

Handel Messiah

SING-A-LONG

LISTEN or JOIN THE CHOIR
& SING ALONG

presented by



Guelph
Chamber
Choir

Donations in lieu of tickets support the

Children First Fund

Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County

Sunday, December 21, 2014

at 3:00 pm

St. George's Anglican Church - 99 Woolwich St., Guelph, Ontario
Conductor, Gerald Neufeld

www.fcsgw.org www.guelphchamberchoir.ca

for more information please call:

519-824-2410

Performance Sponsors



Supporters

Kindle Communities Organization

Halwell Mutual Insurance Company

The Ostic Group with Frank Cowan Company Limited

Handel's Messiah and Child Welfare



George Frideric Handel was a Governor and a major benefactor of the Foundling Hospital (in Britain), London's first home for abandoned children. During his life, the Composer's benefit *Messiah* concerts for the hospital (1749 – 1759) raised thousands of pounds (sterling) with annual fundraising performances continuing for a further twenty years after his death. Thought to be unsuitable for concert hall performances, this work became acceptable and overwhelmingly supported when performed in a chapel for the benefit of the charity.

In Canada, the first Children's Aid Society was created out of the Toronto Humane Society in 1891 with the Children's Aid Society of Guelph following in 1893. At the time, the newly founded Guelph Humane Society was beginning to recognize that the protection and care of children had become their primary function. Today the Society, now known as [Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County](#), continues to care about the well-being and safety of children and youth and helps families provide caring and safe environments for their children.

Family & Children's Services in partnership with The Guelph Chamber Choir present *Messiah Sing-A-Long*; an opportunity for you and your family to enjoy favourite sections of this masterly work and (if you wish) to sing along with The Guelph Chamber Choir - under the direction of conductor, Gerald Neufeld. The Choir which is seated amongst the audience is joined by four outstanding Canadian soloists and members of Musica Viva Orchestra performing on period instruments.

The [Children First Fund](#) has been established by the agency to provide financial support to important programs, which are not funded through the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. These programs include education support, permanency initiatives, prevention and early help programs and enrichment experiences.

