

PEACEMEAL

| A Volunteer Effort of the Portland Peace Choir |

MISSION STATEMENT

The Portland Peace Choir strives to exemplify the principles of peace, justice, equality, stewardship of the Earth, cooperation and unity.

We sing music from diverse cultures and traditions to inspire peace in ourselves, our families, our communities and the world.

In This Issue

- Joint Peace Choirs Weekend
- Blue Moon
- 1 World Chorus Revisited
- Professor Jones is missing again!

A Different Perspective on MLK's Legacy

Nicole K. (tenor) sent us this link to a video presenting the idea that what we celebrate today as Martin Luther King's message and his legacy to the world is only part of the whole story. The video presents the point of view of Brittany Pickett, a young black woman who is an activist for racial justice. She believes that while Dr. King did advocate for change by nonviolent means, he also believed that in order to accomplish peaceful change one cannot be afraid of confrontation and conflict. To see the video, visit:

<https://mic.com/articles/187403/what-most-americans-get-wrong-about-martin-luther-king-jr-and-his-legacy#.vSuo7t2Y0>

Look Out, Ashland, Here We Come Again!



It's a new year and we're fast approaching our first concert opportunity of 2018: the Joint Peace Choirs weekend, which will be held again this year in Ashland, and will feature the four Oregon Peace Choirs, as well as the Emandal Chorus from Willits, CA. We've got most of the music down already, with just a few pieces needing some final polishing, and members are excited to be showing off some of our old favorites, as well as some exciting new material, under our new Director's leadership. We'll also be debuting our new look to our old friends in Ashland ... I wonder if they'll recognize us without our all-white color scheme?

The workshop this year sounds like it'll be a lot of fun, combining Delcroze Eurythmics (a method of understanding music and its rhythm through movement), the rhythms of Rap and Hip Hop music, and Appalachian 3-part harmony, along with a dash of body percussion. The idea is to help participants learn to feel the music and use their whole bodies to express it. The workshop will be held on Saturday, 2/10, from 2-4 pm, at the Methodist Church at N. Main and Laurel, and the workshop fee will be \$15 in advance.

cont'd., p. 2





Who Said That?

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become reality ... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

~ Oprah Winfrey

I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something.

~ Neil Gaiman

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.

~ Benjamin Franklin

Let our New Year's resolution be this: we will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

~ Goran Persson

When we contemplate the whole globe as one great dewdrop, striped and dotted with continents and islands, flying through space with other stars all singing and shining together as one, the whole universe appears as an infinite storm of beauty.

~ John Muir

continued from p. 1

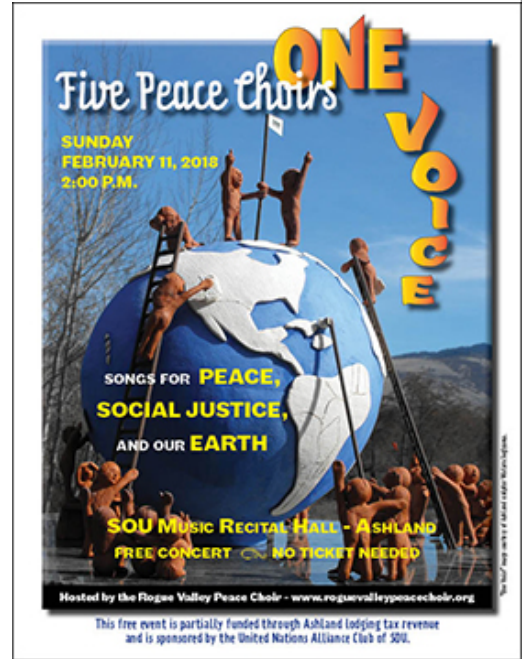
The workshop will be followed by a catered dinner to be held in the same location as the workshop. The event will be catered by the same folks who did it last time, and will be a buffet-style meal featuring chicken kebabs with a variety of sauces, a veggie curry, two types of salads, and a dessert that will be vegan and gluten free. The cost of the dinner will be \$15 each.

The concert itself will be held on Sunday, February 11, at 2:00 pm at the SOU Recital Hall, 450 S. Mountain Avenue; parking is available on S. Mountain Ave. across the street from the entrance to the building. Although I don't have any information at this time about the order of

performance, one thing I do know is that the concert finale will feature all five peace choirs performing "One Voice" together.

It should be a fun and enjoyable weekend, and we urge choir members to attend and bring your families and friends.

~bb



ATTENTION: THE PPC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

In the past, we have had members who had the equipment and desire to videotape the joint choirs concert for us; however, the person who normally did that (Fred Sly) is no longer with the choir. If any of you has the equipment and expertise or the desire to record the show for us, or knows someone who might be willing to do so, please let us know. It's really helpful to us to be able to look back at our previous concerts, and to have photos and videos to put on our website for PR.

ANY HELP YOU CAN GIVE US WILL BE APPRECIATED!

Blue Moon — and Other Moon Things

~ Nicole K. (tenor)

The moon interests me, maybe because I'm an astrological "Moon Child" — born in July.

Every now and then (make that "once in a *blue moon*"), I get into a nostalgic mood and start playing my childhood oldies. In the 50's, it was Elvis! And one of my favorites was his very haunting version of the Rodgers & Hart tune "Blue Moon" (sigh!) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Miy5auB3OWg> In the early 60's came the Marcel's doo-wop version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4oSTyjZCfE>

There have been many more standard versions and many, many other "moon" songs — stop and think how many you can name!

This year has more phenomenal moon activity than usual — although not as many as there are moon songs.

So first a quick definition or two:

The term "blue moon" has traditionally referred to an "extra" moon, where a year which normally has 12 moons has 13 instead. The "blue moon" reference is applied to the third moon in a season with four moons, This happens every two to three years. A writer in the March 1946 issue of *Sky & Telescope Magazine* misinterpreted the traditional definition, which led to the modern colloquial misunderstanding that a blue moon is a second full moon in a single solar calendar month with no seasonal link. So much for the definitions.

There are two full moons this month: January 2 and 31. The latter is a "super blue moon" because the moon is so close to the earth. But wait, there's more. . . January 31st will have a Blue Moon, a supermoon AND a total lunar eclipse!

A Blue Moon is when two full moons happen in the same calendar month; lunar eclipses occur when the moon passes into Earth's shadow; and supermoons happen when the moon's perigee — its closest approach to Earth in a single orbit — coincides with a full moon. In this case, the supermoon also happens to be the day of the lunar eclipse (last happened in 1866).

How cool is that?



But wait, there's still more . . . there will also be two full moons in March: the 2nd and the 31st. Just your ordinary plain old everyday full moons. But look at the month of February. There is NO full moon at all! This only happens about four times in a century (the last time was in 1999).

Put all this together with the solar eclipse last year and we are getting a lot of "once-in-a-lifetime" sky dramas. For more on all this and timetables for your location and all that good information, here's a link: <https://www.space.com/39208-super-blue-blood-moon-guide.html>

Or check NASA or OMSI websites. Keep looking up — it's a nice distraction.

So how many moon songs did you come up with? How about songs with Sun in the title? Stars? Other weather? Seasons? Wow! It would seem like the conditions of that which surrounds us are pretty important — maybe it's good to care about global warming?

PPC Happenings

Winter/Spring Session: Join us **Wednesday evenings, 7-9pm** in the lobby of the Mt. Hood Wing at the Courtyard at Mt. Tabor for our regular weekly rehearsals.

Reminder: Don't forget to wear your name tags!

Sectionals with Kristin

Sectionals are held at 6:30pm every week except for the first week of the month when we do Happy Half Hours.

1/24: sopranos 2/7: HHH hosted by tenors
1/31: altos 2/14: tenors

Note: normally scheduled sectionals may be preempted at Kristin's discretion if additional work is needed to prepare for the Joint Choirs Concert.

Joint Peace Choirs Weekend: this annual celebration will be held a week earlier than usual this time around, **Saturday, 2/10 - Sunday, 2/11/2018**. The event will be held in Ashland again and the four Oregon Peace Choirs will be joined by Emendal Chorus from Willits, CA. On Saturday there will be a workshop and dinner; the concert will be at 2 pm on Sunday.

We'll be performing "Because", "Earth Song", "Great Trees", "Pride", "Sing a Freedom Song" and "There Is Peace", and the plan is to sing off-book.

This is always a fun event, an opportunity to get together with old friends and make some new ones, with a lot of singing and harmony. See the article on p. 1 for more details.

One World Chorus: Additions and Corrections

In last month's newsletter, we ran a piece by Diane T. (alto) about 1 World Chorus, a children's choir formed and directed by local musician Aaron Nigel Smith. In editing Diane's article, I made a couple of mistakes that I'd like to correct. First off, I misinterpreted something Diane wrote: 1 World Chorus is not doing "One Day". Also, there were some links that I left out of the article that Diane feels would be helpful, one to 1 World Chorus' website and two others to music videos, one in the spirit of 1 World Chorus' music and the second to a You-Tube video of a children's chorus doing "One Day" with Matisyahu:

[Stand By Me](#) | [Playing For Change](#) | [Song Around The World](#)

[PS22 Chorus & Matisyahu "One Day"](#)

<http://www.1worldchorus.org>



REIKI I CLASS AVAILABLE

Are you interested in learning Reiki? Intrigued by the possibilities of energy healing? Penny B. (soprano) is offering a one-day class on Reiki I on Thursday, 2/22, from 10am to 4pm, at her home (address below). At the end of the class you will be attuned to Reiki I and know how to do Reiki healings on yourself and others. For more information, contact Penny at 503-453-9085.

PPC Reiki Practitioner Healing Circle

PLEASE JOIN US

Friday, February 23, 1-4 pm

12424 NE Rose Parkway

To RSVP, Text: 503-453-9085

Refreshments to follow

Opportunities to Sing or Listen

- **Sunday January 21 – 1:30 – 3:30pm** Portland Sings! with Mark Bosnian in the coffeehouse at Taborspace. \$5 –10 sliding scale. <http://portlandsings.com/> for location address and digital songbook download. Bring your laptop or e-device; print out a copy or look on with a new friend. Check out the songbook on the website for the variety of songs we sing.
- **ALSO January 21 – 5pm – 7pm** "All Together Now" Beatles Sing-Along at Mississippi Pizza 3552 N Mississippi Ave. Portland. No cover charge! Band plays Beatles songs and you get to sing along. Look for the PPC table – there will probably be one!
- **Saturday January 27– 7:30pm** "River of Stars – Singing Darkness into Light" Vi Voce Women's Ensemble. Concert and reception afterwards. St. Michaels & All Angels 1704 NE 43rd Ave Portland. Visit website for background and concert information and to purchase tickets. <http://portlandrevels.org/calendar/vivoce-singers/>
- **Sunday January 28th – 4:30pm** "River of Stars" second performance
- **January 31st** – early in the morning – Music of the Spheres BLUE MOON and Lunar Eclipse!
- **Friday February 9– 7-9pm** Second Friday 60's & 70's Harmony Singers at Friendly House, NW 26th & Thurman St (FREE) This is a Meet-Up group especially for folks who like to sing harmony -- Man in January we were on FIRE! Songbooks provided or join Meet-Up group and download e-version (which includes links to youtube versions of all the songs} <https://www.meetup.com/Song-Circle-Folk-Music-singalongs-from-the-60s-70s/>
- **Friday February 16 – 7-9pm** 3rd Friday Song Circle at Friendly House NW 26th @ Thurman St. (FREE) This is a larger group with a variety of musicians (all acoustic). Singing this month is from the "Rise Again" songbook. There are some loaner books available if you don't have one.
- **Sunday February 18 – 1:30 – 3:30pm** Portland Sings! with Mark Bosnian in the coffeehouse at Taborspace . \$5-10 sliding scale. <http://portlandsings.com/> for location address and digital songbook download. Bring your laptop or e-device; print out a copy or look on with a new friend. Check out the songbook on the website for the variety of songs we sing.
- **Sunday February 25 – March 3** It's the 18th Annual Lift Every Voice (L.E.V.) Gospel Music Workshop & Concert. (FREE) Theme: "Anchor in the Storm" It's a one week Sunday thru Saturday (except Wednesday) workout – 6-9pm (dinner included). Learn 8-10 gospel songs with a diverse group of singers and directors from the Portland Metro area and then put on a concert on Saturday afternoon. Hosted by Sharon SDA Church, 5209 NE 22nd Ave Portland. Registration page should be up around February 1st. <http://www.sharonsda.net/>

Suggestion Box

This is an opportunity for you, our readers, to tell us your ideas for ways to improve our choir. We can include your name with your suggestion or keep it anonymous, your choice. Please send your suggestion to: barbaraPPC@comcast.net

Suggestions:

Too much chatter! Please, everyone, show some respect and cut out the chatting while the director or others are talking. We need to be able to hear what the people who're talking to us are saying!

PEACEMEAL is a volunteer publication of the Portland Peace Choir

Barbara Burnett: Editor, Writer, Designer

Thanks to Nicole for her lovely moon article!