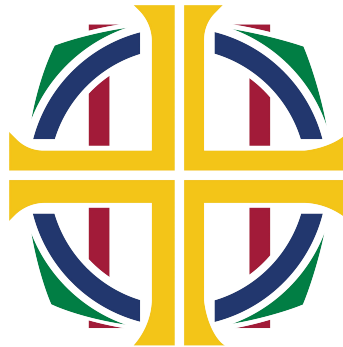


# Elementary Band Program

PARENT INFORMATION

Sponsored by

THE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
OF GREATER MILWAUKEE



**WeTeachTruth.org**

Jesus makes all the difference.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Elementary Band Program! We are looking forward to teaching your child. This handbook contains detailed information about our program. If you have questions, please contact us. We'd love to help.

Mrs. Anne Widener  
Elementary Band Program Director  
The Lutheran High School Association of Greater Milwaukee

### **Why learn an instrument?**

Studying an instrument benefits students in so many ways!

- Playing music is a way to glorify God and serve in His church, at school, and throughout life.
- Reading music is a form of literacy.
- Regular practicing develops habits of discipline and responsibility.
- Making music is a way of self-expression and creativity.
- Playing an instrument develops focus, fine motor skills and coordination.
- Playing in a group teaches collaboration and forms community.
- Playing great music helps students appreciate many genres of music.
- It is so much FUN!

### **Cost and Enrollment**

The Elementary Band Program is sponsored and partially funded by The Lutheran High School Association of Greater Milwaukee and the Lutheran elementary schools. Please see the fee sheet for your school.

Enrollment and payment are through the TADS website: <http://mytads.com/a/elementaryband>.  
If needed, the set-up code is A4KGU-HIT.

We encourage all students to make the commitment to a full year of lessons. If it becomes clear that it is in the child's best interest to discontinue during the year, a refund will be made based on the month of withdrawal. Please consult with your child's teacher before making that decision.

## **Program of Study**

The band program consists of three areas of instruction.  
Student progress reports will be issued quarterly.

1. **Lessons** take place during the school day at your child's school once a week.
  - 15 minutes for private lessons or 30 minutes for groups of 2-3
  - On a rotating schedule to avoid missing the same class period each week
2. **Group Band Rehearsals** at your child's school are weekly (at least 30 minutes per week).  
*In schools where less than ten students are enrolled, it may be necessary to schedule on a different basis.*
3. **Saturday Morning Band** or **Monday Night Band** give the opportunity to play in a larger group with students from many different Lutheran grade schools. **There is no additional cost for students enrolled in the elementary band program.**
  - Choose the group that fits your schedule (*details below*).
  - These groups are optional, but we encourage you to participate, because they teach different skills from group band at school, and they are so much fun!

♪ **Red Knight Kadet Band** meets Saturdays 8:00-9:00am at Milwaukee Lutheran HS

♪ **Spartan Kadet Band** meets Mondays 6:30-7:30pm at Martin Luther HS

♪ **Thunder Band** meets Mondays 6:30-7:30pm at Lake Country Lutheran HS

If you are taking lessons outside of our program but would like to participate in **Saturday or Monday Night Band only**, we would love to have you join us!

The fee is \$140.00 per semester or \$225.00 for the year.  
You must be receiving private, professional instruction to participate.

## **Performances**

Several opportunities for performance are provided for each group:

- Saturday/Monday Band presents two major concerts each year.
- Each school band performs in worship services and school events.
- Individuals and small groups perform for chapel services and in the Solo/Ensemble Contest.
- Some schools make use of their own instrumentalists in church and school concerts, chapel, and special festival services in addition to Elementary Band performances.

## **Solo/Ensemble Contest**

Solo/ Ensemble Contest is held each March. Each student learns a solo with help from his/her teacher and is judged by an instrumental specialist. Students receive helpful comments, a rating, and a medal.

The entry fee is \$8.00 plus the cost of the music.

## **Selecting an Instrument**

Choosing the right instrument is an important decision, and it is best for parents, students, and teachers to work together to find the best fit. Although physical features, such as over-bites, receding jaws, braces, etc., should be considered, most children will overcome any minor physical difficulty when they are sincerely interested in playing a particular instrument.

If your school has a special instrumentation need, your child's teacher will indicate which instruments are needed to encourage the best-balanced band. (A well-balanced band sounds great and is the most fun!)

## **My child already plays piano. Should he/she still join band?**

Yes! It has been our experience that keyboard students who also take band instruments progress faster and have advantages over other beginning band students. While studying two instruments is a financial commitment, band offers several unique social and musical experiences that are not available to students who play only keyboard instruments.

If we can help you by discussing your child's specific situation, please ask. We're here to help.

## **Obtaining an Instrument**

1. You may **already own** one! We recommend that you have it checked by your teacher or a music store to make sure it is in good repair.
2. You may choose to **rent an instrument**. Music stores can provide a rental plan for approximately \$20-\$35 per month (depending on the price of the instrument) which is applicable to the purchase price of the instrument.
3. The High Schools have some of the **larger instruments** for rent at a small fee. Talk with your band director if you would like to know more.
4. You may choose to **purchase** an instrument. However, with a price range of \$1,000+ we recommend using a rental program until your child's interest in the instrument is more developed.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Instrument rental fees must be sent to the music store from which the instrument is rented (not LHSAGM).

## **You will also need:**

- Lesson Book –Student Instrumental Course Book 1 (approximately \$8). EE2000 for Mrs. Scaffidi's woodwind and brass players only.
- Folding Music Stand (approximately \$15-19)
- See the Accessory List for each instrument (*next page*).

# LHSAGM BAND ACCESSORY LIST

## **ALL band students need:**

1. Name tag on instrument case
2. Lesson Book—Student Instrumental Course Book 1 (Most students)  
Essential Elements 2000 (Mrs. Scaffidi's woodwind and brass players only).
3. Pencil
4. Folding Music Stand

## **FLUTE**

Man's handkerchief for cleaning flute.

## **OBOE/BASSOON**

Swab set, cork grease, 2 reeds.

## **CLARINET**

5 reeds (size #2 1/2 for beginners), swab, mouthpiece brush, cork grease. Reed holder optional.

## **SAXOPHONE**

5 reeds (size #2 1/2 for beginners), swab, mouthpiece brush, cork grease, neck strap, soft cloth to wipe outside. Reed holder optional.

## **TRUMPET, BARITONE, TUBA, FRENCH HORN**

Valve oil (rotor oil for horn); tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, snake, and soft cloth to wipe outside.

## **TROMBONE**

Slide oil (Yamaha or Slide-o-mix), tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, snake, and soft cloth to wipe outside.

## **PERCUSSION**

Size 2B drumsticks, See teacher for any additional accessory requirements.

## **How You Can Help**

We have found that one of the most important factors in the success of a student at learning an instrument is the interest and commitment of his/her parents. Your child needs you!

Here are some specific ways you can give support:

### **Be interested in what they are learning.**

- Ask to hear a song each week.
- Ask them to tell you about what they are learning on this week's lesson page. If you are comfortable, help them by counting time, asking them to read you the note names, or reading the instructions in the book.
- Encourage them to play for family and friends.

*How about a "concert" with tickets and popcorn? 😊*

### **Make practicing a priority. This is the single most important factor in your child's success!!**

- For the first 3 months... 15 minutes daily (when possible)
- After 3 months... 20-30 minutes a day, at least 4 or 5 days a week (when possible)

Nearly every child needs to be reminded to practice... this is normal!

### **To make practicing easier:**

- Arrange a regular time for practice.
- Find a quiet place for them to practice without interruption.
- Help keep a daily record of practice.

### **Be understanding:**

- Never make fun of the strange sounds they may make.
- Remember playing and holding an instrument involves the use of many muscles and they will quickly become tired.

### **Teach responsibility:**

- Teach them to be on time for rehearsals and lessons.
- Make faithful attendance at rehearsals and performances a matter of importance.
- Remind them to take their instrument and music on rehearsal days.
- Send an excuse when they are absent or tardy for Saturday/Monday Band.

### **Protect your investment:**

- Keep the instrument in good repair.
- Provide a safe place to keep the instrument.

**Talk with your child's teacher** if your child is experiencing frustration or trouble with the instrument. We are here to help!

## Contact Us

Anne Widener, Instructor  
Elementary Band Program Director  
Milwaukee Lutheran High School  
First Immanuel, Immanuel, St. John's Glendale, Northwest, Zion  
School Phone: 414-461-6000 ext. 995  
Direct school line: 414-296-5867  
Cell: 414-403-5303  
[awidener@milwaukeeelutheran.org](mailto:awidener@milwaukeeelutheran.org)

Erica Rosebrock, Instructor  
Milwaukee Lutheran High School  
Divine Redeemer, Mt. Olive, Our Redeemer  
Direct school line: 414-296-5849  
Cell: 414-581-3351  
[erosebrock@milwaukeeelutheran.org](mailto:erosebrock@milwaukeeelutheran.org)

Angela Scaffidi, Instructor  
Martin Luther High School  
Beautiful Savior, Elm Grove, Hales Corners, Our Father's, St. Paul's  
Direct school line: 414-296-5941  
Cell: 414-595-2675  
[ascaffidi@martinlutherhs.org](mailto:ascaffidi@martinlutherhs.org)

Nicholas Scaffidi, Instructor  
Milwaukee Lutheran High School  
Brookfield Christian, Mt Calvary  
Direct school line: 414-644-8776  
Cell: 414-595-3092  
[nscaffidi@milwaukeeelutheran.org](mailto:nscaffidi@milwaukeeelutheran.org)

**2023-2024 SATURDAY MORNING BAND**  
**MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN ONLY!**

Please add these dates to your home calendar and keep for future reference.

Saturday band meets at Milwaukee Lutheran HS on the following dates from 8:00am-9:00am.

September 16  
September 23  
September 30

January 13  
January 20  
January 27

October 7  
October 14  
October 21  
October 28

February 3  
February 10  
February 17  
February 24

November 4  
November 11  
(Go to the Craft Fair!)

March 2=*SOLO AND ENSEMBLE  
CONTEST AT Milwaukee Lutheran HS  
8:00A.M.-3:30P.M.  
NO SATURDAY BAND.*

\*CONCERT, SATURDAY  
NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 PM  
Milwaukee Lutheran HS

March 9  
  
Concert, Saturday  
March 9 7:00 pm  
Milwaukee Lutheran HS

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MARTIN LUTHER & LAKE COUNTRY SCHEDULE!**



**2023-2024 MONDAY EVENING BAND**  
**MARTIN LUTHER & LAKE COUNTRY LUTHERAN ONLY!**

Please add these dates to your home calendar and keep for future reference.

Monday Night Band meets at Martin Luther and Lake Country  
Lutheran High Schools from  
6:30-7:30 pm.

September 11

September 18

September 25

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

January 8

January 22

January 29

February 5

February 12

February 19

February 26

**\*CONCERT AT LAKE COUNTRY  
LUTHERAN THURSDAY,  
NOVEMBER 2 7:00 P.M.**

OR

**\*CONCERT AT MARTIN LUTHER  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5  
MARTIN LUTHER BAND  
2:00 P.M.**

**March 2=SOLO AND ENSEMBLE  
CONTEST AT Milwaukee Lutheran HS  
8:00A.M.-3:30P.M.**

**March 4**

**\*CONCERT, MARCH 11  
7:00 P.M.  
LAKE COUNTRY LUTHERAN HS  
and at  
MARTIN LUTHER HS**

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN SCHEDULE!**

**BEGINNER**  
**2023-2024 SATURDAY MORNING BAND SCHEDULE**  
**MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN ONLY!**

Please add these dates to your home calendar and keep for future reference.

Saturday band meets at Milwaukee Lutheran HS on the following dates from 8:00am-9:00am.

January 13  
January 20  
January 27

February 3  
February 10  
February 17  
February 24

**March 2=SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST AT Milwaukee Lutheran HS 8:00A.M.-3:30P.M.  
NO SATURDAY BAND.**

March 9

Concert, Saturday  
March 9 7:00 pm  
Milwaukee Lutheran HS

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MARTIN LUTHER & LAKE COUNTRY SCHEDULE!**

**BEGINNER**  
**2023-2024 MONDAY EVENING BAND**  
**MARTIN LUTHER & LAKE COUNTRY LUTHERAN ONLY!**

Please add these dates to your home calendar and keep for future  
reference.

Monday Night Band meets at Martin Luther and Lake Country  
Lutheran High Schools from

January 8

January 22

January 29

February 5

February 12

February 19

February 26

March 2=*SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST AT Milwaukee Lutheran HS 8:00A.M.-3:30P.M.*

March 4

**\*CONCERT, MARCH 11**

**7:00 P.M.**

**LAKE COUNTRY LUTHERAN HS**

**and at**

**MARTIN LUTHER HS**

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN SCHEDULE!**