University choir concert, Nov. 30

Blaze Benham, Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, November 27, 2017 4:24 pm

Even in the darkest times there is always a light that can be found shining somewhere.

This uplifting message will be a central theme of the upcoming concert by the Kellogg Chamber Singers and the CPP University Concert Choir, both directed by Professor Niké St. Clair.

“The concert will vary with many types of Christmas songs from different parts of the world, so that’s going to be fun,” Francesca Martone, a second year music industry studies student said.

This vocal extravaganza will take place from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 30 at the CPP Music Recital Hall.

“The Promise of Light,” with music by Georgia Stitt and lyrics by Len Schiff will be one of the songs featured that evening.

“We’ll also be doing Leonard Bernstein’s, ‘Chichester Psalms,’” fourth-year music education student Nicholas Bratcher said.

“Other songs we’ll be singing that night include, Morten Lauridsen’s, ‘O Nata Lux,’ and, as a special part of Thursday evening’s event, we will be giving the very first performance of ‘Saint Nicholas,’ arranged by Kevin J. Garnica.”

Concerts such as these are given once a quarter. And make no mistake, they require lots and lots of hard work.

“I’ve been singing in choir since fourth grade,” Martone said.

“I’m a second soprano and basically, in class, every day we do warm-ups so we can make our voices much more fresh.”

Martone said that she is looking forward to Thursday night’s concert.

“It’s stressful to remember all the diction, all the rhythms that you must breathe and not breathe on, and all the ties and slurs. It just depends on the songs, too. Some songs are in foreign languages, and everyone
must learn each dictation of that foreign language,” Martone said. “Come and enjoy the Concert Choir because it’s going to be an outstanding performance.”