



MEET OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

All of the choirs of St. John's Music Ministry are directed by **Deborah Krauss Smith**, St. John's Director of Music and Organist.

2011 marks Deb's 41st year as a professional church musician, with over half of those years spent directing, working with, and writing for children's choirs and children's voices.

A Monroe native and graduate of UW-Eau Claire with a degree in K-12 vocal music education and a double applied major in organ and voice, Deb was an elementary music specialist in the Monroe School District from 1977 – 1984. She previously worked at St. John's from 1986-1996, developing a strong graded music program that included three choirs for young voices through grade 12, as well as a women's triple trio, handbell choir, and of course, the Sanctuary Choir.

Following a 10-1/2 year stint at Asbury United Methodist Church in Madison and a year of "semi-retirement", Deb returned to St. John's staff in January 2008.

Did you know...

*...not every child sings in tune naturally?
Children can be taught to sing in tune, which
is more easily accomplished before about
the age of 9 or 10.*

Ministry of Music
St. John's United Church of Christ
Monroe, Wisconsin

ENDANGERED CHOIR SPECIES LIST FOR 2011



Sad, but true: St. John's longtime choir program for children is on the verge of extinction. Your child's participation can change that.



★ CRITICALLY ENDANGERED:
Children's Choir

- For children entering **grades 1, 2 or 3**
- For the time being, rehearses *with* the Junior Choir from 3:30 - 4:00 pm, starting **Wednesday, September 7** in the choir room.

What are the benefits of participation in Children's Choir?

- ✓ Learn about the choirs' role in worship by singing for the 9 am service once monthly
- ✓ Learn about seasons and important observances of the church year
- ✓ Learn Bible stories and Christian concepts through song
- ✓ Develop basic music concepts such as high/low, fast/slow, loud/soft, etc.
- ✓ Work on developing listening skills, matching pitches (singing in tune) and developing a sense of rhythm
- ✓ Develop a sense of team by being part of a group

**Email debstjohns@tds.net to enroll
or for more information.**

★ CRITICALLY ENDANGERED:
Junior Choir

- For children entering **grades 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8**
- For the time being, rehearses *with* the Children's Choir from 3:30 - 4:00 pm, starting **Wednesday, September 7** in the choir room.

What are the benefits of participation in Junior Choir?

- ✓ Continue building on skills begun in Children's Choir
- ✓ Foster solo singing skills
- ✓ Work on basic music reading skills
- ✓ Work with rhythm instruments and hand chimes

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★ ENDANGERED:
Sanctuary Choir

- For youth singers entering grades 9, 10, 11 or 12, as well as adults
- Rehearses in the choir room on Wednesdays from 7:00 – 8:00 pm and sings for worship approximately three times per month. **Starts Wednesday, September 7.**

What are the benefits of participation in Sanctuary Choir?

- ✓ Continue to develop an understanding of the choirs' role in worship
- ✓ Continue to learn about Christian concepts and church seasons through song
- ✓ Learn a wide variety of sacred choral music repertoire
- ✓ Develop part singing skills and refine singing techniques
- ✓ Experience a sense of team in an intergenerational setting, including a sense of responsibility and commitment