

# Rogue Valley Chorale concerts



MT photo by Larry Holman

Lynn and Doris Sjolund go over scores for Christmas concerts.

The Rogue Valley Chorale will open its fifth season with a special Christmas concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 3, in Eastwood Baptist Church, 1390 Ridgeway, Medford.

Under the direction of Lynn Sjolund, the chorale will present Christmas music by the classical composers Poulenc, Respighi, Bach and Charpentier. Sjolund, conductor of the chorale since its organization in 1973, also is director of the Medford Senior High School choir. He received his music degrees from the University of Oregon and has studied extensively in Germany.

The 80-voice chorale is composed of singers from Ashland, Grants Pass, Medford and other areas of the Rogue Valley, selected by audition. The group is accompanied by Greg Smith, pianist.

The program will include Motet V, Come Jesus, Come, a work for double chorus by Bach, followed by a Midnight Mass for Christmas based upon French carols by Charpentier. A series of four motets by the contemporary French composer, Poulenc, comprise another group. Laud to the Nativity by Respighi will feature soloists, instrumental ensemble, and chorus in a dramatic adoration of the Nativity.