

THINGS of NOTE from SALEM'S MUSIC MINISTRY



BRAVO! to our children's choirs!

Salem's school year has ended and as our day school students and church member students who sing in our children's choir race off to happy days of summer fun, we want to pass on our great appreciation to each and all of them for the quality and the quantity of their music which has so enriched a great many events here at Salem. Our Schola Cantorum (*school of song*) choir is one of which we can be and certainly are very proud.

There are 38 members of Schola Cantorum. It is composed of two groups; *Jubilate (be joyful)* for 1st through 3rd graders, and *Cantate Domino (sing to the Lord)* for 4th through 8th graders. In addition to their opportunities to grow as choristers, the children are also given the opportunity to learn to play a wide variety of multi-cultural rhythm and percussion instruments plus instruments unique to Orff-Schulwerk. These include soprano and alto glockenspiels, alto and bass xylophones, alto metallophone and tone chimes. Members of our Tintinnabulum Bell Choir, made up of Salem school's alumni and church members in grades 7-12, learn and perform an extensive variety of English handbell techniques, and also ring 5 octaves of Schulmerich handbells and 3 octaves of Suzuki hand chimes.

Our singers and ringers have earned our applause through the year and have recently been further recognized with these special certificates and trophies.

Superior Attendance: Jubilate – Joelle Albarian, Taline Albarian, Charlotte Harrison, Denise Jue (perfect attendance), Jack Lowery, Kendall McNair, Gillian O'Neal, Natalie Queally, Allen Vartanian, and Dillon Weigand.

Superior Attendance: Cantate Domino – Francesca Ampil-Alcid, Elizabeth Barlow, Jessica Gallegos (perfect attendance), Amanda Oliver, and Kjirsten Speer.

Superior Attendance: Tintinnabulum – Emily Denton, Nick Van Houten, Chris Oliver, Brenna O'Neal and Lauren Reed.

The special **Director's Award**, a discretionary award not given each year, is an engraved plaque, given in special recognition of outstanding musicianship, faithful attendance, dedication, consistent cooperation, service and positive attitude – all attributes of choir role models – was awarded to four students this year. They are: Charlotte Harrison, Shelby Denton, Kjirsten Speer and Chris Oliver.

Most Improved Ringer in Tintinnabulum was given to Marty Fong, and **Most Valuable Ringer** was given to Katelyn Benedict.

Director of these choirs, **Cheryl Speer**, who deserves our resounding applause and great appreciation for her tireless dedication to excellence, wishes to express "my sincere appreciation to all the parents and friends of music who have dedicated themselves to our children's choir and handbell programs this year. Many of you have volunteered your time, have provided leadership, financial gifts, car-pooling, snacks and much more! Salem's children and youth music program success is greatly due to your commitment and support."