Bennett College Choir holds inaugural concert under new director, just in time to usher in the holiday season

GREENSBORO – Under leadership of Director Dorthea L. Taylor, the Bennett College Choir will present a concert on Sunday that promises to take listeners on a musical and spiritual journey.

Titled “Seasons of Faith: A Concert for All Seasons,” the program begins at 4:30 p.m. in the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel on campus and is expected to last about an hour.

There is no admission charge for the concert. The public is invited.

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the Heavens,” said Taylor, quoting from Ecclesiastes 3:1. “During Sunday’s concert, the audience will experience a journey of faith, not only through the natural seasons of the year but also through the transcendent seasons of life. The Choir will perform an all-sacred repertoire, including choral anthems, Negro spirituals and gospel selections. We hope the community will join us as we pick spring flowers, endure the heat of summer, reap the autumn harvest and sit in anticipation of the sounds of Christmas in winter.”

More than a dozen songs will be performed during the concert; Taylor’s first since becoming Bennett’s choir director in September. Audience members will be invited to sing with the Choir as they perform the popular hymn, “Great is Thy Faithfulness”.

“We want the audience to join us in singing ‘Great is Thy Faithfulness’ because the text represents the concert theme that we want everyone to embrace,” Taylor said. “Although life, situations, circumstances and seasons change, God does not. He is the same yesterday, today and forever, and His faithfulness gives us the assurance we need to press forward.”

Choir members Nicole Samuels, Constance B. Staley, Lamia Cummings, BriAnna Holmes, Sasha King and Aja Baldwin will perform solos during the concert. So will Taylor, a dramatic soprano who owns Andante, a company that provides affordable music training, including voice lessons.

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The choir director, who has been singing professionally for 20 years, will perform the Negro spiritual “Sinner please, don’t let this harvest pass”.

The concert will end with tunes that are likely to put attendees in the holiday spirit, including “Joy bells,” which Taylor arranged, and the popular “Angels We Have Heard on High.” The program will also feature greetings from Bennett College Interim President Dr. Phyllis Worthy Dawkins.

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