



Kirchenchorverband Church Choir Association der NELCSA of the NELCSA

Chairman and Association Director:
Vorsitzender und Verbandsleiter:

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Report of the NELCSA Church Choir Association to Synod 2025

1. Introduction

I hope this report finds you well and in good spirits. This will be my first report tabled at Synod and it is a privilege to do so. I am grateful to lead such a talented and inspiring group of choristers in our Synod.

2. Choir Festivals in 2024 and 2025

Three regional choir festivals took place in 2024. We are grateful to God that we were once again able to proclaim His Word in this way and that many people were blessed by the music. A great deal of work goes into organizing these events and I am incredibly grateful to our regional leaders for their hard work.

We looked forward with great anticipation to the choir festival in Hermannsburg on 11 May 2025, and it did not disappoint. The Lord truly blessed us with his presence on the weekend. The watchword for the festival was from 1 Thessalonians 5:21 – “Test everything and hold on to what is good”. The preparations were ongoing for several months and culminated in a wonderful festival. About 170 choristers participated in the festival choir, accompanied by about 25 musicians. We were especially grateful that all three regions were so well represented. The feedback from the festival has been very positive. That is pleasing since we worked hard to find the right balance as relates to language, genre and difficulty. A special word of thanks goes out to Ingrid Lütge who has really gone way above and beyond her call of duty. A word of thanks also goes to our regional leaders, Mark Rohwer and Jochen Hinze, for their support throughout. I also have to mention Udo Lütge who has been a pillar of support during these last 2 years.

3. Leadership

In the previous six years we had several leadership challenges – several association offices were vacant. We are very happy to be able to report that all offices are now filled. The road ahead looks positive and we are grateful to everyone who is prepared to put so much effort into this ministry. The newly elected Association Council is as follows:

Association Director:	Dieter Hinze
Association Deputy Director:	Mark Rohwer
Spiritual Advisor:	Udo Lütge
Secretary:	Nicola Beneke
Leader Northern Region:	Mark Rohwer
Deputy Leader Northern Region:	Linde-Marie Hartmann
Leader Central Region:	Jochen Hinze
Deputy Leader Central Region:	Hugo Paul
Leader Southern Region:	Margrit Deppe
Deputy Leader Central Region:	Ingrid Lütge

We look forward to working together in our association and to the preparation for the Choir Festival in 2027, which will be hosted by Vryheid.

4. Closing

Music has the power to uplift, unite, and transform lives. Through our voices, we bring joy to others and create moments of harmony that resonate beyond the walls of our rehearsal space. Every rehearsal, every performance, and every note sung with heart contributes to something greater than ourselves.

As we embark on our journey to the next choir festival, I encourage each of you to embrace the journey with enthusiasm. Let's continue to support one another, strive for excellence, and share the gift of song with our communities and congregations.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and passion for choral music. I look forward to making beautiful music together and creating unforgettable experiences.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Dieter Hinze

(Chairman and Director of the NELCSA Choir Association, on behalf of the Association Council)