

# *Soli Deo Gloria*

*Fall 2023*

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

Welcome Back to Choir and Art! Denise, Kasey, and I are so happy to share our love of the arts with your family this year! Thank you so much for your participation and support, it is truly our pleasure to work with your children and share God's great gifts of music, art, and creativity with them. Kasey Vlasak is teaching High School and Elementary K-4th art this fall. These classes will be offered throughout the morning, and students will be placed in a class so as not to conflict with choir and bells.

Denise Wood and Heidi Wildes will 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 Handbell Musicians of America, a certified Kindermusik teacher, and a private piano instructor. She and her husband Paul are developing the SDG Choir Program in the Chippewa Valley.

You must be a member of CVHS forum to participate in choir. This is how we communicate throughout the semester. Please include an additional \$9 to pay your 2022,23 fee - Denise will update your account. If this will be a new membership to the forum, please go to [homeschool-life.com/wi/CVHS](https://homeschool-life.com/wi/CVHS) and request membership, existing accounts will be renewed for the school year.

In order to help us plan staffing, purchase music, and to arrange schedules, all registrations must be received by **September 5**; however, registrations are on a first come basis, and we often close registration early because we reach capacity.

## **VOCAL CHOIRS:**

**Te Deum:** 1-3 graders meet at 9:00am until 9:50am - we anticipate a limit of 48 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:** 4-8th graders meet at 10:00am until 10:55am - we anticipate a limit of 64 choristers for this choir. Concert attire for Jubilate Deo is a white top and black bottom and their award lanyard. Mandatory voice checks will be held at 10am on Thursday, Sept. 7

**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 \$30 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. ***Mandatory Tuxedo fittings will be on Thursday, September 7 at 10am.***

SANCTUS performance attire is tuxedo for men, and **black semi-formal for women (covering the shoulders) including black dress/tights or leggings and black shoes.** Black dresses are available to purchase for \$70.

## **SCHEDULES:**

### **SEPTEMBER 7:**

- 10am-noon: Ringing checks as needed grades 6-12 in 305
- 10am Jubilate Deo: voice checks and seating assignments in the choir room
- 10am Sanctus Men Tuxedo Assignments
- 11am Sanctus Full Choir part assignments and music distribution

### **SEPTEMBER 21:**

Full Art&Choir schedule begins Thursdays at Bethesda Lutheran, 123 W. Hamilton Ave, Eau Claire. Enter through the south door by the gym

### **NOVEMBER 16:**

- 9am-1pm (approximately) Final Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 5-6pm (approximately) call times for concert
- 7pm Concert in the Bethesda Sanctuary

## **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. (minimum of 12 students required)

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

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

Ladies' concert attire for the ADORAMUS handbell choir is a long black dress which is purchased by the individual family for \$70. Previously worn dresses are occasionally available for a cost of \$45. The cost for replacement bell gloves is \$5.

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 a previous concert, and at a previous 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.

**PERFORMANCE:** Our semester will end when the choirs sing on Thursday, November 16 at Bethesda Lutheran Brethren 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.

**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.

*Student Illness:* Thank you for staying home if a chorister or art student is sneezing or has a fever. In order for group classes to be successful, your family may have to sacrifice attending for the sake of the others participating. For other more subtle health issues, please feel free to wear a mask as a modest precaution.

*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](mailto: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.

**COST** - Each semester there is a \$20 *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. There is an additional fee of \$30 per student to participate in chimes or bells. Registration payments are non-refundable.

**FALL ART:** Kasey Vlasak will be offering art classes in the gym for 8 weeks, September 21 - November 9. All supplies are included with the art fee. Families involved with choir are given priority for art classes. Students who are not involved in choir will be put on a wait list until choir registrations are complete. If you have any questions about the art classes, please contact Kasey directly: [kvlasak44@gmail.com](mailto:kvlasak44@gmail.com)

**HIGH SCHOOL ART:** Acrylic Painting: \$45 per student, supplies included. Students will learn about painting using acrylics and explore several painting techniques on canvas and canvas board.

**GRADE SCHOOL ART:** Art for Students in K-4th grade: \$30 per student, all supplies included. Students will explore the work of Famous Artists, which will inspire the semester's mixed media projects.

**REGISTER By September 5:** Registration form and payments (checks made out to Heidi Wildes, Denise Wood, and Kasey Vlasak) may be mailed to Denise Wood, 3995 Mayer Rd., Fall Creek 54742.

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 and art in each student.

Paul & Heidi Wildes (715-210-3591)

[Heidi@SDGchoirs.org](mailto:Heidi@SDGchoirs.org)

# Soli Deo Gloria - Fall 2023 Registration

Info@SDGchoirs.org

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 (\$20 per family): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Choir Fee (\$30/child) : \_\_\_\_\_

K-4th Art fee (\$30) payable to "Kasey Vlasak" \_\_\_\_\_

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

Te Deum Chimes (\$25 per child): \_\_\_\_\_

SANCTUS **new** male member (\$30): \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Total Amount to "Heidi Wildes":** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total to "Kasey Vlasak"** \_\_\_\_\_

**2021/22CVHS Member Fee (required) to "Denise Wood" \$9** \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail Completed Forms and money by September 5 to:

Denise Wood  
3995 Mayer Rd  
Fall Creek WI 54742