

AMERICA

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HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

JANUARY, 2014

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Festival Classes

There is something for everyone at the Ring Davenport Festival! Whether you are a ringer, director or teacher and come from a church, community or school, there are classes for you! Whether you are a new ringer, an experienced ringer or just looking to have fun, there are classes for you! There are eleven class sessions with hands on instruction on various aspects of ringing, rhythm classes, informational classes, music reading sessions and roundtable discussions where you can share ideas and brainstorm with other handbell musicians. I know that you will be given new tools and challenged to develop and improve your skills and have fun in the process! See you at the Festival next June!

Lauran Delancy ~ Area 8 Education Chair

Distinctly Davenport rehearsal notes (must have applied and been accepted.) Click <u>HERE</u>



Click below for the rehearsal notes: <u>MASSED</u> Ringing (ALL attendees)

Click below for your subcategory: <u>**TINS</u>**: Bettendorf Ringers (L1-2) <u>**SILVER**</u>: Rock Island Ringers (L2-3 hymns) <u>**GOLD**</u>: Davenport Ringers (L3-4) <u>**BRONZE**</u>: Moline Ringers (L3+-5)</u>

Click <u>HERE</u> for the rehearsal notes for the **Youth Festival**.



Davenport, Iowa's Sister Cities: 1960: Kaiserslautern, Germany 2005: Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil 2006: County Carlow, Ireland

Youth Festival

The Youth Festival at Ring Davenport offers your young ringers an opportunity to work for two days with Carolynne Mathis, one of the finest youth directors in the country. The level 1 and 2 selections are very accessible to your young ringers, and will provide them with a fine massed ringing experience. In addition, classes in Bouncing the Beat, World Drumming, and more will develop their rhythm skills, besides being a lot of fun! This year the youth will be included in the banquet and concerts by guest choirs Embellish (MI) and Bells of the Lakes (MN). The Youth concert will be on Friday, June 27, at 4:15 pm in the beautiful Mississippi River Hall in the River Center. Registration fees are very reasonable for the youth. Repertoire, schedule, and registration information are available at the Areaviii.org website. Don't miss this opportunity for your youth to improve their musicianship in two days and get hooked on ringing for a lifetime.



Iowa State Bird: American Goldfinch

Iowa State Flag

Iowa State Flower: Rosa Arkansana





	ELECTED ELECTED		APPOINTED		
CHAIR: <u>Dolan Bayless</u> c/o Kirkwood UMC 201 W Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122 314.966.8167		CHAIR-ELECT: Patrick Gagnon 211 S Victor (P.O. Box 314), Hubbard, IA 50122 641.373.2972		COMMUNICATIONS: <u>Pat Latshaw</u> EDUCATION: <u>Lauran Delancy</u>	
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5748 W. 87	AIR: <u>Marilyn Lake</u> 'th Terrace, ark, KS 66207 10	Like	us on <u>Facebook</u>	RESOURCE LIBRARIA WEBMASTER: <mark>Wendi</mark>	
	<u>ILLINOIS</u>	<u>IOWA</u>	KANSAS	MISSOURI	<u>NEBRASKA</u>
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	Chime Coordinator <u>Aimee Legatzke</u> Shelley May Hutchison	Western Rep <mark>Yvonne Johnson</mark>		<u>Kathy Harrison</u>	Joyce Miller
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	Student Liaison <mark>Ben Hafner</mark>				Natalie Radcliffe
					Charles Cohen
		The G	Raleigh Ring	<i>Jers</i> <u>Deann Nicolan</u>	
			\mathcal{D}		<u>Jessica Kite</u>
		David M. Harris, Director			

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– A community handbell choir –

Greetings during this Holiday season! As I write, we are approaching Thanksgiving and all of us are in final preparation for our Advent/Christmas music. Many of the pieces for the Ring Davenport Festival are suitable for Advent/Christmas either this year or next!

I also want to introduce you to Mary Willadsen who is the Central Regional Membership Coordinator (RMC) for Handbell Musicians of America. As area chair, I encourage you to meet Mary at Ring Davenport and share questions and ideas with her. She, along with your Area Board, is here to serve you and meet your needs as handbell directors and ringers.

Dolan Bayless ~ Area 8 Chair



Greetings Area 8 handbell lovers! My name is Mary Willadsen and I am your Central Regional Membership Coordinator (RMC) for Handbell Musicians of America. What a mouthful!

The RMC position is new to the guild and divides the membership into three general regions with four areas each. Area 8 joins Areas 5, 6, and 7 in the Central region. Jon Snyder covers the Eastern region with Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4. Ellie Hodder covers the Western region with Areas 9, 10, 11 and 12. We are working together with Jenny Cauhorn and the staff in the national office as well as your Area 8 leaders.

You may be wondering what a Regional Membership Coordinator does. We are here to assist members, Area leaders, and potential new members, with membership questions and to help everyone access all the wonderful things the guild has to offer. This position continues to grow and evolve. We currently have a hand in a variety of tasks from responding to members, Area leaders, and people with general queries regarding handbells and who find the website difficult to navigate, to meeting members and leaders at Area festivals or other gatherings, participating in networking for the guild, gathering and sharing information between Areas, assisting with website information, and working to retain and increase the membership of the guild. I am interested in hearing what keeps you involved in Handbell Musicians of America, what you wish would be different, and how I can help.

I live in Oshkosh, WI and have the good fortune of spending time on both sides of the handbell table. I direct the beginner and the adult bell choirs at my church and ring with Encore! Handbell Ensemble, an auditioned community ensemble. I also enjoy solo and small ensemble ringing as well as bell tree solos. Handbells bring joy and energy to my life. Plus, I don't need to belong to a gym as I spend so much time schlepping equipment here and there! I have two children still at home and also enjoy gardening and anything to do with fabric. The RMC position is my first experience with the guild beyond attending various events at the national and area level.

Please feel free to contact me at mwilladsen@handbellmusicians.org with any questions or concerns you have about your guild membership, or just to share a ringing story. I would love to hear from you.

Mary Willadsen ~Central Regional Membership Coordinator



Lent: Southern Harmony and Sacred Harp tunes such as *Wondrous Love, Beach Spring, Kedron* and *Holy Manna* often work well for setting a contemplative mood during Lent. Fred Gramann's *Prelude on Herzliebster Jesu* combines the German *Ah, Holy Jesus* with *Kedron* and a Gregorian chant in a masterful blending (AGEHR AG47002/4-7 octs, L5.)

Linda Lamb's setting of *Be Thou My Vision* (Ringing Word RW8107, 3 oct, L2) is a harmonically interesting, non-traditional setting of the Irish tune *Slane*.

There are many arrangements of *Neumark* (common text used is *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*) which run the gamut from thoughtful (Julie Stitt's *Meditation on 'Neumark'*, Lorenz 20/1245L, 3-5 octs, L3 with C instrument) to powerful (Kevin McChesney's *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*, Agape 2167, 3-5 octs, L4-.)

Fred Gramann combines *Neumark* with *King's Weston (At the Name of Jesus)* and the *Passion Chorale* in his stunning *Fantasy on King's Weston* (Agape 1671, 3-6 oct, L5.)

Some contemporary selections work well. We love *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (arr. Wagner, Agape 1610, 3-5 octs, L3), as well as Peggy Bettcher's *Lamb of God* with *There Is a Redeemer* (Agape 2172, 3-5 octs, L2.) Douglas Wagner's arrangement of the Andrew Lloyd Webber *Pie Jesu* from *Requiem* (Agape 1693, 3-5 octs, L2) is haunting, and would also work well for a Good Friday service. *Within the Darkest Night* (AGEHR AG36028, 3-6 oct, L2) is an original composition by Derek Hakes which invites the listener to contemplation.

Palm Sunday: Consider an original composition such as *Exultate!* (Bauder, AGEHR AG35269, 3-5 octs, L4) to represent the "Palm" portion of the service. For a work that encompasses both Palms and Passion, I suggest *Meditation on "Beautiful Savior"* (arr. Moklebust, Choristers Guild CGB175, 3-5 oct, L3 OR CGB763 2 oct.)

Easter: It's just worked out that my groups seldom play on Easter, so I don't have a long list of favorites. But we often are in worship the next Sunday, and here are some we've used: *Christ is Alive* (arr. Kinyon, Agape 2070, 3-5 octs, L3+), *The Strife is O'er* (arr. Sherman, Agape 1847, 3-5 octs, L3) and *Alleluia! The Strife is O'er* (arr. Kerkorian, Jeffers JHS9166, 2-3 octs, L2.)

Sharon Schmidt ~ Illinois State Chair



Area 8 Resource Library

The lending library is available to handbell directors and ringers, as well as educators and students. Materials may be checked out for 30 days for only the cost of postage.

Check out DVDs and CDs of festival concerts and performances of handbell ensembles on the national and international stage. The Tempo Setters series features interviews with top handbell clinicians and composers. Instructional DVDs are also available.

The publications library includes books on conducting, score study, technique, rehearsal tips, and many other topics to help you and your choirs reach their potential. See the full listing on the Area 8 website.

To request materials, contact Kathy Harrison, <u>resourcelibrarian@area8.handbellmusicians.org</u>, or call 417.888.0089.

BCDR.ORG

From Acting Iowa Chair, Patrick Gagnon:

I love *Gethsemane* (Red River Music, MRRBL5022) by Nancy Hascall, especially for a **Good Friday ser-vice**; a level 3 setting for 3-5 octaves of bells, 2 octaves of chimes, with a lovely introduction about the thoughtfulness of the piece. This is both a challenge to prepare, and a satisfying piece to ring. We added a G2 chime at the *big selective damp* moment which was stunning.

From former Iowa Secretary, Carolyn Sternowski:

If you are looking for a way to use one of the many alto sax players in your congregation, look no further than this fine arrangement of *I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger* (Red River Music, MRRHB0017) by Hart Morris, scored for 3-5 octaves of bells plus alto sax. Its bluesy style makes it perfect for **Lent** or a **funeral** service.

From Des Moines Area Representative, John Cook:

Sandra Eithun's *Fanfare on O Worship the King* (AGEHR, AG35215) for 3-5 octaves and trumpet interweaves *O Worship the King* with Handel's *Water Music* in a charming and challenging setting that hits all the right notes for the **Easter** feel.

Fanfare of Triumph (Red River Music, MRRSM7003) by Michael Joy for 3-7 octaves. Michael's *Fanfare* is just a rollicking good time and clocks in at just about two minutes. The piece is perfect for **Easter** prelude and the music just explodes out of the bells. Great piece!!!

Wishing you and your handbell musicians a very happy holiday season and a new year filled with plans to RING DAVENPORT!

Patrick Gagnon ~ Acting Iowa Chair

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Do not forget that the super early-bird special is fast approaching. **March 1**

Other deadlines to be aware of are: Advertising 1/15 Distinctly Davenport 3/1 Director's Pre-Conf Track 6/1 Showcase Concert 3/1 Spotlight Concert 1/31 Unpublished Music Reading Session 6/15 Youth Festival 5/1

> Super Early-Bird Special March 1, 2014



From Past Louisiana State Chair, Carol Fleeger

The Season of Lent runs from Ash Wednesday to Easter morning, lasting approximately six weeks, or 40 days if you leave off the Sundays. Here are some ringing ideas for **Lent/Easter**:

Wondrous Love (Oxford Press) arr. Sametz - Only nine bells. SSATB, bells, opt. congregation.

Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross (Choristers Guild Letters, Nov. 1995 pg. 20) by Hal Hopson. Uses C4 only as a tolling bell. Ring the bell before you read the text, read the text slowly, pausing after each word.

Jesus Remember Me (can be found in at least 25 hymnals) by Jacques Berthier. In "The Presbyterian Hymnbook", 1990, #599, choose one of the four ostinati to ring.

From Elizabeth Mulkey, Chancel Choir Director of St Paul's UMC in Lenexa, KS **Good Friday**: 2 options

Were You There from the (Methodist) hymnal. Add three singing bells for a hauntingly beautiful and moving version of this hymn. Here's how the bell part works. 1) Begin singing bell with E-flat/4. 2) Add singing bell A-flat/4. 3) Add singing bell B-flat/4. Choir or small ensemble sings a cappella. Verse 1: all bells sing; Verse 2: drop B-flat; Verse 3: drop A-flat. Singers drop out also with each verse. E-flat/3 bell or chime drones each verse at "tremble", then continues after hymn finishes and lights go out (if you are doing a dramatic evening service). All singing bells can be adjusted for the number of verses you choose to sing.

The sanctuary cross is draped in black cloth (removed at Easter.) As the service begins, the bell choir is in the back of the sanctuary with a random selection of bells. As the ministers process, the bells randomly ring. When the ministers near the altar, the bells begin ringing quarter note clusters of whatever bells they have in hand. As the drape is pulled from the cross and lands on the altar, the bells resolve into the major chord of the first hymn and ring those bells as four quarters and a whole note. It represents the chaos before Christ and then the peace of Christ.

Processionals for the Time of Lent, Go To Dark Gethsemane (Concordia #97-6524) by Semmann. Ring from the balcony or the back of church.

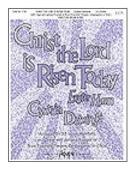
Less Than a Full Choir, Lent or Easter I Arr. Ingram, 3-6 ringers – perfect for small spaces! *Gethsemane* arr. T. Stults (free to Guild Members) See *Overtones*, Jan/Feb 2011.

From Marilyn Lake, Past-Chair of Area 8 **Easter**:

Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Agape 1738/1739) arr. Cynthia Dobrinski. A **wow** piece with 3-5 octave bell choir, organ, solo trumpet, timpani, or brass quartet and congregation. A soprano descant for verse 4 adds extra pizzazz.

Concertato on 'Thine is the Glory' (CGA-457) arr. Robert J. Powell is a simpler but dynamic piece for 2 octaves, organ, SATB, children's choir, congregation and 2 B-flat trumpets.

Submitted by Cherryl Cox ~ Kansas State Chair







Easter anthems with handbells

He Is Not Here! He Is Risen! (Hope C5506) by Allen Pote. SATB with organ, brass, bells, and timpani. A joyful, driving anthem.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (Hope 5321) by Hal Hopson. SATB and organ with congregation, brass, timpani, and 6 handbells. Ends with a touch of the *Hallelujah Chorus*.

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain (Belwin Mills OCT02549) arr. Benjamin Harlan. SATB with organ, brass, and handbells.

Palm Sunday anthems

Raise a Loud Hosanna (Lorenz 10/4085L) arr. Mary McDonald. A Hymn Concertato on *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* for SATB, congregation, brass, piano and organ.

Hosanna in the Highest (Beckenhorst BP1644) by Craig Courtney. SATB, organ, children's choir, brass, percussion, and bells. A majestic statement of the *Hosanna* text. The opening statement by the children is a nice touch.

Palm Sunday processionals

Hosanna Processional (Hope C5324) by Mark Kellner. SAB, 9 bells, and optional children's choir. A jubilant choir processional with an ostinato–like bell accompaniment.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor (CGB245) arr. Margaret Tucker. Processional, Prelude, and Hymn Accompaniment. Easily memorized. You may skip the prelude and go directly to the hymn accompaniment.

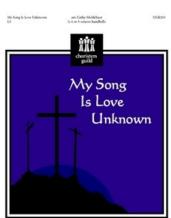
Processional on All Glory, Laud and Honor (Agape 1230) arr. Cynthia Dobrinski. 3-5 octave bells, organ, trumpet, and voices. My favorite processional and hymn accompaniment for Palm Sunday.

Maundy Thursday or Good Friday

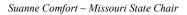
Aria for Handbells (AG34005) by Dale Wood. 3 or 4 octaves. A haunting setting based on the tune Via Dolorosa.

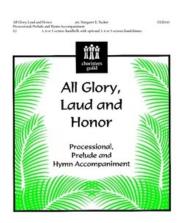
My Song Is Love Unknown (CGB203) arr. Cathy Moklebust. A poignant setting of the tune *Rosymedre*. Ringers shout "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" as the nails are driven.

Meditation on "Beautiful Savior" (CGB203) arr. Cathy Moklebust. Choristers Guild's all time biggest seller is wonderful for Lent, Advent, or any season. Now arranged for 2, 3, 4, and 5 octaves, it may be rung by multiple choirs. A powerful arrangement.









Published by Cloristers www.cloristerspublic

Now that winter is upon us, and the Christmas performances are behind us, what better time to be planning numbers appropriate for Easter and Lent.

Here are some favorites expected to be played across Nebraska for Easter:

Hymn Of Promise – Natalie Sleeth, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

My choir has been doing a different arrangement of this tune for many years, but recently, Dobrinski came out with a new and exciting arrangement of the piece which professes a new beginning. Level 2+, 3-6 oct., optional handchimes.

Easter Song – Anne Herring, arr. John Wilson

This is a festive arrangement, lot of big chords, bright with a joyful spin on a 1974 classic. Level 3, 3-5 oct.

The Resurrection and the Book – Tammy Waldrop

This is one of Tammy's classic narrative pieces she does so well...technically not difficult but provides lots of room for some interplay of some characters, ringers included, some acting required, and always a crowd pleaser. I have done it with children as the actors and it works great. Level 2+, 2-3 oct., optional handchimes.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today – Robert Williams, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Nice fresh take on another classic, lots of techniques utilized, big chords, very interesting to listen to and thus to enjoy the performance. Level 3-, 3-6 oct., optional handchimes.

Lamb of God – Twila Paris, arr. Tammy Waldrop

Something different for Easter, requires medium voice, vocal solo which carries the melody. This 1985 piece by Twila Paris has become an Easter standard, with its devotion and beauty and poignancy being fully expressed while being performed. Level 3, 3-5 oct., optional handchimes, C instrument, oboe, again, vocal soloist required.

<u>Ah Holy Jesus</u> – J. Cruger, arr. D. Kellermeyer

Here is an easier piece for Easter, perfect for a youth choir, although it requires 4 oct of bells...a nice alternative is to do the entire piece with handchimes. Very well received. Lots of LV required, needing to keep the bells moving. Level 1, 4 oct., optionally do with handchimes.

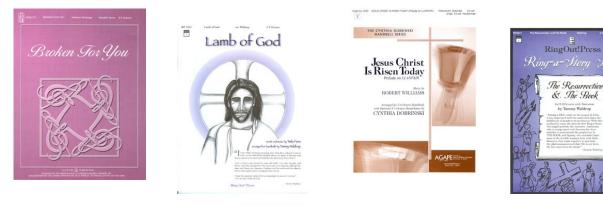
<u>Aria for Handbells</u> – Liander, arr. Wood

Nice piece for Lent, based on the tune "Via Deloroso", begins and ends quietly, with a big middle, designed to be rung very slowly with freedom. Level 3, 3-4 oct.

Broken For You – Kath Wissinger

This is a wonderful piece for Lent or Communion. It has a nice thoughtful melody leading to a sorrowful reflective mood. Level 3, 3-5 oct.

J. Michael Allen ~ Nebraska State Chair, with contributions from my committee members



Unpublished Music Reading Session returns to Area 8 Festival Conference

Ring Davenport will feature several repertoire reading sessions featuring music for handbells and handchimes for all seasons, all programs, and at all levels of difficulty. In addition to these valuable experiences, the Area 8 board will again offer a repertoire reading session for unpublished works. Specific information and Frequently Asked Questions can be found <u>here</u>.

Here are some basics:

- Unpublished repertoire reading session will occur on Friday, June 27, 2014, at 10:00 p.m. following the Bells of the Lakes performance.
- Any piece that is not currently under contract with a publisher is eligible.
- Composers must be present for the session.
- We encourage a full registration for the Ring Davenport Festival.
- Each composer will be allotted ten (10) minutes.
- Registration form must be received by June 15, 2014, preferably via email to <u>Patrick Gagnon</u>, Area 8 Chair-elect
- Dynamic and eminent composers Cathy Moklebust and Michael Glasgow will be in attendance, and will offer verbal and/or written feedback.
- Handbell equipment will be provided, but we will only guarantee five octaves of bells and chimes, along with appropriate mallets.
- Composers must provide 28 copies of each submitted piece
- Composers may submit two pieces based on overall number of registrations received by June 15, 2014.
- Anyone may attend to listen or to ring in the pick-up choir without registering for the session.
- Questions? <u>Patrick Gagnon</u> Here is the <u>registration form</u>.

See you in Davenport!







Showcase Concert to return in 2014 Ring Davenport Festival

Ring Davenport is shaping up to be one of our best offerings to date with world class facilities, clinicians, conductors, and first-rate music making by hundreds of your closest handbell friends. One experience the Area 8 board has brought back for 2014 is the popular Showcase Concert. Your choir is invited to ring one or two pieces in this concert which will be presented on the massed ringing floor in the River Center's Great Hall. For more information, go to this page on our <u>Area 8 website</u>.

In order to assure that we have adequate time for all groups wanting this opportunity, we must have your choir's application by **March 1, 2014**. Due to various deadlines associated with printing a program booklet for our event, and because your choir will want to plan early and show their best possible performance, we must adhere to this early registration deadline, which still allows you to take advantage of our GREAT super early-bird registration discount.

What are two favorite pieces from your group's repertoire? What are two new pieces you have always wanted to ring, but couldn't work into the program year?

Are you forming an orphan choir that will be gathering for rehearsals during the spring and summer? Why not add a piece and show us what the 'Fellowship of the Ring'ers can do?

Only groups with 75% of their membership registered for at least one day of the Ring Davenport Festival will be eligible for this opportunity, so talk this up with your ringers early in the new year. Festival is a wonderful place to share our unique way of making great music!

The Area 8 board hopes to provide this opportunity to as many as ten registered choirs, so gather your forces, plan your repertoire, practice until it's perfect, then come on down to Ring Davenport!



Spotlight Concerts featured at Ring Davenport Festival

The biennial gathering of our Area 8 commonwealth is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, to meet several hundred new friends, to learn new lessons, to be reminded about old lessons, and perhaps most importantly, to witness great music-making. Attendees at this summer's festival will hear three 30-minute spotlight concerts, two of which will be held in Davenport's historic Adler Theater; one of which will be in the beautiful Mississippi River Hall. Each of these concerts will feature an Area 8 choir that will be selected by audition.

Any type of group is welcome to apply. Lots of specific information can be found here.

An application form can be found here. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2014

It is truly a rare opportunity to have an audience made up of hundreds of handbell musicians – people who know what we do, how difficult it is, how important it is, and how rewarding it is. This 30 minute concert gives your group an opportunity to share your five best pieces with ringing colleagues from the midwest and beyond.

Applications will be reviewed by a small panel of Area 8 judges and applying choirs will be notified by March 1, 2014 of the panel's decision, including the time and location of the performance. Please forward any questions about this to Area 8 Treasurer/Registrar, <u>Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal</u>.

See you in Davenport!

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2014	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTAC	
Jan 6 7:30p	Chicago Bronze Auditions	Lutheran Church of the Cross 2025 S Goebbert, Arlington Hts, IL	Chicago Bronze	
Feb 1 8:30a	Super Bell Saturday Kathy Leonard	Trinity Lutheran 119 N Elm, McPherson, KS	<u>Kansas</u>	
Feb 1 9a-3:1 <i>5</i> p	Young Ringers' Festival KC Congdon	St Patrick's Church & School Wadsworth, IL	<u>Illinois</u>	
Feb 22 9a-4p	Handbell Workshop The Agape Ringers	First Baptist Oak Park, IL	<u>Illinois</u>	
Mar 1	Ring in the Spring John Behnke, Marilyn Lake, Kathy Ford	Church of the Resurrection 13720 Roe Ave, Leawood, KS	<u>Kansas</u>	
Mar 2 2p-8p	Middle/High School Handbell Festival Suanne Comfort	Peace Lutheran St Louis, MO	HAGSTL	
Mar 8-9	Nebraska Spring Ring KC Congdon	1st St Paul's Lutheran 501 N Burlington, Hastings, NE	<u>Nebraska</u>	
Mar 22	Handbell Ringing Skills	Gary UMC Wheaton, IL	<u>Illinois</u>	
Jun 25-28	Area 8 Festival <i>Ring Davenport</i>	Davenport, IA	<u>Area 8</u>	

rings.....

18+ member bell choir
5+ octaves of Schulmerich Bells
5 octaves of Schulmerich Chimes
3 octaves of Petit-Fritsen Bells

Up to \$5000 scholarship award for qualified ringers

For more information contact: <u>Dr. Byron Jensen</u>: 402.461.7361



Hastings College-710 N. Turner-Hastings, Nebraska 68901

CONCERT LISTINGS? CLICK BELOW

