

Instrumentalists

Youth and adults are encouraged to share piano, organ, band and orchestra instrumental solos in worship. Coaching assistance is available from the music staff, and coordination with private teachers is encouraged.

Adult Volunteers

Many people share their talents in the music program in ways other than singing or ringing. Adult volunteers are needed during Sunday worship and weekday rehearsals. Music skills are not required for these positions. If interested, please fill out a registration card on-line or call the church office at 336.227.6263.

Student Musicians

Through Second Mile gifts to the Music Fund, Chancel Choir section leader positions are made available to UNCG and Elon University students. Additional solo and small ensemble work is encouraged in support of their training and musical development.

Computer Lab

A music computer lab is now available in the Handbell Room. Children, youth and adults may sign up for individualized lessons and games. The system tracks student progress and challenges the individual to move from beginner to advanced music reading skills and mastery of music theory. Music Ace and Music Ace 2 provide 48 lessons and interactive games for the student. Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory includes "narration of new concepts, animation, exercises, games and ear training to motivate while strengthening musical skills" within 75 lessons.

SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

- * *American Choral Directors Association*
- * *American Guild of English Handbell Ringers*
- * *American Guild of Organists*
- * *Choristers Guild*

MUSIC MINISTRY GOALS

- * *Sharing our faith through different avenues of music*
- * *Leading in worship and providing music with an emphasis on scriptures*
- * *Involving volunteers in the music program of the church*
- * *Fostering fellowship in a Christian atmosphere*
- * *Progressing in the study of the "rudiments of music"*
- * *Reaching out to others in the community through music*

MUSIC STAFF

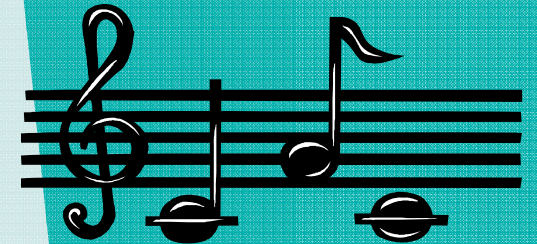
Cherub and Carol Choirs
Teresa Hamilton

Aldersgate Musician and Small Ensembles
Melissa Larkin

Handbells, Small Ensembles, Chancel Choir
David C. Ratchford, Organist/Choirmaster

**FRONT STREET
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

**Music
Ministries
2008-2009**



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VOCAL CHOIRS

Our graded choir program is designed for children ages 4 through adults. Choirs meet September through April.

Children's Choir Program

Our children are part of the body of Christ. We believe they should be encouraged to be full participants in the worship of the church. By participating in children's choir we are teaching them and giving them an opportunity to serve in the worship of the church. Children's choirs sing in worship services throughout the year and participate in the Advent/Christmas Lessons and Carols and in a music presentation each spring.

Each choir is taught on their developmental level in the following concept areas:

melody, rhythm, singing skills and musicianship/worship-leading skills.

These skills are taught in a variety of ways to best meet each child's different style of learning, including games, visuals, instruments and other hands-on interaction.

Weekly Rehearsal Schedule:

Sundays

5:00 - 5:30 Carol Choir (Grades 2 - 5)

5:30 - 6:00 Cherub Choir (Ages 4 - Grade 1)

Youth and Adult Choir Program

Beginning in ninth grade, high school students may sing in Chancel Choir or Praise Singers. In addition, youth are encouraged to participate in worship by singing solos and participating in small youth ensembles.

Chancel Choir prepares a repertoire of hymns and choral music from different periods of music history. Larger choral works are performed during the festival seasons of the year. The choir participates each Sunday during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Soloists and small ensembles provide vocal music at the 8:45 worship service.

In Praise Singers, adults and youth sing a contemporary style of music accompanied by a Praise Band. These singers provide music for the Sunday morning Aldersgate Service at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are encouraged to share their talents, including vocal, instrumental, dance and drama. Anyone interested in joining the Praise Singers or band should contact Melissa Larkin.

Weekly Rehearsal Schedule:

Wednesdays

6:00 - 7:00 Praise Singers
(Senior High - Adult)

Wednesdays

7:00 - 8:30 Chancel Choir
(Senior High- Adult)

A nursery is provided upon request.

Instrumental Choirs

Playing in a handbell choir requires many musical skills. Regular attendance is crucial. Ringers are asked to be at each rehearsal and performance. The success of the group is determined by the dedication of all ringers. Each choir meets weekly September through April.

Choirchimes Training Choir (Grade 2)

This chime choir is the beginning group for our bell ministry and is a training choir only. With music reading skills and early choirchime techniques, children begin their study of bell ministry.

Wesley Ringers (Grades 3 - 5)

This bell choir will ring in conjunction with the children's choir schedule. The children will work individually and in groups with the director and volunteer assistants on technique and musicianship.

Youth Bells (Grades 6 - 12)

A maximum of 13 ringers make up this choir. They will learn beginning and intermediate bell ringing techniques, improve their reading skills and learn the discipline needed for working together as a group. A commitment to regular weekly rehearsals is a must. This ensemble will function as a feeder choir to more advanced groups.

Epworth Ringers (Senior High Youth and Adults)

Thirteen positions are available for advanced reading and technique skills. Substitute positions are also available for ringers when members need to miss rehearsals or services. This choir rings each month in worship and plays in the community.

Rehearsal Schedules:

Sundays

4:45 - 5:30 Youth Bells

5:30 - 6:00 Wesley Ringers (Grades 3 - 5)

5:30 - 6:00 Choirchimes Training Choir (Grade 2)

Tuesdays

6:15 - 7:30 Epworth Ringers (Senior High - Adult)