

Music Ministry Opportunities

2015—2016

A Few Highlights:

September 9

Carillon Choir first rehearsal

September 10

Chancel Choir first rehearsal

September 13

Wesley Men first rehearsal

September 14

New Spirit Singers first rehearsal

September 17

Wesley Women first rehearsal

September 19

Orchestra first rehearsal

September 24

Prime Chimers first rehearsal
Genesis Ringers first rehearsal
Rejoice Ringers first rehearsal

October 4

Kids Choir first rehearsal

October 5

Joyful Bells first rehearsal

Special Services:

November 22

The Great Day of Music

December 20

Travelers' Christmas Eve

December 21

The Longest Night

Happy New Year!

Okay — it's not January 1st, but September officially starts another school year *and* another year in the life of music ministries at Midland First UMC. Enclosed you will find information about opportunities for children, youth, and adults. Whether you sing, ring bells, or play an instrument...there's a place for you!

I would especially like to bring your attention to the changes in the children's areas, as we have added another handbell ensemble (the **Rejoice Ringers**) and we have also merged our children's choirs into a single group. Information about the chime and bell groups can be found on the following page, and more information about vocal choirs for children and teens can be found at the bottom of this page.

Wesley Men, Wesley Women, and Orchestra are entering their second and third years, and I continue to look forward to new offerings from these groups. Of course, **Chancel Choir** and **New Spirit Singers** would welcome new participants, and each group has its own schedule and varied time commitments and seasonal ebb and flow. If you would like help finding the right place for you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please feel free to contact the director of any ensemble that is of interest to you. Their contact information is on the back of this newsletter. God's peace to you in this "new year!"



Jantz Black, Director of Music

Children and Youth Choir Opportunities

As part of the "re-visioning" of our mid-week discipleship programming 2:42@First, we have moved our children and youth choral activities to a different night. Starting this fall, "Kids Choir" will meet on **Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m.**, which places it just before UMYF activities. **This group will be specifically for children and youth who would like to sing in Sunday morning worship several times throughout the year.** Ages will be mixed, but primarily consist of anyone K-8th (+/-) who wishes to participate, and it will emphasize music suitable for children and provide opportunities for older singers to mentor younger singers.

The worship and musical elements of Thursday night's 2:42@First programming will be varied, and will be aimed at fulfilling the call and mission of 2:42@First, which is "Uniting all ages to build God's family." However, those elements will be presented *during the family worship time* that will occur weekly at 2:42@First.

Both of these programs are highly valuable and provide opportunities for children and youth to share their gifts in worshipful ways. By providing two separate opportunities, we hope to foster Thursday night worship that edifies 2:42@First, and foster children's choir opportunities that can focus on offering up musical gifts in our Sunday morning worship services.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email. I would be glad to provide further information. —Jantz Black



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Adult Choir Opportunities

Wesley Men—Grace Marra, director. Rehearses most Sundays at 10:20 a.m. through the fall and spring, and sings in worship five to six times a year.

Wesley Women—Grace Marra, director. Rehearses most Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the fall and spring, and sings five to six times a year.

New Spirit Singers—Miranda Ginop, director. Rehearses on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with a modified “snowbird” schedule. Participates in worship about once a month.

Chancel Choir—Grace Marra, director. Rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and participates weekly in worship (September through May).

Handbells and Chimes

*(new groups and changes in rehearsal times are **highlighted**)*

Prime Chimers (elementary through adult beginners)—Connie Nicholson, director. This choir is primarily for elementary age children or adult beginners with little or no music knowledge. Rehearses on Thursdays at **4:15 p.m.**

Genesis Ringers (6th-12th grade through adult)—Connie Nicholson, director. This is a beginning bell choir where some basic music knowledge is required. Rehearses on Thursdays at **4:15 p.m.**

Rejoice Ringers (6th-12th grade through adult)—Connie Nicholson, director. This is an intermediate bell choir for people who are very comfortable reading music in different rhythms and meters. Rehearses on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Joyful Bells (9th grade-adults)—Connie Nicholson, director. This is an advanced bell choir. Rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

Carillon Choir (adults)—Jantz Black, director. This is an advanced bell choir. Rehearses on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.



Instrumental

MFUMC Orchestra—Jantz Black, director/coordinator. Usually plays the third Sunday of the month and other special services, rehearsing the Saturday morning prior.

Praise Band

Praise Band—Jantz Black, director. The Praise Band is our primary accompaniment for the 11:15 a.m. service. Drummers, guitarists, keyboardists, and other instrumentalists are welcome.

Other

Other opportunities arise throughout the year for special services (such as “The Longest Night,” Community Good Friday, and special music in the summer) as well as ad hoc groups or other short-term opportunities. Contact Jantz Black for more information.

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