

Soli Deo Gloria

Fall 2019

“But let all who take refuge in Thee be glad, let them ever sing for joy” Ps. 5:11

Welcome Back to Choir! Thank you so much for your participation and support, it is truly our pleasure to work with your children and share God’s great gift of music with them. We are pleased to again partner with Kasey Vlasak who will be teaching art this fall. Please see her informational post as it contains opportunities for high school as well as younger students. These classes will be offered throughout the morning, and you will be placed in a class so as to not conflict with choir and bells.

Denise Wood and Heidi Wildes will primarily be leading the choirs and rehearsals. Mrs. Wood is an experienced director of children's musicals and a proficient singer herself, and brings dedication and excellence to our program as a mentor to our student helpers and handbell/chimes director. Mrs. Wildes has a degree in piano performance and is a past member of the Chorister's Guild, a member of American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, a certified teacher of Kindermusik, and a private piano instructor. She and her husband Paul are developing the SDG Choir Program in the Chippewa Valley.

Registrations are on a first come basis, and you must complete the registration form and mail it to Denise to be considered registered. *As long as we have openings, we accept students;* however, we often close registration early because we reach capacity. In order to help us plan staffing, purchase music, and to arrange schedules, we would appreciate receiving your registration information by **August 28**, but again, we will continue to accept registrations as long as we have space.

You must be a member of CVHS forum to participate in choir. This is how we communicate throughout the semester. Please include an additional \$8 to pay your 2018/19 fee - Denise will update your account this fall. If this will be a new membership to the forum, please go to homeschool-life.com/wi/CVHS and request membership, existing accounts will be renewed for the school year.

VOICE/RINGING CHECKS:

New Students: If you are in 9-12 grade and have never been in choir before, you will have a voice check on Wednesday, August 28. ***Please contact Denise to schedule this.***

Previous Jubilate Deo and Sanctus members will have their voice checks and part assignments determined during the first rehearsal on Thursday, September 26. J.Deo choristers grades 4-8 will be at 10am and Sanctus choristers grades 9-12 at 11am.

All last year bell ringers from the 9am, 10am, and *Benedicimus* choir need a ringing check - if you have been a permanent member of Adoramus Bell Choir you do NOT need to have a check, although you may in order to help establish ranking. ***Please sign up with Denise for a time between 10-noon on Wednesday, August 28.*** If you do not participate in a ringing check we will simply place you in what we think is the best choir based on your previous teacher’s recommendation.

VOCAL CHOIRS:

Te Deum: 1-3 graders meet at 9:00am until 9:50am - we anticipate a limit of 70 choristers for this choir. If space allows, we consider accepting kindergarten students. If you feel your kindergartener is particularly well-behaved, able to focus well, and has a desire to sing with us, he or she is welcome to join us if space is available. Concert attire for Te Deum is a white top and black bottom.

Jubilate Deo: 4-6th graders meet at 10:00am until 10:55am - we anticipate a limit of 92 choristers for this choir. Concert attire for Jubilate Deo is a white top and black bottom and their award lanyard.

Jubilate Deo 7/8: New this year, our 7/8th graders will have a group of songs all their own, arranged into 3-part harmony. This section meets at the same time, 10-10:55am, but in room 305. Joe Roby will be directing this group. Concert attire for Jubilate Deo is a white top and black bottom and their award lanyard.

Sanctus: 9-12 graders meet at 11am until noon. *Students in this choir are expected to know how to read music and sing on pitch.* Sanctus young men will need to purchase a standard, white, tuxedo shirt, cummerbund and 2.5 inch bowtie, please include \$27 to cover this cost if you are a new Sanctus male member. SDG Choirs will be providing for a \$5 rental fee a tuxedo jacket and pants for each male chorister which you will return at the end of the year. *Tuxedo fittings will be Wednesday, August 28 at noon.*

SANCTUS performance attire is tuxedo for men, and **black semi-formal for women including black dress/tights or leggings and black shoes.** Black dresses are available to purchase for \$60.

SCHEDULES:

All choirs rehearse Thursdays at Bethesda Lutheran, 123 W. Hamilton Av, Eau Claire. Full rehearsals begin on September 26. No rehearsal on November 28. Concert Date is December 12 at Grace Lutheran Church.

Sanctus men will have their Tuxedo fitting on August 28 at noon after bell checks.

HANDCHIME & HANDBELL CHOIRS:

If you are participating in a vocal choir, you have the opportunity to participate in a chime or bell group. Please know that we do everything we can to create enough openings so that everyone who wants to ring is able to ring; however, spots are filled on a first come basis.

Adoramus and *Benedicimus* handbell choirs are a combination of permanent members as well as those students who are invited to 'ring up' a semester. Those students may or may not also have another bell group assignment.

Our official policy for handbells is that you are allowed one excused absence, but we would prefer none at all. This may sound harsh, but ringing is a 'team sport' and the group really suffers when a member is absent. If you know you will miss two or more rehearsals, we would ask that you give up your ringing spot for this semester. We will try but cannot guarantee there will be an available spot in the spring.

Choristers in **grades 2-3** will meet for chimes at 10am for 1/2 hour.

Choristers in **grades 4-7/8** will meet for chimes at 9am or noon.

Handbell choirs, **grades 6-12** by audition, meet at 9 or 10am, 11am, 12:15 or 1:00pm

Ladies' concert attire for the ADORAMUS handbell choir is a long black dress which is purchased by the individual family for \$60. Previously worn dresses are occasionally available for a cost of \$45. The cost for replacement bell gloves is \$5.

Mrs. Wildes' bell groups will start the semester with 45 minute rehearsals. They may be changed to 60 minute rehearsals at her discretion as the semester progresses.

Participating in a chime or bell group is like being on a sports team. Individual ability is necessary as is the ability to play well with others. Each group consists of 11-13 players and musicians are placed in a particular group based on what the teacher observes in class, at the concert, and at the ringing check. We try to match musicians of similar ability and this doesn't always match with the age or grade of the students involved.

Other factors can help a student to move through the ranks and get into the advanced groups more quickly: playing other instruments outside of choir, developing good rhythmic skills, and a particularly cheerful and helpful attitude. Being flexible and able to defer one's preferences for the good of the group is especially noticed. Consistent participation rather than taking a semester off will help to ensure steady progress.

VENUES:

Choir rehearsals are Thursdays at Bethesda Lutheran, 123 W. Hamilton Ave, Eau Claire
Concert day venue is Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W. Grand Ave, Eau Claire

PERFORMANCE: Our semester will end when the choirs sing on Dec 12 at Grace Lutheran Church at 7pm. A reception follows and friends and family are invited to attend. Chorister performance attire is white top/black bottom. SANCTUS performance attire is tuxedo for men, and black semi-formal for women. Young men may wear ties in the younger choirs.

COST - Each semester there is a \$10 *per family* facility fee in addition to the cost for choir tuition or art class. The choir cost for the semester is \$30 per child, with a maximum of \$120 per family. There is an additional fee of \$30 per student to participate in chimes or bells. For Te Deum, 2nd/3rd grade students, the chime fee is \$20.

If the financial situation of your family is such that it would be helpful to pay the choir fee in 2 or 3 installments, you may do so. Please contact Denise at Info@SDGchoirs.org about this before rehearsals begin. Choir registration is non-refundable. No accounts are carried forward. All accounts must be paid in full before concert day.

HIGH SCHOOL ART: Kasey Vlasak is offering an Acrylic Painting class for 9-12th graders during the fall term September 26 - Dec 5 in the gym. Cost will be \$45 per student, with all supplies provided by the teacher. If you have questions please contact Kasey directly: KVlasak44@gmail.com

GRADE SCHOOL ART: Kasey is teaching grades K-4 this and next semester. The identical class is offered both semesters. Spring semester will have far fewer spots available so we hope to see many of you sign up this semester.

REGISTER: Registrations and payments (checks made out to SDG Choirs, Denise Wood, and Kasey Vlasak) may be mailed to Denise Wood, 3995 Mayer Rd., Fall Creek 54742. If helpful for your family, arrangements can be made to pay the choir fees in installments: please contact Denise Wood at Info@SDGchoirs.org

What a privilege to work with your children! We are looking forward to an exciting semester which will glorify God and create a lifelong love of music in each chorister.

Paul & Heidi Wildes (836-9932)

Heidi@SDGchoirs.org

REHEARSAL DAY POLICIES: Please read these carefully and discuss them with your children so there is no confusion as to how choristers are expected to behave when not in a class. If you are not going to supervise your child directly, please arrange with another mom to be in charge; this is completely acceptable and encouraged.

Bad Weather: We will plan that all choir rehearsals will go ahead as scheduled, even if the EC schools call a bad weather day, unless we post on the forum canceling choir that morning. Without a cancellation, please come for regular rehearsals if you feel it is safe for you to travel.

Handbells: Our official policy for bells is that you are allowed one excused absence, but we would prefer none at all! The group really suffers when a member is absent. If you know you will miss two or more rehearsals, we would ask that you give up your ringing spot for this semester.

We Miss You When You're Gone! Prompt and regular attendance at rehearsals is appreciated, but we know that real life has many unexpected happenings! If your child will miss a rehearsal and you are able to, an email would be appreciated.

No One is allowed in the Hallways during class time. This includes parents and high schoolers. We expect to see no one outside of the designated rooms, and all hallways must remain empty during class times. Also, being in the hallways during class time is not an option. And finally, hallways are only for occupying when classes are not in session.

Kitchen/Lunch Rules If you take it out, put it away; if you use it, wash it; if your child uses it, be sure he cleans up; please do not allow others to take responsibility for the kitchen area and any trash or leftovers for which your family is responsible.

No Child Left Behind: Except when in a scheduled class, every student grades 1-8 needs supervision while at Bethesda. This includes art students. There will be no childcare provided or nursery available, but the fellowship hall is a **“waiting room”** available for you to stay with any additional children while your chorister is in class. This is SUPERVISED: if the mom is not there, she **MUST** arrange for another mom to supervise her children. **NO SCREAMING, NO WILD PLAY.** Please practice consideration of others while in the fellowship hall.

Parents may supervise their children in the playground area as well.

Older siblings of high school age are allowed to supervise younger siblings, but are not permitted to leave them unattended in the waiting room. **No children or high school students are allowed in the hallways or in the parking lot while classes are in session.**

If you see a situation that needs addressing, or if you feel a family needs to be contacted regarding any behavior, please send us an email to INFO@SDGchoirs.org Safety is our biggest concern but also living together in peace and consideration.

Study Areas:

There is a **quiet study area** in room 311 for parent/child and a **silent study area** available in room 313 at the far west end of the building. An overflow area in 309 is available to parents and older children for working together - *no toddlers*. High school students may occupy half of 305.

Parents _____

Address including zipcode _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Prefer Text: _____

I have read and understand the Rehearsal Day Policies: _____ (please initial)

Chorister's Name	Grade	Chimes/Bells	Art

Facility Usage Fee (\$10 per family): _____

H.S. Art fee (\$45) payable to "Kasey Vlasak" _____

Choir Fee (\$30/child, max \$120/family) : _____

K-4th Art fee (\$25) payable to "Kasey Vlasak" _____

Chimes/Bells (\$30 per child): _____

Te Deum Chimes (\$20 per child): _____

SANCTUS **new** male member (\$27): _____

SANCTUS Semester Tux Rental fee (\$5 ea) _____

Total Amount to "SDG Choirs": _____ **Total to "Kasey Vlasak"** _____

2017/18 CVHS Member Fee (required) to "Denise Wood" \$8 _____

Please Mail Completed Form to:

Denise Wood
3995 Mayer Rd
Fall Creek WI 54742