

The Passing of the Baton

**Coming in the fall of 2026
The next exciting era dawns
in our 2026/27 Season!**

In **May of 2026**, after 25 years of loving and nurturing the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys, Scott & Jane Bosscher will be retiring at the end of the 36th anniversary season.

Scott writes: “I heard my father say many times, ‘You can’t believe how fast life happens!’ Well dad, you were right. The fall of 2001 when I stood in front of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys for the very first time seems like just yesterday.

Above my desk at home I have lined up the program booklets from all 25 years of our choir’s concert series. I am further blessed that tucked inside each of the programs is a dvd video of that particular concert. Every Evensong, Lessons & Carols, Lenten/Easter Meditation, & Spring Sacred Concert is preserved. Let’s do the math, four programs each year times 25 years (minus the Covid era) – that’s nearly 100 times through so many seasons that we have gathered together to share God’s love in song and in readings. What an awesome privilege and joy it has been being with all of you.



But as Scripture declares, ‘There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.’ The time has come for the next generation of leadership to nurture and lead our GRCMB family.

Jane and I will miss the countless hours we have spent through the years planning, rehearsing & performing with the choir. The total chorister head count is now in the hundreds for boys who have sung with us. Some of our most fun memories have always come from our six-week summer camp every year. The number of Hershey s’mores consumed by our boys around our weekly afternoon summer campfires I’m sure now numbers in the thousands! We will also deeply miss working with our worldclass guest conductors: Martin Neary, Andrew Nethsingha, Matthew Owens, & Richard Webster. God loves a team effort and so do we. We will miss the challenges of diving deeply into and mastering incredible choral masterpieces and in recent years, joining our talents with visiting guest artists in our Andy Larson Biennial Concert Series: thus far Metropolitan Opera baritone Will Liverman and the Choir of St. John’s College, Cambridge.

Most of all we will miss you, our encouraging, supportive audience family. But, this isn’t goodbye. We are simply changing seats to now sit beside you, where together we will continue to be uplifted and inspired by the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys.

Let the next *Music Director* search begin! In the coming days we will have information on our website (grcmb.org) for interested Music Director candidates to review and then throughout the coming year we look forward to interviewing potential candidates to find who God has in mind to continue the GRCMB

tradition. Additionally, as we prepare for the next chapter in our choir's life, we will be looking to add new members to our governing Board of Directors. Do let us know if you feel a calling to serve in such a manner. Our choir is only as strong as our behind the scenes support. Please ask us about how you might serve.

Speaking of support, periods of transition always bring with them a time uncertainty. **Therefore, more than ever your continued or *perhaps increased support*, (this year in particular) will be a sign that along with us you want to guarantee that the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys continues to be one of the sacred musical treasures of West Michigan. As this letter also serves as our one-time annual appeal for the coming year, please give now and throughout this coming season as generously as you are able.**

For the past 35 years, your presence and your prayers have nurtured and grown the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys into its current strong family of faith filled song. May our song ever continue to sing God's praise!"

In deep appreciation, *Scott & Jane Bosscher*



Our 2025 six-week GRCMB Chorister Summer Camp is now completed.

16 returning choristers attended this summer along alongside 20 new boys who experienced the choir for the first time. We look forward to the exciting year ahead. Season 36 here we come!

For giving purposes:

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys is a registered 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit organization.

The Choir's tax-exempt ID# is 38-2919772.

**GRCMB – PO Box 6152 Grand Rapids, MI 49516
616.460.0598 Website: grcmb.org**

