



By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

What better way is there to usher in the Christmas season than with music?

Men and women in a 26-member community chorus did just that on Sunday when they presented a concert of sacred music of the Christmas season.

Under the direction of Joel Grosbach, the chorus was made up of residents from Imperial, Wauneta, Enders and the surrounding area.

The concert attracted about 150 people to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Imperial.

Prior to the concert, Zion's bell choir played a number of Christmas songs from the choir loft above. The chorus gathered at the front of the church.

The program of music included the following numbers by the chorus:

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come," by Paul Manz.

"Angels' Carol," by John Rutter.

"See in Yonder Manger Low," arr. by John A Behnke.

"Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming," by Hugo Distler.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," by Matthew Culloton.

"What Sweeter Music," by John Rutter.

"Silent Night," by Franz Gruber, arr. by John Rutter.

The audience was also invited to sing along with several familiar carols, including "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "What Child Is This," "Joy to the World," "Away in a Manger" and "Go Tell It on the Mountains."

Members of the choir included tenors Harold Nordhausen, Del Rehn and Arlan Wine; Bass singers Derek Gaschler, Ryan Leibhart, Mike Moreland and Ron Taylor; Sopranos Dawn Castle, Alberta Grosbach, Susan Jaeger, Tapainga Kahle, Janet Keiser, Marisa Kunnemann, Doreen Mohr, Jeanette Munger, Diana Rehn and Sharon Walgren; and Altos Anna Bauerle, Mindy Castle, Laura Gaschler, Phyllis Mock, Pat Schoenfelder, Rhonda Smith, Ruth Speicher, Carol Thompson and Charlotte Wine.

Tina Grosbach was accompanist on piano and Agnes Strand accompanied on oboe.

