

Music at St. Martin's Lutheran School



Weekly music classes emphasize music theory, appreciation, hymnody, and song. The following choirs also have the opportunity to be a part of worship at St. Martin's Lutheran Church.

We encourage parents to mark these dates on their calendars and join their children at worship:

Grades K-2 Choir led by Mrs. Finke

First semester Performance dates:

- **Sunday, October 9, 10:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, December 18, 4:00 p.m. (Children's Christmas Service)**

Grades 3-6 Choir led by Miss Seltz

First semester Performance dates:

- **Sunday, September 25, 10:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, December 18, 4:00 p.m. (Children's Christmas Service)**

Grades 7-8 Handbell Choir led by Mr. Finke

First semester Performance dates:

- **Sunday, November 6, 10:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, December 18, 4:00 p.m. (Children's Christmas Service)**

All groups may have other opportunities to perform at community events.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC:

Thirty-minute instrumental and piano lessons taught by Mr. Finke are also offered during the school day. Piano lessons are available to grades 1-8, band for grades 4-8. The fee is \$10 per lesson. St. Martin's has many instruments available for use. If finances are an issue, talk to Mr. Finke. Please read below to see the benefits of instrumental music study on a child's development:





Science Just Discovered Something Amazing About What Childhood Piano Lessons Did to You

If your parents forced you to practice your scales by saying it would "build character," they were onto something. The *Washington Post* reports that one of the largest [scientific studies](#) into music's effect on the brain has found something striking: Musical training doesn't just affect your musical ability — it provides tremendous benefits to children's emotional and behavioral maturation.

The study by the University of Vermont College of Medicine found that even those who never made it past nursery rhyme songs and do-re-mi's likely received some major developmental benefits just from playing. The study provides even more evidence as to why providing children with high-quality [music education](#) may be one of the most effective ways to ensure their success in life.

The study: James Hudziak and his colleagues [analyzed](#) the brain scans of 232 children ages 6 to 18, looking for relationships between cortical thickness and musical training. Previous studies the team had performed revealed that anxiety, depression, attention problems and aggression correspond with changes to cortical thickness. Hudziak and his team sought to discover whether a "positive activity" like musical training could affect the opposite changes in young minds.

"What we found was the more a child trained on an instrument," Hudziak told the [Washington Post](#), "it accelerated cortical organization in attention skill, anxiety management and emotional control."

The study found increased thickness in parts of the brain responsible for [executive functioning](#), which includes working memory, attentional control and organizational skills. In short, music actually helped kids become more well-rounded. Not only that, they believe that musical training could serve as a powerful treatment of cognitive disorders like ADHD.

Mr. Larry Finke
St. Martin's Minister of Music
7-8 Bell Choir
5-6-7-8 Music education

(507) 452 - 6928 ext. 104 (Church)
(507) 452 - 6928 ext. 138 (Hope LHS)