

Castleview Baptist Church

Choir Commitment

We are excited to recognize your desire to commit to the choir of Castleview Baptist Church, a commitment that stretches beyond your attendance at musical rehearsals. It is a commitment to the body of Christ represented within the choir, to the Castleview family, and ultimately, to the Lord. It is certainly a joy and a privilege, but a commitment characterized by service and a responsibility to proclaim and live out truth in a way that brings glory to God, not to ourselves.

Please read through the rest of this document carefully as you consider your involvement in this ministry.

Personal Testimony

If you are interested in ministering through music to the body of believers at Castleview, we can assume the following testimony characterizes you:

- You have surrendered your life by faith to Jesus Christ.
- You demonstrate a deep commitment to Castleview as your church family, characterized by church membership, participation and/or service in Adult Bible Fellowships, Children's or Youth Ministry, Small Groups, Bible Studies, and regular fellowship with other Castleview families.
- Your heart's desire is to worship the Lord, first, and secondly, to use your musical gifts for His glory.

Attendance

Singing in the choir is indeed a commitment and should be considered as such. Your attendance is expected at all choir rehearsals held on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, in addition to occasional Saturday mornings. There is a schedule included for the entire choir calendar year, which will allow you to plan accordingly.

Even with a goal of 100% participation, the reality is that there will be personal and church activities that will, at times, conflict with your ministry in the choir due to circumstances beyond your control. It is certainly not our intention that an occasional absence keeps you from participating in the choir. However, *it is important that the director knows when you will be absent*. Any date that you know you will be absent should be marked on the calendar in the choir hallway. Last minute absences should be communicated directly to the director through phone or email.

Consider again the concept of commitment and service as it relates to this very issue. The choir, as a body, is made up of many members who must rely upon each other to achieve the best possible results. You might not have much to contribute vocally on any given Wednesday evening due to illness or fatigue, but you can learn by listening, and your very presence can be an encouragement to those around you.

Seating Assignments

Seating assignment is important to the overall sound and appearance of the choir. Some singers' ability to hear their part and sing with confidence is dependent on being near someone who reads their part accurately. There are several factors considered in making a seat placement: voice timbre, voice strength, reading ability, confidence, visibility, and subdivision of voice parts. If your particular assignment concerns you, please discuss it with the director. We want everyone to be able to do their best and enjoy the music and worship experience as fully as possible.

Sunday Worship Services

We will continue to rehearse prior to the ABF hour, from 8:30-9:00am. Your attendance is expected at this rehearsal, as it is our final "run-through" before the service, our last chances to make changes, and the only chance we have to coordinate with our instrumentalists and sound technicians. If you are not able to attend this rehearsal, we ask that you refrain from joining us in the choir loft during the service.

We will all meet for prayer at 10:15, immediately preceding the service. This is a vital time for us to collect our thoughts, prepare ourselves for worship, and lift our people up before the Lord.

Always be aware of your demeanor on the platform. We desire to lead people into the presence of the Lord, not to draw attention to ourselves. Talking with other choir members during the service is distracting and inappropriate. Our attention should always be focused on what is taking place in the service. Begin and then continue in an attitude of worship from the moment you enter the platform.

Care of the Music

Unless otherwise specified, and for the greatest convenience for our choir librarian, please place your choir folder in the designated container in the choir hallway. Do not put it back in your slot.

Please mark your music according to the director's instructions using a pencil. Extra pencils are always available in the choir hallway.

Notes and News, Prayer Request Sheets

Each week, there will be a Notes and News flyer with our rehearsal order, announcements, and a "fellowship prompt," provided by our chaplain. We will begin our weekly rehearsals promptly at 6:30 with a few minutes for good conversation and prayer in small groups. We will continue to fill our prayer request sheets, to be copied and distributed before the end of rehearsal, to be prayed over at the conclusion of rehearsal and throughout the week.