



## New Children's Choir

The Schola Cantorum

by Rev. Stephen Rosebrock

**F**RIDAY, AUGUST 28 WILL MARK THE beginning of an additional music ministry here at Mount Olive. This will be the first rehearsal of the new children's choir, the *Schola Cantorum*. This Latin name translates literally to *school of singing*. The *Schola Cantorum* originated in the 7th century.<sup>1</sup> It was a school run by the church, often monasteries, to teach boys to read and sing for the purpose of singing the liturgy at services. It is just as fitting in the 21st century as in the 7th century as it embodies the purpose of this choir. Here is the purpose of this ministry:

The *Schola Cantorum* exists to give young musicians an exceptional musical experience in the context of the church's liturgical life and to cultivate lifelong musicians for service in the church. Choristers are trained as young musicians, while being given an opportunity to sing wonderful repertoire and to grow in their Christian faith and Lutheran identity. This experience gives each chorister the opportunity for significant spiritual and personal growth. Participation in the *Schola Cantorum* also develops the choristers' self discipline, sense of responsibility and commitment, and strengthens each of their abilities to work with their peers.



The *Schola Cantorum* is open to any child between the ages of eight and fourteen who: 1) can match pitch accurately, 2) can commit to the rehearsal and service schedule, and 3) for boys – have not begun their voice change. Weekly rehearsals will be on Fridays from 2:30 to 4:00 PM in the Music Room. This choir will sing about once a month throughout the school year at either the Sunday 8:30 or 11:00 service. If you would like more information about this choir please see, call, or e-mail me ([stephen.rosebrock@mtolivemke.org](mailto:stephen.rosebrock@mtolivemke.org)).

If you would like to make a donation to help purchase vestments and music for the *Schola Cantorum* you may put your donation in the offering basket in a plain envelope marked *Children's Choir Fund*. You may also send your donation directly to the church office. All donations will be included in your quarterly giving statements for tax purposes.

<sup>1</sup> Carl Schalk, ed.: *Key Words in Church Music, Revised and Enlarged*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House. 2004. Page 103.

### Music Camp in Review

The first Mount Olive Music Camp was a wonderful week in every way. Campers arrived each day at 8:00 AM and went non-stop until 4:00 PM. The day was spent in full rehearsals, in sectionals (dividing boys and girls), music theory classes, music improvisation classes, handbells, a conducting class, daily Bible study on prayer and the Lord's Prayer, and concerts performed by Geri Stone, Erica Rosebrock, and Gabriel Maichel. Each day also began as we prayer Morning Prayer together in the church.

Afternoons were filled with recreational activities and field trips including a scavenger hunt, water games, the movie *Ratatouille*, an organ demonstration at St. Jude's in Wauwatosa, and a concert at the Lutheran Home. I would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and skill in making this a successful week: Gabriel Maichel, Paul Reske, Erica Rosebrock, Sherry Scheid, Allison Schweitzer, and Geri Stone.

### Kantor Rosebrock

