



# Clapper Chatter

Minnesota • North Dakota • South Dakota • Wisconsin • Manitoba

**Volume 39 • Issue 2 • May 2025**

Area 7

Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA



**The Copper Ring returns!**



# Message from the Chair



*by Paul McKenzie*

We are a busy group! Ringing events! Concerts! Holy Week services!

I have attended many concerts these past few months, and I am impressed with the variety. I love the use of instruments, visuals and narration. Concerts seem to be employing compelling themes and expanded musical possibilities. Bravo!

Area 7 says a hearty “thank you” to the Mankato River Bend Bells who, after nearly 25 years of joyful ringing, have decided to donate their bells. A 3-octave set was given to Area 7 for the C.H.I.M.E. program, and their 4th and 5th octaves went to RingOut! Handbell Ensemble. May these bells continue to ring with gratitude to RBB.

As we march into summer, consider taking advantage of ringing opportunities at local and nation events.

Yours,  
Paul McKenzie 🎵

## STRIKEPOINT

### Summer Tour 2025

**Friday, August 1 • TBD**

Cathedral of Christ the King  
1410 Baxter Ave., Superior, WI

**Saturday, August 2 • 7:00pm**

St. Andrews Catholic Church  
501 NW 16th St., Grand Rapids, MN

**Sunday, August 3 • 7:00pm**

First Presbyterian Church  
650 2nd Ave. N., Fargo, ND

**Monday, August 4 • TBD**

First Baptist Church  
1555 Paul Bunyan Dr., Bemidji, MN

**Tuesday, August 5 • 7:00pm**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
1429 North Dakota St., Aberdeen, SD

**Wednesday, August 6 • 7:00pm**

Lutheran Memorial Church  
320 E. Prospect Ave., Pierre, SD

**Friday, August 8 • TBD**

Custer, SD

**Saturday, August 9 • TBD**

Glenwood United Parish Church  
10 17th Ave. NW, Glenwood, MN

**Sunday, August 10 • 7:00pm**

First United Methodist Church  
230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN

Artistic Director Derek Bromme • [dbromme@css.edu](mailto:dbromme@css.edu) • Duluth, Minnesota

# Get to know your Area 7 board

by Jennifer Cadwell

Do you want to share your talents with Area 7? Contact Jennifer at [pastchair.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:pastchair.area7@handbellmusicians.org) to see where we could use your help and expertise.



**Membership: Christina Herold**  
[Membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

Christina is your go-to person for everything regarding your HMA membership. Do you have questions about what kind of membership is right for you? Talk to Christina. Has your contact information changed? Please let us know so it can be updated. Area 7 has more than 200 members and is growing! Christina directs bells at Aldersgate UMC and rings with Twin Cities Bronze.



**Publications: Jen Welch**  
[Editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

Jen shares her immense skills putting together Clapper Chatter and the Area 7 Overtones Spotlight. Do you have info or pictures you would like to share? Ideas for an article? Send them to Jen to be included in the next issue of Clapper Chatter. Jen rings with Rochester Area Handbells.



**C.H.I.M.E. Rep: Michelle Finlon**  
[Chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

Michelle leads the Committee for Handbells In Music Education (C.H.I.M.E.). Each year, the C.H.I.M.E. grant provides either a 3-octave set of handbells or hand-chimes, plus pads and music to an Area 7 member to help develop and grow their handbell program. Past recipients have been senior living facilities, public and private schools, churches, and after-school programs. Applications are available now on the Area 7 website. Contact Michelle for more information. Michelle rings with Twin Cities Bronze.



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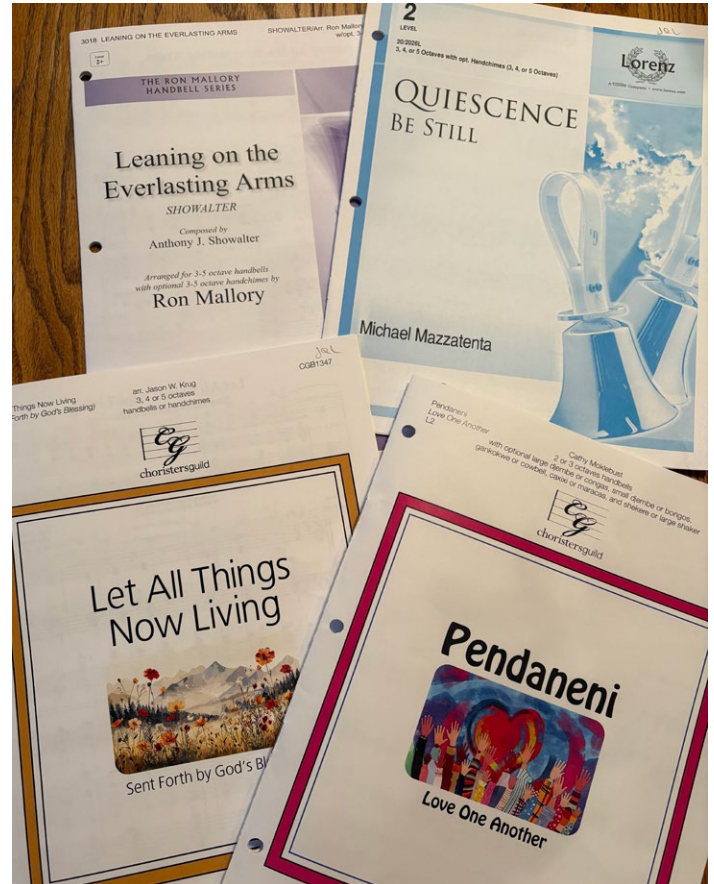
# The Copper Ring in Worthington, MN

by Jennifer Cadwell

On Saturday, April 26th, ringers gathered from Minnesota, Iowa, and South Dakota for a day of ringing led by clinician, Jennifer Cadwell.

We had wonderful hosts at the American Lutheran Church in Worthington, Minnesota. The ringers rehearsed three pieces in the morning and then learned a new piece after lunch that included percussion. We finished the day with a concert.

The majority of ringers in attendance had never been to a handbell workshop and were excited to experience massed ringing while increasing their skills. Area 7 looks forward to hosting additional Copper Rings throughout the region in the coming years that focus on Level 2 music. 🎵





## Bells of the Hills announce upcoming spring concert

Bells of the Hills, based in Rapid City, South Dakota, will be hosting a spring concert on Sunday, May 18, at 3:00pm (Please note the time change from original announcements). The concert will be held at South Canyon Lutheran Church, 700 South 44th Street in Rapid City.

All are welcome!

Save the Date  
*Spring Concert*





BELLS OF THE LAKES INVITES YOU TO:

# HOORAY FOR SPRING

Spring 2025

[bellsofthelakes.org](http://bellsofthelakes.org)

<b>SUNDAY, MARCH 30</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b> <b>Faith Lutheran Church</b> <b>11115 Hanson Blvd NW</b> <b>Coon Rapids, MN 55433</b>	<b>SATURDAY, MAY 10</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b> <b>Redeemer Covenant Church</b> <b>7801 Brooklyn Blvd</b> <b>Brooklyn Park, MN 55445</b>
<b>SUNDAY, MAY 4</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b> <b>Hamline United Methodist Church</b> <b>1514 Englewood Ave</b> <b>St Paul, MN 55104</b>	<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 7</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b> <b>Hennepin Ave United Methodist Church</b> <b>511 Groveland Ave</b> <b>Minneapolis, MN 55403</b>

Our mission is to promote musical excellence in performance, collaboration, and education through the medium of handbells.

# SEMINAR FOR RINGERS & DIRECTORS

## Bells of the Lakes

Join us this summer for our seminar to encourage and educate handbell ringers and directors. Choose from 3 different tracks: Director's Enrichment, Ringer's Toolbox, and Ringing 101. Seminar also includes a box lunch and an open instructive concert by Bells of the Lakes.

Register by June 1<sup>st</sup> to receive the \$40 early registration fee.

Register at [BellsoftheLakes.org](http://BellsoftheLakes.org)

**Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**9am-3pm**  
**Minneapolis, MN**



If you are interested in advertising in *Clapper Chatter*, we have a variety of plans that could fit your needs.

There is a 15% discount to advertisers who pay in advance for an entire year (four editions).

**\$30 for business-card size per edition**  
**\$55 for 1/4 page per edition**  
**\$65 for 1/2 page per edition**  
**\$80 for full page per edition**

If you would like to know more, contact Jen Welch at

[editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

**Deadline for the next  
issue of *Clapper Chatter*  
is August 10, 2025**

**Heitz Handbells  
and Music**

Carol Scheel

7209 Morgan Ave S Richfield MN 55423  
612-208-1741 877-426-3235

[www.heizhandbells.com](http://www.heizhandbells.com) [heizhandbells@yahoo.com](mailto:heizhandbells@yahoo.com)



# Find a Nearby Area 7 Community Group

## MINNESOTA

### **Bells of the Bluffs**

Redwing, MN

[bellsofthebluffs.org](http://bellsofthebluffs.org)

### **Bells of the Lakes**

Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

[www.bellsofthelakes.org](http://www.bellsofthelakes.org)

### **Ding Dong Dollies**

Twin Cities, MN

### **Great River Resonance**

St. Cloud, MN

[www.greatriverresonance.org](http://www.greatriverresonance.org)

### **Joy BRingers**

Fergus Falls, MN

[maryjane41@aol.com](mailto:maryjane41@aol.com)

### **Northfield Handbell Ensemble**

Northfield, MN

[www.facebook.com/NorthfieldHandbells](http://www.facebook.com/NorthfieldHandbells)

### **Ring Out!**

Minneapolis, MN

[www.ringoutmn.org](http://www.ringoutmn.org)

### **Rochester Area Handbells**

Rochester, MN

[rochesterareahandbells.org](http://rochesterareahandbells.org)

### **Strikepoint**

Duluth, MN

[www.strikepoint.com](http://www.strikepoint.com)

### **Twin Cities Bronze**

Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

[twincitiesbronze.org](http://twincitiesbronze.org)

### **wRight Ringers Community Handbell Ensemble**

Buffalo, MN

[www.facebook.com/wRightRingersHandbells](http://www.facebook.com/wRightRingersHandbells)

## SOUTH DAKOTA

### **Bells of the Hills**

Rapid City, SD

[www.bellsofthehills.com](http://www.bellsofthehills.com)

### **Sioux Empire Handbells/Heartland Handbells**

Sioux Falls, SD

[www.facebook.com/HeartlandHandbells](http://www.facebook.com/HeartlandHandbells)

## WISCONSIN

### **Bell Crazy Handbell Ensemble**

Lake Mills, WI

[www.facebook.com/groups/378241232198/979](http://www.facebook.com/groups/378241232198/979)

### **Encore! Handbell Ensemble**

Oshkosh, WI

[encorehandbellensemble.org](http://encorehandbellensemble.org)

### **Great River Ringers**

La Crosse, WI

[www.facebook.com/GreatRiverRingers](http://www.facebook.com/GreatRiverRingers)

### **Madison Area Concert Handbells**

Madison, WI

[madisonhandbells.org](http://madisonhandbells.org)

### **Maestro Productions Inc./Ringing Badgers**

Madison, WI

[www.maestroproductions.org/ringing-badgers.html](http://www.maestroproductions.org/ringing-badgers.html)

### **Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble**

Milwaukee, WI

[www.milwaukeehandbells.org](http://www.milwaukeehandbells.org)

### **Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers**

Milwaukee, WI

[sites.google.com/view/milwaukeeelgbtqringers](https://sites.google.com/view/milwaukeeelgbtqringers)

Don't see your group listed?

Contact [editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org)



**Sat May 10, 7pm**  
**Central Lutheran**  
**259 W Wabasha St**  
**Winona**

**Fri May 16, 7pm**  
**St John Lutheran**  
**111 2nd Ave NE**  
**Stewartville**

**Fri Jun 13, 7pm**  
**Peace UCC**  
**1503 2nd Ave NE**  
**Rochester**



Ring Out Presents:

# *Ringing Through the Storm*

May 8th, 2025 | 7pm  
 Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
 3920 Victoria St N, Shoreview, MN

May 17th, 2025 | 7pm  
 Sateren Auditorium | Augsburg University  
 1977 S 7th 1/2 St, Minneapolis, MN



RingOutMN.ORG



# An Exchange Between Peers

by Paul Kingsbury and Jill Mahr

Rochester Area Handbells (RAH) and the St. Olaf Handbell Choir (SOHC) recently met up for an exchange, a repeat of an experiment they tried two years ago. Patterned after a masterclass, we used a format where one group would play a piece while the other watched and then provided feedback. Even though we gave them permission to give helpful criticism as well as compliments, in typical handbell fashion the ringers gave almost entirely supportive comments.

Each group played three pieces. One of the SOHC pieces was composed by a current student, and the RAH members were very supportive and encouraged him to get the piece published. The RAH ringers were inspired by SOHC's speed, precision, and communication among the ringers. The two groups play on different brands of bells (SOHC on Malmarks, RAH on Schulmerich) and the students found it interesting to hear the difference in the sound. RAH also brought some of their additional bells (Whitechapels and Petit-Fritsen) and the SOHC ringers enjoyed hearing and trying those out.

A major goal of this exchange was to expose SOHC ringers to the idea of ringing after college. College students are all at about the same stage of life, and some have no ringing experience other than in college. So it broadened their minds to see ringers at all stages of life, and often with decades of ringing under their belts. RAH encouraged SOHC ringers to continue ringing and to seek out advanced opportunities at local, Area, and national events.

At the end the two groups played a piece together — Lee Afdahl's wonderful "Gopak" which happened to be in the concert rotation for each group. It was so much fun we played it twice! In addition to ringing, the two groups had time to mingle and share some homemade snacks.

We hope an event like this serves as a model for other groups to find opportunities to connect. Handbell ringing is ultimately about interpersonal connections, and any chance to form these connections helps lead to the creation of lifelong ringers. RAH and SOHC look forward to repeating this exchange again in the future, and RAH is looking for other college or community groups to partner with for similar exchanges. 🎵



# LOOK BACK & SPRING FORWARD!

*Handbell Concert Series*



**SATURDAY**  
**May 3 at 7pm**

Church of Our Saviour  
363 S Main St

**FOND DU LAC**

**SUNDAY**  
**May 4 at 4:30pm**

United Methodist  
1174 Algoma Blvd

**OSHKOSH**

**THURSDAY**  
**May 8 at 7pm**

Evergreen Retirement  
PRIVATE EVENT

**OSHKOSH**



Freewill Donations  
[encorehandbellensemble.org](http://encorehandbellensemble.org)



# Ensemble Spotlight: The Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers

*by Joe Dominic, Artistic Director of the Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers*

The musical journey for the Milwaukee LGBTQ+ handbell ringers (MQHR) began in June 2024. The ensemble rehearsed through the summer and performed their first concert that August. It was very well received. To the best of our knowledge, MQHR follow the Back Bay Ringers (Boston, MA; Griff Gall, Director), as the second community-

based handbell ensemble in the U.S. specifically founded by and for the LGBTQ+ community.

They're thrilled to share this distinction with Ring Out Minnesota (Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN; Logan Olson, Director), which also came into being last summer.



*MQHR in their inaugural concert in 2024.*



# RINGING QUEENS: A POP CONCERT

**Saturday, May 17, 2025**

**Memorial Lutheran Church | 7701 N Green Bay Ave, Glendale, WI 53209**

**6:30 PM Doors Open • 7:00 PM Concert**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

**Zao MKE Church | 2319 E Kendwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53211**

**2:30 PM Doors Open • 3:00 PM Concert**

**Pay-What-You-Will**

**MORE  
INFORMATION**



**Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers (MQHR)**  
is a community handbell ensemble based in Milwaukee, WI, USA, founded in 2024.  
We are the 2nd Handbell Ensemble to be founded for and by members and friends of the  
lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) community.



### Digital Resources Referenced in this article:

- ACT UP:  
<https://actupny.com>
- Back Bay Ringers:  
<https://backbayringers.org>
- Justice Choir:  
<https://www.justicechoir.org/#home>
- Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers:  
[https://sites.google.com/view/milwaukee-keelgbtqringers/home](https://sites.google.com/view/milwaukee-lgbtqringers/home) (Find videos from our August and December 2024 concerts)
- Ring Out Minnesota:  
<https://www.ringoutmn.org/home>

In December, MQHR had the honor of performing as guest musicians with the Milwaukee area's Concord Chamber Orchestra in their holiday concert. Sharing the stage with the orchestra was a transformative experience for the fledgling ensemble. Doing so, elevated their performance practice as they brought the brilliance of bells to the orchestra's already rich sound. Many audience members shared how much they enjoyed the ensemble's performance after the concert.

These musicians remain deeply moved by the many individuals and organizations, both near and far, who have reached out to support them financially, artistically, and emotionally. They feel your love and are full of gratitude.

Currently, the group is preparing for "Ringing Queens: A Pop Concert," which is coming up quickly on May 17-18, 2025. This show features a vibrant mix of music. This includes AGEHR Level 4 pieces that pushed them musically and strengthened them as an ensemble. It's been a labor of love, shaped by dedication and collaboration from every member. Over four months, with sixteen rehearsals (each over two hours long) and one epic six-hour Saturday session, the musicians have worked tirelessly to prepare something truly special. They can't wait to share it with you, a diverse and captivating selection of music that spans not just decades, but centuries. Indeed, it's a performance not to be missed!

If you're in the Milwaukee, WI area, know how to read music, and support the rights of and care about creating affirming spaces for LGBTQ+ folks, please join them! MQHR's mission is to live out these core values:

- Community, by bringing together musicians who identify as LGBTQ and beyond.
- Joy, through music-making.
- Inclusion, by creating a space where people of all backgrounds can express their authentic selves.
- Performance, by striving to create beautiful music across many genres; and
- Education, by telling both untold and familiar stories through music and word.

The Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers strive to make meaningful contributions to both the LGBTQ+ and broader Milwaukee communities, and to take their place in the long and rich history of queer art and artists. In that sense — and perhaps out of necessity — they embrace their identity with pride.

Does that make the ensemble political? In a time when the existence of LGBTQ+ people, especially for youth and those who fall under the trans umbrella, is being actively challenged, and when the basic promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" is being denied to so many, they echo the chant first raised by ACT UP during the AIDS crisis nearly 40 years ago: "We're here! We're queer! Get used to it!" Or to put it musically, as the amazing composer Abbie Betinis wrote in her anthem for Justice Choir (MN): "Resilience. We are strong. Shoulder to shoulder, keep moving on."

See you in May! 🎵



# An interview with Carol Scheel – businesswoman, composer, musician, and friend.

by Paul McKenzie

I had the distinct pleasure of sitting down with our friend, Carol Scheel, for a candid visit about bells and about life. Carol is a most fascinating person — even more interesting than we ever knew.

Carol comes from an academic family. Her parents were both scientists. They moved from the Detroit area to Vermillion, South Dakota where her father accepted a job as head of the biochemistry department at the University of South Dakota. She was 13.

Carol played the piano all through school and into college at Vermillion. After high school she attended

Interlocken Summer Camp and even played for Van Cliburn! During her college years she transferred to the University of Michigan for a time to pursue more piano instruction. However, they decided that piano performance might not be the correct course for her. While at Vermillion the Luther Center was home base and she changed her major to theater (also math, chemistry, and French.) She had the good fortune of seeing productions of the Covenant Players and eventually toured with them. She was fascinated with the idea of presenting faith-based themes on stage.

She graduated with a degree in chemistry and minors in French and math — minus 1 class. Her father really wanted her to complete the entire degree, so she later attended Gustavus Adolphus and graduated with a BA in Distributive Sciences. Whew!

More school...Carol enrolled at Luther Northwestern Seminary to become a Lutheran pastor. While at seminary she met a fellow student, Frank Scheel, whom she married after one year. They moved to Lancaster, Ohio for Frank's internship but did not continue with seminary.





Carol and Frank attended North Heights Church in Arden Hills, Minnesota and got involved in the contemporary music department. It is here that Carol saw the youth bell choir perform, and she knew that she had to try it. She eventually got involved with the adult bell choir and even became a youth bell choir director. She also worked at McDonald's, was a home caregiver, and a preschool substitute teacher. She then attended St. Thomas University where she completed a Master of Arts with a licensure in Early Childhood Special Education. She worked as a job coach with adults who have cognitive disabilities.

Carol met Norm Heitz at an Area reading session. Norm had started Heitz Handbell House in 1983 and was often at area events. Carol still wanted to work in music, so she convinced Norm that they should work together, and in January of 2010 they were business partners. The store had lots of bell music but also piano, organ, and choral music. Their business was in various locations and eventually made its way to 6603 Queen Avenue South in Richfield, Minnesota. Norm died in 2013.

At that location, people were free to browse, play through music, and visit. Remember when we went to reading sessions, listened to CDs, and paged through publisher catalogues? Then came COVID. Naturally, business severely declined. Since COVID, most musicians listen to and order music online, so Carol made the decision to move her business to her home garage. Interesting fact: Area 7 is not her biggest customer base.

Carol goes to many festivals and ringing events to sell her wares. T-shirts, gloves, handbell key chains, decorations, and embroidered towels are popular items, as well as music. She is especially interested in showcasing music for small ensembles and bell tree music. She really enjoys seeing her friends around the country and making new ones. She told me that she even keeps a chair at her booth for people to just "chill." She is quite willing to visit with them or just let them de-stress from the overwhelming pressure. Not everyone is an extrovert.

Outside of the bell world, Carol loves to read, do puzzles, and (of course) play the piano. She is a constant learner and has pursued composition.

She has a special place in her heart for the late composer, Arnold Sherman, who coached her at music writing seminars.

So, what's next at Heitz Handbells? Carol let me know that the business can be quite consuming — filling online orders, bookkeeping, hauling music, and doing website maintenance. So Carol is hoping that someone might like to purchase the business. Yes, she might be ready to retire. With all of the business burdens and life's challenges, Carol is still the enthusiastic musician, colleague, and friend! I say bravo to a full life of learning and growing and serving. 🎵



*Carol and the Heitz Handbell tables are a staple of not only Area 7 festivals and events, but for ringing events across the country.*



# MADISON AREA CONCERT HANDBELLS

Nicholas Bonaccio, Music Director

Featuring Jaret Schroeder, organ

present

# Dreams & Visions

**Saturday, May 17, 7:00 PM**

Covenant Presbyterian Church

326 S Segoe Rd

Madison, WI

**Sunday, May 18, 3:00 PM**

First Congregational United Church of Christ

1609 University Ave

Madison, WI

A one-hour kid-friendly relaxed concert will be presented at  
Covenant Presbyterian Church at 3:00 PM on Saturday, May 17.

See [www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org) for more information.

Scan for tickets



Tickets available online at [www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org)

\$18 Adults

\$15 Senior/Student

\$12 Child (12 and under)

All prices +\$2 at the door





# From the Southern Wisconsin Sub-Chair



by Lisa Bourget

Ah, spring! When handbell concerts are in bloom! Check out these offerings in Southern Wisconsin:

- Bell Crazy's "Finding Joy" afternoon concerts on May 3 and 4 in Madison and Portage, WI.
- Milwaukee LGBTQ+ Handbell Ringers "Ringing Queens: A Pop Concert" on May 17 (evening) and 18 (afternoon) in Glendale and Milwaukee, WI.
- Madison Area Concert Handbells "Dreams and Visions" concerts on May 17 (afternoon and evening) and 18 (evening) in Madison, WI.
- Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble concerts on May 30 (evening), May 31 (evening), June 1 (afternoon) and June 2 (evening) in Watertown, Wauwatosa, Fond du Lac, and Brookfield, WI.

Looking ahead, summer offers two ringing opportunities in Southern Wisconsin — but act now to register:

- Register by July 1 (early bird discount May 15) for the July 28-31 Summer Handbell Camp in Brookfield, WI, with clinician Sandra Eithun. This workshop for musicians who love to ring has daily rehearsals that emphasize hands-on learning and group performance. Selections range in difficulty from Level 2+ to Level 4+ of sacred and secular music. There will be a concert Thursday, July 31, at 7:00pm featuring handbell selections from the workshop; all are welcome! Learn more by visiting [www.gardensonarts.com/handbell-camp](http://www.gardensonarts.com/handbell-camp)
- Register by July 1 for the August 6-8 Handbell Week 2025 in Madison, WI, with clinicians Mark Bloedow and Ann Kivikko. The workshop offers mass ringing by all participants and two track options based on music difficulty levels (Track 1 has Level 2 and 3 music; Track 2 has level 3 and 4 music.) Learn more and register at [www.maestromeb.com/handbell-week.html](http://www.maestromeb.com/handbell-week.html) 🎵



## Handbell Musicians of America Membership Levels

Individual Membership: \$95/year

Group Membership for your church, school,  
organization: \$95/year

Retired Director Membership (65-plus, no longer  
leading an ensemble): \$70/year

Student Membership (full-time college or high  
school student): \$25/year

Sub Membership (individuals ringing with an  
organization that has a group membership):  
\$10/year

For more information, contact Christina Herold  
[membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

# From the C.H.I.M.E. Representative



by Michelle Finlon

## **Area 7 CHIME Grant: Multiple sets available, many reasons to apply**

Area 7 is now accepting applications for CHIME Grants that will be awarded for the 2025-2026 program year.

The Committee for Handbells in Music Education (CHIME) encourages schools and other educational or community organizations to develop music education programs using handbells or handchimes in their curriculum. To enable the start and growth of these programs, Area 7 has five CHIME Grants available to be awarded each program year (September-May). The Grant provides a 3-octave set of handbells or chimes, foam pads, music, technique manuals, curriculum suggestions, and mentoring to support the organization throughout the term of the grant.

The Grant has also been awarded to support existing handbell programs that may need an additional set of bells for shorter periods due to various reasons. Some examples from the past include groups that had

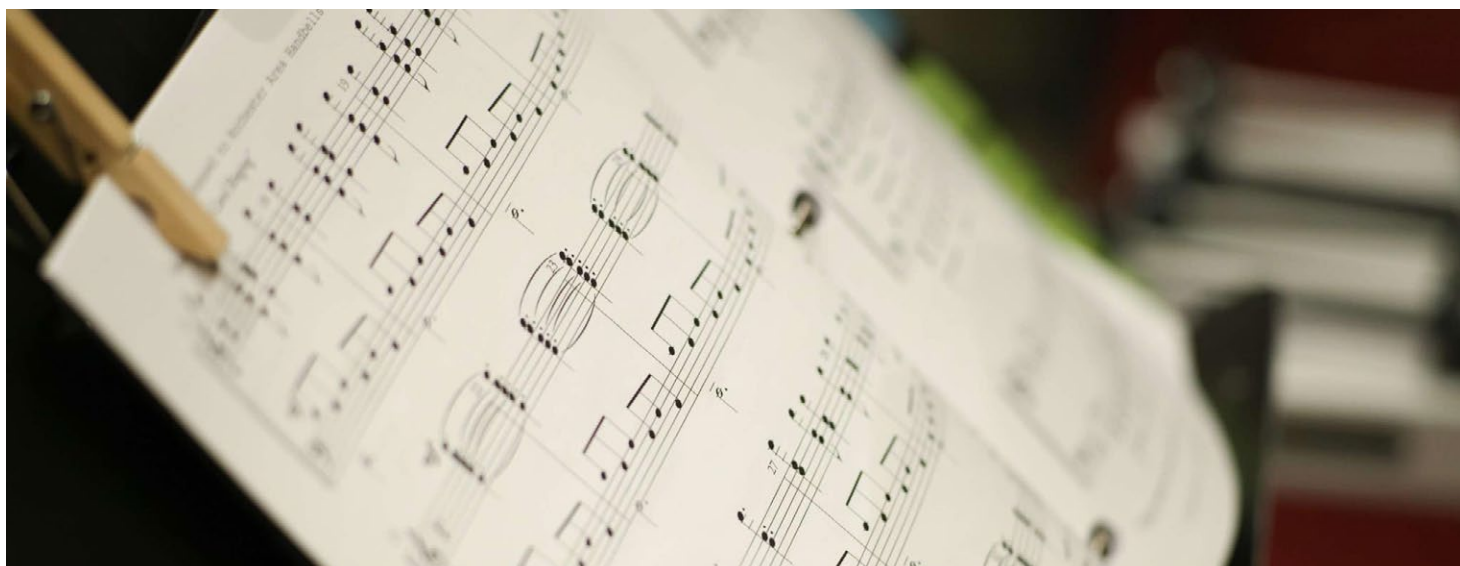
an increased number of participants in the program, a special performance that combined multiple choirs together, or their bells/chimes were away for maintenance.

The Grant has been awarded to schools, churches, senior living facilities and other community organizations within the Area 7 region. Some awardees in the past years include:


- Homestead Senior Living – Rochester, MN
- Maple Grove Lutheran Church – Maple Grove, MN
- Mobile Hope Ministry – Corcoran, MN
- Prince of Peace Lutheran School – St. Cloud, MN
- Reek Elementary School – Lake Geneva, WI
- St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School – Corcoran, MN
- Trinity Lutheran Church – Spooner, WI

If you are interested in applying for one of the 2025-2026 grants, or know of an area school, church, or community program that would benefit from this opportunity, please reach out to Michelle Finlon, [chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org) for more information.

You can also view the Grant application on the Area 7 website: [area7.handbellmusicians.org/c-h-i-m-e-grant-program](https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/c-h-i-m-e-grant-program) 🎵







*A World of  
Bells*

**MILWAUKEE HANDBELL  
ENSEMBLE CONCERT**

<b>Friday, May 30, 2025 • 6:30 PM</b> Immanuel Lutheran Church N572 Co Rd R. Watertown, WI	<b>Saturday, May 31, 2025 • 6:30 PM</b> St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 1615 N Wauwatosa Ave. Wauwatosa, WI
<b>Sunday, June 1, 2025 • 3:30 PM</b> Hope Lutheran Church 260 Vincent St. Fond Du Lac, WI	<b>Monday, June 2, 2025 • 7:00 PM</b> Unity Lutheran Church 4600 Pilgrim Rd. Brookfield, WI

***All Concerts are Free Will Offering***

# From the Area 7 Events Coordinator



by Alanna Teragawa

Here's a look at upcoming Area 7 events to watch for. Planning also is well-underway for the Area 7 2026 Festival!

## YOUNG RINGERS CAMP 2025

### CANCELLED

Due to low registrations, the 2025 Young Ringers Camp has been cancelled. There is hope that the Camp can be held in 2027. This event is hosted on odd-numbered years only.

## ANTHORNIS 2025

Friday, October 31 to Saturday, November 1, 2025  
Westwood Lutheran Church  
St. Louis Park, MN

*Clinician:* Amy Maakestad

### Costs:

- \$165 for non-HMA members. Price includes one-year HMA membership with all of its benefits.
- \$70 per person for HMA members or members of an HMA member organization.
- \$15 per person for Friday night reading session only.



*Maakestad*

Registration will open September 1st.

Friday Reading Session 7:00 – 8:40PM: Sight-read a variety of handbell compositions that highlight different techniques and skills.

Saturday Schedule 8:30AM – 3:30PM: Rehearsal of the repertoire listed in the box below to prepare for the 3:30 concert. Concert is open and free to the public.

### AGAIN THIS YEAR:

Westwood Lutheran Church has invited ringers of this Anthornis event to participate in their Sunday worship service November 2nd at 9:00AM. We will need enough ringers for one 5-6 octave choir. Indicate your willingness to participate in this event during the registration process. Those selected will receive a \$30 reimbursement. One or two of the songs from this year's Anthornis event will be performed.

More event information can be found online at

<https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/anthornis-2025>

### *Anthornis Repertoire*

- Song of the Flowers – Kevin Mazimas Ko  
3-5oct L4 AG806777
- From Everlasting to Everlasting – Julie Turner  
3-7oct L3 SONOLOGY
- Rondo Passacaglia – Cynthia Dobrinski  
4-5oct L3+ HP1237
- Canticle for a Festive Day – Kevin McChesney  
3-6oct L5 HB182
- After the Silence – Jason Krug 4-8oct CGB1288

## START MAKING PLANS TO ATTEND THE AREA 7 2026 FESTIVAL CONFERENCE

June (25) 26-28, 2026  
River's Edge Convention Center  
St. Cloud, MN

[www.visitstcloud.com](http://www.visitstcloud.com)

[www.stcloudriversedgeconventioncenter.com](http://www.stcloudriversedgeconventioncenter.com)

Follow updates on the Area website:

<https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/festival-2026>





*Rivera-Aponte*



*Mahr*



*Cadwell*



*Kingsbury*

#### *Costs:*

- \$345 for full 3-day Festival for non-HMA members, includes one-year HMA membership with all of its benefits, or \$215 per person Daily Rate for either Friday or Saturday only.
- \$250 per person for HMA members or members of an HMA member organization for full 3-day Festival, or \$120 per person Daily Rate for either Friday or Saturday only.

#### *Lodging:*

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn Hotel attached to River's Edge  
\$142 per night plus taxes for the following options:  
2Q, 2Q-Dlx plus sofabed, 1K, or 1K-Dlx plus sofabed

#### *Clinicians:*

- Carlos E. Rivera-Aponte – from Puerto Rico
- Conductor of Co-Massed Ringing, Bronze Division and Bronze Plus Ensemble
- Jill Mahr – from Northfield, MN
- Conductor of Co-Massed Ringing and Copper Division

#### *Festival Repertoire*

##### **MASSED RINGING – all ringers**

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE – Hart Morris  
3-5oct L3+ HP2684

VIGOREAUX – Barbara Scheffter 3-5oct L3  
FM20860

ALONG THE WATER – Sandra Eithun 3-6oct  
L3 AG36071

SKYE BOAT SONG – Matthew Compton  
3-7oct L3 EGM111, with viola/cello & 2 voices

In addition to the Massed Ringing pieces,  
choose one division based on your skill level:

##### **COPPER DIVISION**

ADORO DE DEVOTE – Jason Krug 3-6oct  
L3- GMH350031, with cello

PSALM 139 – Fred Gramann 3-6oct L3-  
CGB1276

##### **BRONZE DIVISION**

NOVUS – Jason Krug 5-6oct L4+ FM20568

AURORA – William Payn 5-7oct L4+ CGB1320

Jennifer Cadwell – from Maple Grove, MN

- Conductor of the Conference Choir
- Paul Kingsbury – Rochester Area Handbells
- Showcase Concert on Friday night – open to the public

#### *Specialty choirs:*

For those who want more ringing time than class time, there are two options for an additional fee and an additional performance:

**CONFERENCE CHOIR** – Join one of the two choirs that represent this ensemble, with a skill level of up to L3+

LIGHT OF THE WORLD – Jason Krug 5oct handbell choir and a 5 oct handchime choir. HB493

ASHOKAN FAREWELL – Sandra Eithun/Jay Ungar  
3-6oct L3 HP3019

COMMISSIONED PIECE based on the hymn tune  
DUKE STREET – Matthew Compton – in honor of  
Jennifer Cadwell's service to Area 7 as Chair and to  
those who served with her.

**BRONZE PLUS ENSEMBLE** – For those who can proficiently ring Level 5 music. The first 14 qualified applicants will be accepted.

**AMERICAN CARILLON** – James Weber 5-7oct L4 HB625

**ALLEGRO CON FUOCO** – Arnold Sherman 3-7oct L5 HB825

**SI TUVIERAS FE (If You Have Faith)** – Brian Seemann 3-7oct L5 FM20707

## FESTIVAL CLASS TOPICS & FACULTY

CALL FOR FACULTY for the Area 7 2026 Festival Conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota  
Classes are taught on June 26-27 (Fri & Sat)

Area 7 is seeking faculty for 60-minute class periods during its 2026 Festival. Faculty get paid by the number of classes taught.

Listed below are the great class topics already selected:

- Motivate & Educate Children About Bells & Chimes
- Reading Session: Use of Alternative Instruments in Handbell Music
- Drum Circle
- Smooth Operator
- Craft Classes
- Healthy Ringing & Adaptations for those with Injuries
- I'm New Here, Now What?
- Handbell/Handchime Maintenance

- The Fun of Non-Performing Handbell Ensemble
- Using Media to Engage Your Audience
- Copyright/ASCAP Laws
- Conducting – A Refresher or a Beginning

Listed here are the names of secured faculty:

- Cathy Moglebust
- Tracey Bowers
- Jennifer Cadwell
- Cheryl Ulmer
- Michelle Jensen
- Mary Yerks
- Monica McGowan
- Paul Kingsbury
- Amy Maakestad
- Jeff Cadwell
- Bonnie Tranby

Would you (or could you recommend someone to) teach one of these classes?:

- Bell Trees
- Interesting Rehearsal Warm-Ups
- Stage Fright – How to Recover When Lost during a Performance
- Games
- Other Non-Bell classes
- Reading Session – Theme 1
- Reading Session – Theme 2
- How to Plan a Workshop

What other classes would you like to see offered?

Reply to Alanna Teragawa by June 1st at

[events.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:events.area7@handbellmusicians.org) 🎵

## WIN A FREE FESTIVAL REGISTRATION!

Design a logo for the 2026 Festival in St. Cloud, Minnesota  
June 26-28, 2026

***THEME: DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE***

Entries must be received by July 15, 2025

Send to Jennifer Cadwell, [PastChair.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:PastChair.area7@handbellmusicians.org)



**JOIN US...**

# **HANDBELL CONCERT**

**SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2:30PM**

Caledonia Presbyterian Church  
Hwy 78, Portage



**FREE ADMISSION**

**UNDER THE  
DIRECTION  
OF KAREN M.  
JOHNSON**



# Area Events Calendar

**July 6-12, 2025** (for grades 5-Adult) or

**July 26-29, 2025** (for 21+)

## **INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CAMP**

International Peace Garden, Dunseith, ND

[Internationalmusiccamp.com/programs-and-sessions/music/handbells](https://internationalmusiccamp.com/programs-and-sessions/music/handbells)

**July 9-12, 2025**

## **PINNACLE**

A National Event

Wichita, KS

[handbellmusicians.org/event/pinnacle-2025](https://handbellmusicians.org/event/pinnacle-2025)

**October 31-November 1, 2025**

## **ANTHORNIS**

An Area 7 Event

Clinician: Amy Maakestad

Westwood Lutheran Church

St. Louis Park, MN

[area7.handbellmusicians.org/anthornis-2025](https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/anthornis-2025)

**June (25) 26-28, 2026**

## **AREA 7 FESTIVAL**

Rivers Edge Convention Center

St. Cloud, MN

[area7.handbellmusicians.org/festival-2026](https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/festival-2026)

For additional information, go to [area7.handbellmusicians.org/events](https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/events)

## Area 7 Board

### **Chair**

Paul McKenzie

[chair.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Chair-Elect**

Monica McGowan

[chairelect.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chairelect.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Past Chair**

Jennifer Cadwell

[pastchair.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:pastchair.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Secretary**

Deb Madel

[secretary.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:secretary.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Treasurer**

Theresa Jacobson

[treasurer.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:treasurer.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Publications**

Jen Welch

[editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Webmaster**

Paul Weller

### **C.H.I.M.E. Representative**

Michelle Finlon

[chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Membership Coordinator**

Christina Herold

[membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:membership.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Events Coordinator**

Alanna Teragawa

[events.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:events.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Youth Events Planner**

Jessica Haeder

[youthevents.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:youthevents.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Historian and Media Library Coordinator**

Dan Ahlman

[historian.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:historian.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **North Dakota Sub-Area Chair**

Open

[ndakota.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:ndakota.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **South Dakota Sub-Area Chair**

Cheryl Ulmer

[sdakota.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:sdakota.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Northern Minnesota Sub-Area Chair**

Jordan Goodwater

[minnesotanorth.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:minnesotanorth.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Southern Minnesota Sub-Area Chair**

Paul Kingsbury

[minnesotasouth.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:minnesotasouth.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Twin Cities Metro Sub-Area Chair**

Akudo Omeoga

[twincities.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:twincities.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Northern Wisconsin Sub-Area Chair**

Denean Smith

[wisconsinnorth.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:wisconsinnorth.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Southern Wisconsin Sub-Area Chair**

Lisa Bourget

[wisconsinsouth.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:wisconsinsouth.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Manitoba Representative**

Ron Vert

[manitoba.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:manitoba.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

### **Registrar**

Trevor Lee

[registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org)