

Chalice Sparks Annual Report 2016-2017

Brianne Boyd & Rick Witten

Group description: Children's choir for grades 3-8

Mission statement: The purpose of this choir is to provide an opportunity for children to learn about group dynamics, develop musicianship and performance skills, nurture their spirit through song, and enrich the worship experience of our congregation.

Core values:

- #1 Spiritual life – All of our songs are based on UU principles, and we discuss this while learning them. When performing we strive for a connection to the divine and to our congregation.
- #3 Community – Singers of different ages and abilities work together and form friendships. Performing at service allows them to be a valuable part of our church community.
- #5 Culture – Our repertoire reflects different religious traditions, cultures, and languages.

Highlights/Goals reached:

- Membership has grown annually since the choir restarted in February 2013. This year there are 28, and we have gained members through the year.
- The children have shown positive growth in attitude, leadership, and musicianship.
- They now sit proudly in the choir loft, and they look great in their new matching stoles.
- They performed with the Chalice Bells in December and will premiere a piece with the Chalice Singers in April. They will also be one of four children's choirs featured in a concert this May to benefit the Interfaith Round Table.

Participants:

- Brianne Boyd, music director
- Rick Witten, coordinator (takes attendance, emails parents, organizes events, provides support)
- Teri Minton, assistant coordinator (monitors and assists with rehearsals)
- approximately 28 children and their parents
- Allison Halerz (accompanist)

Future:

- Continue to collaborate with performing groups in and outside of the congregation
- Continue to grow in number
- Have a smooth transition as Rick leaves the group