm sure they'd appreciate an audience, what they're really looking for are singers to sing with them in the concert! If you're looking for additional opportunities to sing, read on...

On Saturday, April 20th, the First United Methodist Church in Ventura will be hosting a special Easter concert. The event will feature combined choirs, brass and organ, all under the direction of choir director Tyler Carlisle; they'll be performing familiar and new sacred songs, all tied into an Easter narrative.

Singers who would like to participate in the concert are welcome to attend rehearsals, which will be held at the First United Methodist Church on Thursdays starting at 7:30 p.m. can come to any or all of the rehearsal sessions, but it's especially important that you attend the rehearsals on the first three Thursdays in April and an additional special rehearsal prior to the concert.

If you'd like to get involved or would like more information, please call Deborah Fitzgibbons at (805) 485-5748, or just by the church during rehearsals. The church is located at 1338 E. Santa Clara St. in Ventura (zip code 93001), near Cabrillo Middle School; you can enter the church via the ramp on the parking lot side of the church. If you'd like additional information about the church, please visit their website, <http://venturafirstumc.org/>.

That's it for this edition – see you next issue!

If you have news or information that you'd like to share in a future issue, please contact a member or the Board at rehearsal, or send an e-mail to Paul Schnebelen at membership@goldcoastchorus.org.