



Simsbury United Methodist Church
2016 - 2017 Charge Conference Report
Monday, December 5, 2016, 7:30 pm

Children, Youth, & Contemporary Music Ministries

By Dorothy Cowles
Director

Music Makers:

- ♪Rehearsal: 30 minutes weekly
- ♪Membership: 18 students in spring, 9 in fall (This includes the LLI 4-yr. old class(es))
- ♪Worship participation: Students sang on Mother's Day at the 10:30 service (This is primarily an early-childhood music class with a focus on Christian music, not a "performance" group)

SUMC Children's Choir:

- ♪Rehearsal: 30 minutes weekly
- ♪Membership: 21 -spring, 15 -fall
- ♪Worship participation: sang 8 anthems in worship
- ♪Children's Choir sang 3 joint anthems with our Chancel Choir, 2 with the Children's Choir from 1st Church in the spring, 1 with the Wesley Ringers and they will participate in the Lessons & Carols services this year.

Celebration Ringers:

- ♪Rehearsal: 1 hour weekly
- ♪Membership: 7 -spring, combined with Wesley Ringers in the fall.
- ♪Worship participation: rang 4 times in worship (winter/spring)

Wesley Ringers:

- ♪Rehearsal: 1.5 hour weekly (spring) 1 hour weekly (fall)
- ♪Membership: 10 -spring, 10 - fall (Celebration Ringers were folded into this group)
- ♪Worship participation: rang 4 times in worship (winter/spring), 3 this fall Wesley's also performed as part of the Spaghetti Dinner Cabaret, and participated in a Bell Festival in Willimantic - both in March. They will also ring jointly with the Chancel Choir for the Lessons & Carols services.

Youth Praise

- ♪Rehearsal: 30 min - 1 hour, 3-5 rehearsals per event
- ♪Membership: 11 - spring, 13 - fall
- ♪Worship participation: sang 5 anthems in worship, three as part of the combined choirs.
- Youth Praise also performed as part of the Spaghetti Dinner Cabaret - 2 songs and will participate in the Lessons & Carols services this year.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

CAYA (“Come As You Are”) Worship Team:

♪Rehearsal: band - 1 hour weekly, singers and band – 1 hour weekly (total 2 hours)

♪Membership: 14 (combined band and singers)

♪Worship participation: 9:00 CAYA service weekly, played the 7:00 Ash Wednesday service, participated in the Tenebrae service, played for the Ice Cream fundraiser for the Uganda team, participated in the Lessons & Carols services and will play the 5:00 Christmas Eve service.

Accomplishments 2016: Events in addition to regular 5 groups, weekly 9:00 service and regular worship participation.

- Feb. 10** 7:30 Ash Wed. service –CAYA played service
- March 5** Spaghetti Dinner Cabaret
♪Helped to recruit/rehearse acts, wrote notes for MC, made programs
- March 6** Bell Festival in Willimantic
♪loaded bells/tables/stands/books...drove there in caravan
♪unloaded, set up, rehearsed joint songs
♪ate dinner, played concert
♪broke down, re-loaded, drove home, unloaded and set up at church
- March 27** Easter Sunday
♪Helped Yves with music for both 9:00 and 11:00 music...Magnificent!
- May-June** CAYA recording
♪recorded all of Jon’s songs so he would have them to take with him when he moved
- April 30** Bell Workshop
♪ organized and ran a bell workshop attended by groups from 4 churches
♪ coordinated event, logistics, food, space usage, etc.
- June 4** Handbell Concert
♪sponsored and hosted the Hockanum Valley Ringers as one of the venues in their Spring Concert series
- June 20-24** VBS (Vacation Bible School)
♪ 118 children registered and attended, ages 4-entering 6th grade (8 in On-Site Child Care) (up from 113 last year)
♪63 total volunteers [34 teens (5 college) 29 adults
♪3 churches
- July 23** Ice Cream Social
♪CAYA Worship Team played 2 50 min sets as the entertainment for the event.

UPCOMING:

- Dec. 11** **Annual Christmas Pageant**
♪ participation: 2013 (51) 2014 (46) 2015 (39) 2016 (30)
♪ cont'd tradition of baking gingerbread men with volunteers during rehearsal
- Dec. 18** **Lessons & Carols Service**
♪ planned service with Yves, and find readers with Joyce Tullock
♪ combined efforts from 6 music groups to produce this beautiful service
- Dec. 24** **5:00 Christmas Eve service –**
♪ plan music for and then played service
♪ CAYA Worship Team, flute, trumpet, clarinet, bells, available children and teens