

Mount Olive Choir School

Our young are not just the church of tomorrow; they are an integral part of the church today! The Mount Olive Choir School celebrates the joy of music and singing together, applying this tremendous gift to our liturgies by helping the young to be full participants in the assembly and to serve as worship leaders.

Choir school participants learn vocal warm-ups, fun-to-sing music, psalm settings and antiphons, small liturgical leadership roles, hymns, and full choral anthems.



Mount Olive Family Music

- For children ages 0 through kindergarten with a caregiver
- Mondays, 5:30–6:00 p.m., online (Zoom)
- Leader: Mari Espeland

Sing, pray, dance, and play using curriculum from Musikgarten. Teacher Mari supplements the curriculum with observances of the church year and baptism, making connections with worship at Mount Olive. Each household is given a packet of hand instruments, a CD/digital download, and movement scarves

Choir School Dinner

- For Children's Choir, Youth Choir, and their families
- Wednesdays, 5:30–6:00 p.m., in the undercroft at Mount Olive during the program year

Enjoy supper with other young singers before choir rehearsal. Families take turns hosting the meals. They bring and prepare a kid-friendly meal, such as frozen pizza, chicken nuggets and TATER TOTS, wienie wraps, and mac and cheese with kielbasa—capped off after rehearsal with our famous Mount Olive Oreo Cookies.

Children's Choir

- For singers in grades 1–4
- Wednesdays, 6:00–6:45 p.m., September–April
- Mari Espeland, director



Sing, say, dance, and play as beloved children of God. Children learn how to be worship participants and leaders. Music literacy is approached with an active rote-to-note process.

Children's Choir sings in the 10:45 a.m. liturgy approximately every six weeks. It combines with the Youth Choir on Christmas Eve for the 4:00 p.m. service and on Transfiguration Sunday at 10:45.

Youth Choir

- For singers in grades 5 and up
- Wednesdays, 6:00–6:45 p.m., September–April
- Rebekah Schulz, director

Join in singing, playing handbells and Orff or percussion instruments, and learning to read music from a score. Youth learn to navigate the hymnal, growing as worship leaders.

Youth Choir sings in the 10:45 a.m. liturgy approximately every six weeks. It combines with the Children's Choir on Christmas Eve for the 4:00 p.m. service and on Transfiguration Sunday at 10:45.



Meet the Staff



Mari Espeland

I love children and music. I am happiest when I can help children love music, especially on our faith journey! I have taught singing to children in churches, schools, and community choirs for almost 40 years.



Rebekah Schulz

I am Bekah, and I am so excited to make music with your children at Mount Olive! There is no more beautiful sound than young people singing together. I have been making music with children for a long time, and it is my favorite thing. Together, we will create a beautiful, safe community.



Daniel Schwandt

Daniel Schwandt loves music, children, and dogs (not always in that order). He's played the organ and directed choirs for a long time and got his start as a musician in a children's choir! His favorite part of choir dinner is, of course, dessert.

MOUNT OLIVE CHOIR SCHOOL



With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns,
and spiritual songs to God. —Colossians 3:16

For more information or to sign up for
Mount Olive Choir School, please send an email to
Mari Espeland (mari.mt.olive@gmail.com).

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