

# THE CATHEDRAL CONNECTION

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2018

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ST. JOHN'S UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Edmonton, Alberta

## GREETINGS FROM THE CATHEDRAL DEAN

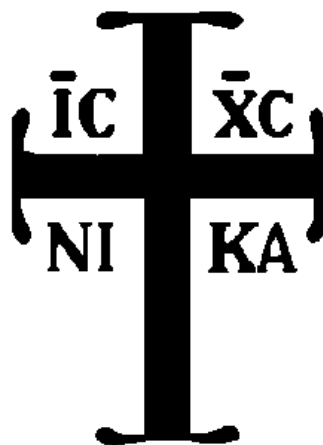
Дорогі брати й сестри в Христі!

В цей час сердечно вітаю всіх Вас із надходячим початком Нового Церковного Року, і хочу вірити, що ви всі із охотою приступатимете до нової праці й діяльності при нашій Громаді. Я заохочую й прошу Вас регулярно вчащати до Церкви й активно включатись в Церковне Життя.

The liturgical year of our Church begins in September. This is the time we begin anew. As members of our Ukrainian Orthodox Community we need to live the life of the Church, involved in prayer, services and feast days throughout the entire year. Our Church Year is not complete if we do not participate all the way through. We, as parents, must be at Church with our children. We must pray together with our children. And most importantly, you must be the kind of Orthodox Christians that you want your child to grow up to be!

We are called to a special ministry – stewardship. Therefore, may we support our Church through the offering of time, talents and resources. An investment in St. John's Cathedral is an investment in your own life. May our involvement in the life of our parish bring us much personal and spiritual joy!

In Christ's love,  
Father Stephan & Dobrodiyka Diana



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone! I sincerely hope your summer break was joyful and relaxing, and that you are now re-energized to continue our mission of service for the good of our church community.

Soon we will be winding up our 2018 fiscal year. This year has been very special for us as we began our 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada. St. John's Parish commemorated this significant milestone in conjunction with our Patron Saint's Feast Day ("Khram"). A sincere thank you to Christine Zwozdesky for doing a superb job as Mistress of Ceremonies.

The major event to date was the Extraordinary Sobor and 100th Anniversary Jubilee held in mid-August in Saskatoon, SK, birthplace of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. Our St. John's Parish in Edmonton was represented by 10 delegates and clergy. The Western Eparchy will continue the celebrations at a banquet on Friday, October 26 as a part of its Annual Assembly. I am hoping that those who were unable to travel to Saskatoon for the Celebratory Sobor will join us at St. John's Cultural Centre this fall to recognize this important milestone in our Church's history.

We should be very proud as Ukrainian Orthodox Christians of what we have achieved in the past 100 years. We pray that over the next 100 years, we may be blessed with further success.

On May 30th, the Parish hosted "An Evening with Eugene" to celebrate Eugene Topolnisky on the occasion of his birthday, and recognize him for his many contributions and years of service to St. John's Cathedral and the Ukrainian Community. The celebration was a great success. Some 200 people attended the lively evening. Eugene is extremely grateful and humbled for the honour he was bestowed. We wish him many happy and healthy years to come!

On June 13th, some 400 students and their teachers from John A. McDougall School were hosted by St. John's Parish at a pyrohy luncheon in our Cultural Centre. This outreach event is now in its seventh year, and it was a resounding success. We look forward to seeing them again next year!

With this issue, some of you will find enclosed a friendly reminder that your membership pledge donations are owing for the current and/or previous years. I sincerely thank those members for their attention in this matter.

Finally, I encourage all of our Parish members to consider participating more fully in the management of our organization. There are many among you that I know would be an asset to our Parish Council. What an excellent opportunity to use your talents for the betterment of our Parish. Any member of our current board will tell you that with the time and effort their position demands, it is ultimately a most rewarding experience to witness our Parish thrive and play a first hand role in that realization. I therefore urge you to think about in what position on the Council this New Year you could truly shine, for the benefit of our church community. Nominations will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on the last Sunday in February. I have the utmost faith and respect for your consideration.

May God Bless all of you this Thanksgiving season as 2018 comes to a close. Personally, I am thankful to you all for your support of our Cathedral and Cultural Centre. I have been able to dutifully execute my role as President thanks to the efforts of an especially capable and highly professional Parish Council this year. A further special thank you to our volunteers who are the backbone of our catering and parish operations. Дякую всім!

With Christian Love -- Marshall Kachmar, President -- St. John's Parish

## ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS

*Holy Pentecost ("Green Holidays") – May 27, 2018*



*Photos courtesy of George Zaharia, Member – St. John's Parish*



## ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

### *An Evening With Eugene – May 30, 2018*

On Wednesday, May 30th, St. John's Parish hosted a banquet in celebration of Eugene Topolnisky's birthday, and to honour him for his many years of service and contributions to the Parish and Ukrainian Community. Over 200 guests joined Eugene to share in the joy of his special day. The evening's programme, emceed by Gene Zwozdesky, was a jubilant affair.

Greetings and well wishes were offered to Eugene by representatives of many of the organizations of which he has been a longstanding member, including St. John's Parish, the Order of St. Andrew – Edmonton Chapter, the Ukrainian Museum of Canada – Alberta Branch, St. John's Cathedral Choir, and the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton. Choral performances by St. John's Cathedral Choir, and Dnipro Choir were the highlight of the evening, which concluded with even more music and singing led by Fedir Gotsaliouk, Ludvik Marianych, George Paleniuk, and Gene Zwozdesky.

In addition to a very special birthday cake, Eugene was also presented with a commemorative plaque – which now hangs in the Cultural Centre – in recognition of his years of service. **Многая літа, Євгене!**

*Photos courtesy of Susan Romaniuk, President – Dnipro Choir*





# ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

## *An Evening With Eugene – May 30, 2018*





## ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

### *John A. McDougall Annual Outreach – June 13, 2018*

On June 13th, St. John's Parish hosted the Annual Pyrohy Luncheon for our neighbours, the staff and students of John A. McDougall Elementary School. Over 30 staff and volunteers prepared a scrumptious meal of cheddar pyrohy, chicken nuggets, chocolate pudding, and punch for the hungry guests. With almost 400 well-fed students and teachers looking on, President Marshall Kachmar presented a cheque for \$1000.00 to school principal Corene Zmurchik in support of McDougall School's lunch program. We are very thankful to have these wonderfully gracious patrons return year after year to our Cultural Centre, and it was our sincerest pleasure to serve them once more. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their morning to help host our special guests!

*Photos courtesy of Olena Korniyenko, Administrator – St. John's Parish*





# ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

## *John A. McDougall Annual Outreach – June 13, 2018*





# ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

*John A. McDougall Annual Outreach – June 13, 2018*





# ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

## *John A. McDougall Annual Outreach – June 13, 2018*





## ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS CONT'D

### *Feast of the Transfiguration & Blessing of Fruit – August 19, 2018*



*Photos courtesy of Lesia Pohoreski, Member – St. John's Parish*



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH

### *U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner – June 6, 2018*

The Ukrainian Women's Association, St. John's Cathedral Branch (U.W.A.C. – SJCB), held their Annual Members' Dinner on Wednesday, June 6th at the St. John's Cultural Centre, at which they honoured their longstanding members:



25 years: Jean Chernezky  
Lorraine Ferbey  
Marianna Herchek  
Vivianne Kruhlak  
Diana Kuchta  
Paula Osachuk  
Dobr. Diana Semotiuk

40 years: Irene Cepin

Honourary President of U.W.A.C.– SJCB: Dr. Geraldine Nakonechny

*Photos courtesy of Myroslava Chomiak, Member Communications U.W.A.C. – SJCB*



**Jean Chernezky receiving  
25-year pin from Oryssia Lennie**



**Elizabeth Holinaty,  
Vivianne Kruhlak (25-Year member),  
Oryssia Lennie, Julia Elaschuk**



# NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

## *U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner – June 6, 2018*



MaryAnn Baziuk,  
Diana Kuchta (25-Year Member),  
Oryssia Lennie, Julia Elaschuk



Oryssia Lennie,  
Irene Cepin (40-Year Member),  
Julia Elaschuk



Joana Janis, Dr. Geraldine Nakonechny  
(Honourary President, St. John's  
Cathedral Branch UWAC),  
Julia Elaschuk, Oryssia Lennie



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

### *U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner – June 6, 2018*

*Photos courtesy of Julia Elaschuk, Co-President U.W.A.C. – SJCB*



Attending the U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner (left to right):

June Kachmar, Marshall Kachmar, His Grace Bishop Ilarion,  
Archpriest Fr. Cornell Zubritsky, Dobr. Merrie Zubritsky



Gentlemen from St. John's Parish volunteer at the Annual Dinner (left to right):

Emil Yereniuk, Bill Baziuk, Dennis Kowalishin, Bohdan Chomiak,  
Marshall Opyr, Rick Fyk, Don Chomyc, Ed Thomson, Bohdan Harasymiw



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

### *U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner – June 6, 2018*



“RUTA” ensemble entertains the crowd at the Annual Dinner.

Musical Director: Dmitro Rusnak

Artistic Director: Alla Semenko

Singers: Tania Strilets, Khrystyna Strilets, Sofiya Semenko, Marichka Ovcharenko, Katheryna Lyzanak, Myroslava Okcentiuk, and Mikylie Shapka



Parish member and sommelier extraordinaire, Don Chomyc, serves refreshments to 25-Year U.W.A.C. member honouree Diana Kuchta and her daughter Kristina.



Kate Hawrysh and Irene Cepin having a fabulous time at the Annual Dinner.



# NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

## *U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner – June 6, 2018*



Members and guests in attendance at the U.W.A.C. Annual Members' Dinner.



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

### *Borscht Making for Heritage Days – August 8, 2018*

*Photos courtesy of Julia Elashuk, Co-President U.W.A.C. – SJCB*



Representatives from Edmonton U.W.A.C. branches assist in cutting up vegetables to prepare the borscht for Heritage Days. Nadia Opyr, Eileen Yewchuk, and Julia Elashuk represented St. John's Cathedral Branch. *(August 8, 2018)*



## ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK

On Sunday, June 3, Sr. CYMK wrapped up yet another successful and action-packed year with a gathering at Rundle Park where everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather and played a round of Miniature Golf.

**SAVE THE DATES!** Plans are underway for the 2018-19 CYMK year with some important dates coming up in the fall as follows:

**Friday, September 21** - 6:30 p.m. - Annual General Meeting and Activity (TBA)

**Sunday, September 30** - 12:30 p.m. - Monthly Meeting and Activity (TBA)

**Friday, October 12 & Saturday,**

**October 13** - Alberta Ukrainian Self-Reliance League Provincial Convention - this CYMK event is organized by Alberta Provincial CYMK and will include a social event on Friday night, Moleben, CYMK Provincial meeting and Charity event on Saturday. More information and registration will be available soon.

Please contact Nikolai at (780-468-9148) or Vivianne ([vkruhlak@telus.net](mailto:vkruhlak@telus.net)) if you are interested or know someone who is interested in joining our St. John's CYMK family! We would love to welcome you!

Yours in Christ,

Nikolai Kruhlak

Vice-President - St. John's Sr. CYMK

2017-18



*Photo courtesy of Vivianne Kruhlak, Advisor – St. John's Senior CYMK*

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School classes will resume  
**Sunday, October 7, 2018.**

All children ages 4 (by November 1, 2018)  
and older are encouraged to participate.  
We are also looking for parent assistance  
with the administration of the program.

Please contact  
Dobr. Merrie Zubritsky ([merrie@shaw.ca](mailto:merrie@shaw.ca)) or  
Susan Jereniuk ([sjereniuk@gmail.com](mailto:sjereniuk@gmail.com))  
for more details.





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### DELEGATE'S REPORT



Як одна з кількох делегатів до надзвичайного Собору з нагоди століття Церкви в Канаді, дякую за нагоду бути присутною на дуже приємному Соборі. Доповідачів було багато, а нарад мало. Головні бесідники згадали нам про дуже цікаву історію УПЦК. Наша делегатка, Христя Звоздецька, напише більше про них, а я взяла участь у екскурсії до найперших парафій Саскачевану й напишу про це статтю—зможете її прочитати в *Променеві*. Нашим провідником на екскурсії був всеч. О. Патрикій Повалінський.

I was privileged to be a delegate to the Extraordinary Sobor of the UOCC held in Saskatoon, SK, August 9-12, 2018. I represented St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Parish in Edmonton. Other delegates were Marshall and June Kachmar, Gene and Christine Zwozdesky, Jars Balan and Lesia Boychuk, Maria Derewianka and Luba Feduschak.

I arrived by car in time for the USRL of Canada's Annual General Meeting held at Holy Trinity Cathedral. Following this, Dr. Peter M. Kondra, USRL President, led a workshop about restructuring the organization, assisted by Emil Yereniuk. More feedback on the proposal was gathered.

A second workshop offered ideas for revitalizing a parish, based on Dr. Kondra's participation in a conference on parish development held by the Orthodox Church of America in the USA. These ideas were inspiring.

A wine and cheese social at Mohyla Institute that evening set the mood for Sobor—friendly enthusiasm.

## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

### *100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

#### DELEGATE'S REPORT CONT'D

Divine Liturgies were served daily—one was beautifully sung by our own Edmonton Ukrainian Male Chorus under Orest Soltykevych's direction. All Saints' Parish hosted the Sobor that day, in that typically Carpathian temple with its wooden dome, ceiling and chandelier, and its ornately decorated, wood-inlaid décor. Friday's Liturgy included the official opening of the Sobor, wherein His Eminence, Metropolitan Yuriy, set the tone by urging all to celebrate and be grateful for our Church's many blessings. We were to rejoice rather than regret, enjoy rather than labour.

One single resolution was passed with a simple objective—to increase the numbers of our Church family in the future.

Many activities were enjoyed—a visit to the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, a tour of country churches, a river cruise, a city bus tour and candle-making.

I attended the Gala Banquet and Concert at the Saskatoon Inn efficiently hosted by our own Gene Zwozdesky, President of the National Jubilee Committee. Although the program was long, those present were delighted by the multigenerational talent showcased and the quality of the artists. I was particularly thrilled to hear worldclass jazz pianist, John Stech, play.

CYMK President, Tanya Buciora, was a standout presenter of greetings, among many others.

I participated in the Massed Choir conducted by Larry Klopoushak along with fellow delegates Luba Feduschak, Maria Derewianka and Gene Zwozdesky on Sunday. The Stetsenko Liturgy was sung and it was indeed a pleasure. The choir sang the beginning and middle of the service well—the final pieces of music needed more work.

I was among the many recipients of a centenary award. Nominations are still being accepted until August 31.

Thank you for this opportunity to re-connect with Ukrainian Orthodox Christians from across the country and for allowing me to represent you at this pleasant event. I only regret that many Orthodox Edmontonians missed an unusually delightful Sobor!

Respectfully,

Leona Faryna Bridges



## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### PRE-SOBOR MEDIA CONFERENCE JULY 23, 2018

*Photos courtesy of Lesia Skyba – National Jubilee Committee*





# EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

## PRE-SOBOR MEDIA CONFERENCE JULY 23, 2018





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### PRE-SOBOR MEDIA CONFERENCE JULY 23, 2018





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### SOBOR WEEKEND





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### SOBOR WEEKEND





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### SOBOR WEEKEND





# EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

## SOBOR WEEKEND





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### SOBOR WEEKEND





## EXTRAORDINARY SOBOR 2018 CONT'D

*100th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada  
Saskatoon, SK – August 9-12, 2018*

### SOBOR WEEKEND



*"По всій землі лунає голос їх"*



*Their proclamation has gone out  
into all the earth. Psalm 18:5*

Українська Православна Церква в Канаді  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada  
L'Église Orthodoxe Ukrainienne du Canada



## 100 YEARS OF THE UOCC

### *Ukrainian Orthodox Parish of St. John – Edmonton, AB*

*By John-Paul Himka*

Right from the beginning of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada in 1918, Ukrainians in Edmonton began talking about joining it. The impetus for these discussions came from the Hrushevsky Institute (now St. John's Institute). The founding of the Brotherhood of St. John the Baptist in November 1923 is considered the beginning of the parish, even though there was no church building yet. Fundraising by the women of the nascent parish contributed substantially to the purchase of the Grace Methodist church on 96 St. in 1926. With a building of its own, the parish's institutional infrastructure blossomed. The women's group formally founded their branch of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada in 1926, a choir was firmly established by 1928, and the parish began to broadcast the liturgy on radio in 1935. The parish grew in numbers in the later 1940s, both because Ukrainians were moving from the countryside to the city and because Ukrainians arrived from the displaced persons' camps in Europe. The participation of the latter greatly enriched the parish's culture. The parish actively sought professionally trained, talented musicians and artists from the post-war immigration. They hired Yuriy Bilashevych right out of Europe as choir director and paid him as much as they did the pastor. This was a wise investment because the choir was able to raise substantial funds by giving concerts. These funds, and the continuing funds from the women's cooking and carolling, allowed for the building of a new church, at its present location. The cornerstone was laid in 1952. The iconostasis was painted later by another postwar immigrant, Wadym Dobrolige, who had studied art in Kyiv and Leningrad. In 1964 the parish added a cultural centre, which hosts many major events for Edmonton's Ukrainian community.



*Photo courtesy of Ed Thomson, Vice President – St. John's Parish*



## CENTENARY AWARDS OF ST. ANDREW

To celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada is calling for nominations for “**Centenary Awards of St. Andrew.**” Persons (living or deceased), families, groups or organizations, **who have made significant contributions towards the growth and development of the UOCC during its 100 years of existence**, may be nominated by individuals, parishes, or organizations.

A **Centenary Nominations Committee** formed by the Ukrainian Orthodox Parish of St. John is presently identifying individuals who have been members of the Parish since its inception and have made extraordinary contributions to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. The Committee will examine the work of parishioners, deceased and living, select those that merit the award, and submit applications to the National Jubilee Committee – UOCC.

**Nominations of candidates for this award are not limited to the Parish Nominations Committee.** This Committee does not take away the opportunity for anybody wishing to nominate an individual or organization. In fact, those who wish to nominate one or more individuals are strongly encouraged to do so. **To ensure that such nominees have not already been identified by the Nominations Committee and to avoid duplication, please contact Elaine V. Harasymiw, Chairperson at 780-437-6629.**

The **deadline for submission** of applications has been extended to **December 31, 2018.** For further information and details regarding categories and criteria, please consult the official brochure issued by the National Jubilee Committee – UOCC.



## IN MEMORIAM

The St. John's Cathedral Parish Family would like to remember the following individuals who have reposed to the Lord over the past months.

We pray that the Lord God will establish their souls where the righteous repose.



**John Balascak**  
**Roman Pawluk**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**October 13th** - AUSRL Convention

**October 14th** - Thanksgiving Day Dinner (tickets: \$20)

**October 19th** - Pyrohy Supper

**October 26, 27, 28th** - Western Eparchy Assembly

**October 26th** - W.E. 100th Anniversary Banquet (\$25)

**October 27th** - W.E. Youth Appreciation Banquet (\$20)

**October 28th** - UWAC-sponsored Fellowship  
for Western Eparchy Assembly

**November 11th** - Remembrance Day  
Memorial Service: 10:45 a.m.  
(after Divine Liturgy)

**November 11th** - 95th Anniversary of St. John Parish  
Banquet and Program (\$25)  
following Remembrance Day service

**November 24th** - Annual Holodomor  
Commemoration (City Hall 12:30pm)

**November 30th** - Pyrohy Supper

**December 16th** - St. Nicholas Dinner & Concert

**December 28th** - Pyrohy Supper

**January 11th** - MALANKA at St. John's Cultural Centre  
Tickets available mid-November.  
Parish member pre-sale ends:  
November 30th.

### ST JOHN'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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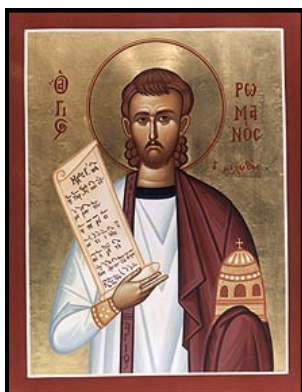
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Email: [info@uocc-stjohn.ca](mailto:info@uocc-stjohn.ca)

Website: [www.uocc-stjohn.ca](http://www.uocc-stjohn.ca)

Monday to Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



**SINGERS!** The Cathedral  
Choir invites you to join!  
Rehearsals: Thursdays at  
7:30 pm. For information,  
call Lesia Chumer at  
(780) 418 1025.

**СПІВАКИ-ХОРИСТИ!** Просимо Вас  
вступити до Катедрального Хору. Пробі  
кожного четверга о 7:30 год. веч. По  
дальші інформації: Леся Чумер,  
диригент - (780) 418 1025.