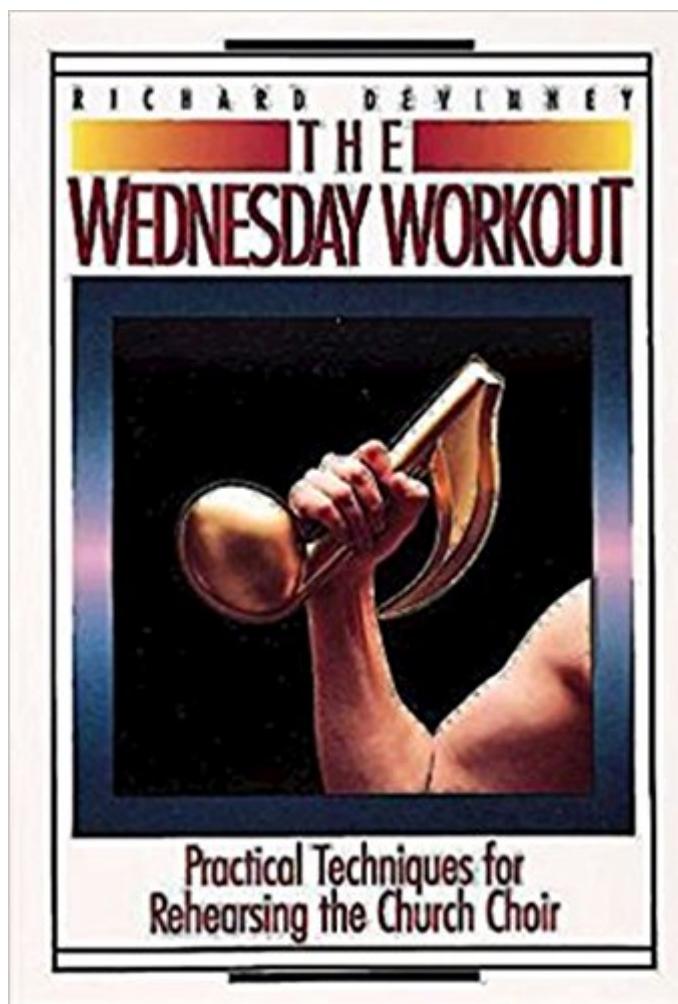


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# The Wednesday Workout: Practical Techniques For Rehearsing The Church Choir



## Synopsis

"By the Way- You Start Tomorrow Night". The recruiting of a less-than-fully-trained person is usually done at the last minute, since the search for a fully trained person will continue as long as there is either time or hope. Our last-minute, inexperienced director, then will be starting immediately. This first chapter is the most light-hearted, the most general, and the most basic of the book. It is pep talk and a look at the thing to do the first night for the first Sunday. The remainder of the book covers the other ongoing aspects of planning and directing effective choral rehearsals.

- \* Easy-to-use practical format and style
- \* Light, anecdotal reading
- \* Covers all elements of rehearsal planning and techniques
- \* Provides directors handles on how to use rehearsal time
- \* Helps directors learn to better plan and work ahead
- \* Gives directors more confidence in this area of leadership
- Market \*
- Church choir directors
- \* Music directors

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Richard DeVinney's light, anecdotal style makes for an easy-to-use practical guide for new or inexperienced choir directors. The book covers all elements of rehearsal planning and techniques, giving directors more confidence in this area of leadership.

Richard DeVinney is a retired organist and Director of Church Music from Glen Arbor, Michigan. He is the author of *The Wednesday Workout* for Abingdon Press.

This book was the answer to a prayer. The situation described by the author -- being asked by the pastor to direct the choir with no previous experience -- was exactly what happened to me. This book answered a multitude of questions and helped me guide the choir through a tough transition after losing the last choir director suddenly. Thank you!!!

Good read...unfortunately, it does mainly apply to those who have choirs that function weekly...however, tons can be gained and it inspires further learning and understanding of the craft

This book gives a fresh look at the ministry of church music leadership. If you've been in the business for a few years, many of the ideas will not be all that new, but this is recommended for all church music directors. All of us need a little kick every once in a while, and this will help!

For the inexperienced church choir director, this book is a godsend. Very little instruction in how to wave your arms, but jam-packed with information on how to do the thousands of other things that choir directors have to do. To quote the book, "It's not enough just to be a good musician.... A church choir director must be a conductor, a coach, a teacher, a pastor, a dictator, a diplomat, a salesperson, a promoter, a cheerleader, a caregiver, a people person, an idea person, an organizer, a singer, and oh yes, a musician." This little book has dozens of ideas on how to keep the energy and spirit and joy in a church choir. I used a dozen little Post-It tabs to mark places I wanted to re-read. Highly recommended. For actual conducting technique, I recommend *Choral Conducting: Focus on Communication*, by Harold A. Decker and Colleen J. Kirk.

About 3Â  years ago, I was suddenly placed in charge of a small choral group of nine people. This saved me a lot of time and energy. Many of my fears, were mentioned in the first chapter. The book is encouraging and insightful because it deals with problems and solutions you will have to deal with as a music minister in your church. If you're starting and don't have much experience this will be a great book to help you over the learning curve. If you've been doing choir for a while, this will encourage you with some of the best ideas concerning music ministry. I've re-read the book as a refresher and truly feel like the fire has been restarted.

I found this to be the most inspiring book I found that is written specifically for a new choirmaster. It doesn't get too technical. It offers unusual suggestions for getting your choir out of its established rut. It prepares you for the emotional issues that will arise. I read "The Wednesday Night Workout"

the summer before I took the reins of our choir and found it to be VERY helpful. I began the new choir season organized, innovative and armed with humor.

This book has been really useful to me, although I have quite some choral experience. But I can recognize many of the situations explained in the book (I realize the church choir leader situation is quite similar in Europe and America!!), and get a good laugh! - And there were lots of really useful and practical tips also!

Please be aware that if you have any musical or choral training at all, this book is NOT for you! It's completely aimed to the untrained musician who has been asked to volunteer to direct a church choral group. If you have choral music training it will be completely UN useful to you.

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