

# Children's Choir Syllabus

## The Music Academy at Point Washington

**Ages:** Elementary (1-6 Grade)

**Vision:** The purpose of the Children's Choir at Point Washington is to provide high quality choral music instruction to the congregation at Point Washington UMC and the surrounding community. We believe that this environment will foster character growth, social/emotional skills, musical literacy, and the space for children to feel God's love within our church community. The choir will explore repertoire both religious and secular, including concert pieces, contemporary Christian, hymns, folk music, and more - all working towards the goals of improving aural and reading skills and fostering appreciation of various cultures, styles, and traditions of song.

**When:** Meets weekly Wednesday 4:15-5:15pm

**Where:** Music Suite

Point Washington UMC  
1290 N County Highway 395  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

**Instructor:** Mrs. Natalie Isaac

[musicacademy@pwumc.org](mailto:musicacademy@pwumc.org)  
(317)993-4536

**Performances:** The Children's Choir will perform six (6) times annually.

DATE	EVENT
Sunday, October 2, 2022	Traditional Service, 8-10am ( <i>Collaboration w/ PWUMC Chancel Choir</i> )
Sunday, October 30, 2022	Contemporary Service, 10am-12am
Sunday, November 20, 2022	Traditional Service, 8-10am
Saturday, December 24, 2022	Children and Family Christmas Eve Service, 3pm
Sunday, April 2, 2023	2 Palm Sunday Church Services, 8-11:30am
Sunday, May 28, 2023	"Sunday Sound" Concert, 4pm

## **PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION**

### **1. Traditional Service (Collaboration w/ PWUMC Chancel Choir)**

*October 2, 2022. 8-10am*

The traditional service at PWUMC is held in the white sanctuary with the steeple on the east side of the road. We will prepare a song to sing for the offertory during the service and learn the melodies to the hymns to sing alongside the larger, adult choir. This is an excellent opportunity to practice getting up in front of a crowd within a larger group. While many of our performances will not involve leading worship, this service provides a unique performance experience of leading others in song. The 2014 National Standards for Music Education highlight the steps of **creating, performing, responding, and connecting** to the repertoire, the audience, and the moment. The focus becomes understanding music for what it is on its own while deeply connecting it with its purpose in the world. There is no end to what those purposes may be, and in our context, we will understand music as a facilitator of community and worship within the congregation of PWUMC.

We will meet at 8am in the Music Suite to warm up and rehearse for the 8:45 performance. Students are expected to remain present until the close of worship, which will be no later than 10am.

*Students should dress nicely, as they would for a traditional worship service in any church.*

### **2. Contemporary Service**

*October 30, 2022 10am-Noon*

The contemporary service at PWUMC meets in the Family Life Center, the large building on the west side of the road across from the sanctuary. We will learn 1-2 contemporary worship songs for this service, and will not be leading worship outside of our prepared pieces.

We will meet at 10am in the Music Suite to warm up and rehearse for the 11am performance. Students are expected to remain present until the close of worship, which will be around 12pm.

*While less formal than the traditional service, students should dress nicely for performance - i.e., collared/dress shirts, dresses, etc.*

### **3. Traditional Service**

*November 20, 2022 8-10am*

Students will once again perform at the PWUMC traditional morning service in the sanctuary. This will be a celebration of Thanksgiving!

We will meet at 8am in the Music Suite to warm up and rehearse for the 8:45 performance. Students are expected to remain present until the close of worship, which will be no later than 10am.

*Students should dress nicely, as they would for a traditional worship service in any church.*

### **4. Children and Family Christmas Eve Service**

*December 24, 2022 3pm Service*

This is one of our most exciting performances of the year! While we know this is a holiday, this specific service provides an incredibly special time to offer Christmas songs and enjoy the family-centric program at (tentatively) 3pm.

Warm-up time is TBD. Depending on our preparation and comfort, we may be able to minimize rehearsal time prior to the service on this holiday.

*Students should dress nicely - Christmas colors or being “extra fancy” are encouraged!*

### **5. Palm Sunday (Traditional and Contemporary Services)**

*April 2, 2023 8am-Noon*

We will warm up at 8am to sing in the 8:45 traditional service in the sanctuary. Snacks will be provided at 10am, and students may stay with Mrs. Isaac during this time. We will perform again for the 11am service. This is an exciting day in preparation for Easter! Students can expect to walk with palm branches in addition to singing their prepared songs.

We will warm up at 8am in the Music Suite and perform at 8:45 and 11am.

*Students should dress nicely, as they would for a traditional worship service in any church.*

## 6. “Sunday Sound” Concert

The “Sunday Sound” Concert Series began in 2022 under the direction of Rev. Darrin Isaac. These monthly concerts are hosted on the campus of Point Washington UMC and have featured classical, jazz, and contemporary solo artists, composers, string quartets, and more. The concerts regularly premier brand new works by composers across the United States. The 2022-23 season will feature the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, the Emerald Coast Chorale, Indianapolis-based Sound Ecologies, and a variety of ensembles from the Point Washington music department. The concluding concert of the season will feature the Children’s Choir at Point Washington, which will feature a variety of works we have learned throughout the year.

Students should arrive by 2:30pm for a warm up in the music suite prior to the concert at 4pm.

The concert should be approximately 1 hour long.

*Students should dress nicely. Any additional information will be sent out prior to the performance.*

### **REHEARSAL DATES**

**Semester 1 Wednesdays:** 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21

**Additional Semester 1 Rehearsals:** 8am Sunday 10/2 (Performance), 10am Sunday 10/30 (Performance), 8am Sunday 11/20 (Performance), *Tentative 2pm rehearsal 12/24*

**Semester 2 Wednesdays:** 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/1, 3 /8, 3/15, 3/29, 4 /5, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24

**Additional Semester 2 Rehearsals:** 8am Sunday 4/2 (Performance), 2:30pm Sunday 5/28 (Concert Warm-Up)

## ATTENDANCE

The Music Academy at Point Washington seeks to uphold national standards for music education within the ministry of music. Our goal is to provide your child with comprehensive music education in the time that they spend with us. You can find us in rehearsal teaching vocal technique, music history, theory, composition, aural and listening skills, reading skills, movement, and more - all of these things can be found in the choral rehearsal! However, **performance** remains one of the most valuable steps in cementing your child's comprehension of skills taught behind the scenes. The National Standards for Music Education expect elementary choruses to: "Demonstrate how understanding the style, genre, and context of a varied repertoire of music informs prepared and improvised performances as well as performers' technical skill to connect with the audience."

**Please plan for your child to attend all rehearsals possible and provide 2 weeks notice to the instructor prior to a planned absence. Students must attend at least 2 rehearsals in the month prior to each performance to be able to join us for the performance.**