

## CURRENT REPERTOIRE

*All Creatures of Our God and King* – arr. Dobrinski  
*Still, Still, Still* – arr. Moklebust  
*The Holly and the Ivy* – arr. Anthony  
*Winter Carillon* – Mitchell Eithun  
*An English Carol* – arr. Sherman  
*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* – Sears/  
Sherman  
*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* – arr. Dobrinski  
*Hark! Christmas Bells* – arr. Behnke  
*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow* – arr. Dobrinski  
*Let It Go (from Frozen)* – arr. Tucker  
*In a Manger* – arr. Raney  
*Winter's Waltz* – Krug  
*Wizards in Winter* – arr. Greer & Waugh  
*Sleigh Ride* – Anderson/Thompson

## CAPITAL CITY RINGERS

Director: Nicole Leppala

Ringers: Natalie Blunt, Ashley Dickins, Mitchell Eithun, \*Corlie Eldred, Kim Finison, Lindsay Finison, \*Lorraine Finison, David Hafey, Marty Herman, \*Rick Hobla, Marcia Hollopeter, Gary Masters, Laura Sparks, Shannon Spasova, and Stuart Talsma

Narrator: Rich Weingartner

\*section leaders



# Ring Tones

Newsletter of  
**The Capital City Ringers**

Fall

2017

## UPCOMING CONCERT SCHEDULE

CCR's 34th Annual Holiday Concert, "Ring in the Season," features holiday songs and favorite carols. See the repertoire list on the back page of this newsletter. In addition to handbells and handchimes, the concert features clarinet, keyboard, bass guitar, trap set, and a variety of percussion instruments. Come and join us for some holiday music and entertainment at these venues:

- **University Lutheran Church**, 1020 S. Harrison Rd., E. Lansing 48823; Sunday, Dec. 3, at 4:00 p.m.
- **St. James Catholic Church**, 1010 S. Lansing St., Mason 48854; Monday, Dec. 4, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Asbury United Methodist Church**, 2200 Lake Lansing Rd., Lansing 48912; Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7:00 p.m.

Donations will be gratefully received at our Lansing-area concerts. For directions, maps, and complete concert information, go to the Concerts tab on our website, [www.capitalcityringers.com](http://www.capitalcityringers.com).

## THANKS, CORPORATE SPONSORS!

CCR thanks our current corporate sponsors:

Along the Fence Daylilies, Dansville  
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CCR is seeking additional sponsors for 2017-2018. For a minimum \$50 annual donation, we will include your business card-size advertisement in our local concert programs and on our website. If you would like to become a sponsor, contact Lorraine Finison at 321-3221 or visit CCR's website at [www.capitalcityringers.com](http://www.capitalcityringers.com).

**Please Note!** We've gone green! Except for Friends of CCR and those who request paper copies, we have switched to email communications only. Send an email to the above address to provide your email address or to be removed from our list. Call 321-3221 if you need to receive paper mailings.

Capital City Ringers  
[info@capitalcityringers.com](mailto:info@capitalcityringers.com)  
1104 Alexandria Drive  
Lansing, MI 48917

### **BECOME A FRIEND OF CCR**

CCR has **seven** octaves of Malmark handbells, the largest set in the area and one of two sets that we know of in Michigan. While we still plan to purchase the lower 7th octave handchimes (C2 to F#2), costing about \$6800, we are starting a new project this spring: we plan to start the process of producing a new CD, which is a very costly (but fun!) undertaking.

We appreciate the donations of our many Friends. Please consider becoming a Friend of CCR, if you aren't already. We have enclosed a form for your tax-deductible contribution. Your name(s) will be listed on our website, in the **Ring Tones**, and in our Lansing-area concert programs.

### **WE FOUND REHEARSAL SPACE!**

We were able to lease space at Capital Data, Inc., on W. Main in Lansing and moved there in early January. Owners Mark and Lola Holmes have been very welcoming and we appreciate their hospitality!

There's a lot of hard work (and fun!) that happens in our rehearsals as we prepare our concerts for you. If you'd like to drop in for a visit during one of our Monday evening rehearsals, you are most welcome to do so.

### **Ringling in an Open Sleigh**

During the 2016 holiday season, CCR performed "Ringling in an Open Sleigh," based on a 1949 episode of the popular radio show, *My Favorite Husband*, starring Lucille Ball. That show later morphed into the hit TV series, *I Love Lucy*. The program, with script written by CCR's director, Nicole Leppala, told the story of a hapless cast of handbell ringers on a madcap quest for a Christmas tree using a "borrowed" sleigh. Oh, boy!

The concert opened with *Holiday for Strings* (very interesting to play on handbells!) and closed with *Sleigh Ride*. One piece, *Bugler's Holiday*, featured our own Kim Finison on trumpet. A medley of Vince Guaraldi's songs from the classic TV special, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, was an audience favorite.

As usual, Rich Weingartner, "the Voice of CCR," provided narration for the program. CCR was further assisted by local acting talent Adam Carlson, Carly Leppala, and Ernie Block. Carly and Ernie also soloed vocally on *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

A secondary theme for the 2016 holiday season was St. Paul. CCR performed at St. Paul Lutheran in Flint, St. Paul's United Methodist in Rochester, and St. Paul Lutheran in E. Lansing. The lone outlier was a performance at First United Methodist in Lansing!

### **CCR TRANSITIONS**

- Last year we welcomed **Melissa Klamer** as a new ringer, but now she's taking some time off after she, husband Lance, and their two daughters, Lydia and Christiana, welcomed a baby boy, Karl, to the family on June 10. We wish them all well and look forward to Melissa's return some day in the not too distant future, hopefully!
- **Dave Hafey** came back from a year's sabbatical, and **Michelle Ridley** has taken at least this fall off to take several trips. Welcome back, Dave, and we miss you, Michelle!

### **Sounds from the American West and Beyond**

In the spring of 2017, CCR hit the ground running with two concerts in early February. First, we performed at the United Church of Big Rapids as part of the Big Rapids Festival of the Arts. A week later we performed at First Congregational UCC of Battle Creek as part of their winter concert series. Then, in April, we attended the Handbell Musicians of America Area 5 Festival at the Lansing Center, then concluded the season with a more traditional performance schedule of concerts at Faith United Methodist in Coleman, Delta Retirement Center in Lansing, Okemos Community Church, and Our Savior Lutheran in Delta Township.

The season's theme was "Sounds from the American West and Beyond." Most, but not all, of the selections had a clear association with the western motif. A medley of *Buffalo Gals*, *The Western Home*, and *She'll Be Comin' Around the Mountain* was led by guest conductor Laura Sparks and gave our director, Nicole Leppala, a chance to perform on the other side of the bell tables. *William Tell Overture* recalled childhood memories of the Lone Ranger, while *Song at Sunrise* featured our Melissa Klamer on flute. Rick Hobrla tried his hand at arranging music with an arrangement of *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*. The song concluded with what is likely the very first fatality ever recorded resulting from a handbell duel. We closed with a rousing version of the theme from the *The Magnificent Seven*.

### **MEET CCR'S NEWEST RINGERS**

• **Ashley Dickins** (a.k.a. *Tinkerbell*) is excited and honored to join CCR this fall! She has been ringing since age 8 at First UMC in Eaton Rapids. She graduated from Eaton Rapids H.S. in 2016 and is currently a sophomore at MSU, majoring in Graphic Design. In addition to ringing bells, Ashley played flute and piccolo in band. Her favorite piece was Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*, but she's not so sure now that she has to play it on bells!

• In addition to her parents, Ashley's family includes two younger brothers and six cats. She enjoys drawing and reading in what little spare time she has! Besides carrying more than a full course load at MSU, Ashley also works part-time at Ulta in Frandor.

• **Mitchell Eithun** (a.k.a. *Bronze Fonz*) Mitchell grew up playing handbells at First Congregational UCC in New London, WI, under the direction of his mother, handbell composer/arranger Sandra Eithun. He graduated last spring from Ripon College (WI) with a B.A. in Mathematics and Computer Science and a minor in Music. He is now a graduate student in Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering at MSU.

• Mitchell has a deep love of music, particularly classical music. At Ripon, he played saxophone and clarinet in Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble and sang in Choral Union. Mitchell has played in Encore, a community handbell ensemble in Oshkosh, WI, and the Silver Lake College handbell ensemble. In addition to playing handbells, Mitchell writes for handbells and has 10 handbell compositions and arrangements in publication. In his spare time, Mitchell enjoys biking, video editing and collecting hymnals.

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Box Set: Any 3 for \$40.00  
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Aurora Bronzealis	_____	\$15 each	\$ _____
Season of Wonder	_____	\$15 each	\$ _____
It's Showtime!	_____	\$15 each	\$ _____
Merchandise total:			\$ _____

Mail completed form and check payable to:  
**Capital City Ringers**  
 1104 Alexandria Drive  
 Lansing, MI 48917

*Capital City Ringers Merchandise Order Form*

**CCR MERCHANDISE**

The following CCR CDs are available for purchase via the attached order form, at our concerts, or through our website (www.capitalcityringers.com):

“Aurora Bronzealis,” a recording taken from live holiday concert performances and featuring Christmas and winter-related songs, including Trans-Siberian Orchestra’s “Christmas Eve Sarajevo” and “Wizards in Winter” as the first and last tracks.

“Season of Wonder” includes carols and holiday songs, featuring a beautiful rendition of “I Wonder As I Wander” as track 1.

“It’s Showtime!” features show tunes of all eras, from George M. Cohan to Henry Mancini to John Williams.

Several other CCR logo items are available at our concerts. Check out the merchandise table and see our cool “stuff”!

To order by mail, complete the attached order blank and mail your check or money order to: Capital City Ringers, 1104 Alexandria Dr., Lansing, MI 48917. Add \$2.00 per order for shipping and handling.



**CCR FRIENDS 2017**

Platinum (\$1000 plus)  
 Eileen Ellis

Gold (\$500-\$999)  
 Kim & Lorraine Finison

Silver (\$250-\$499)  
 Robert Bappert  
 Mark & Marcia Hollopeter

Bronze (\$100-\$249)  
 Doug & Julie Anderson, Dale Armstrong, Don & Carol Christenson, Michael & Becca Donnally, Patty Donnally, Keith & Corlie Eldred, Bryce & Judy Forester, Rick Hobria, Bob Hodges, Rob & Nicole Leppala, Dick Masters & Nancy Berger, Barbara Scott, Laura Sparks, Rich Weingartner, Martha Woodward, Joel & Karen Wortley, Jane C. Wright

Copper (\$50-\$99)  
 Linda Aloyo, Travis Archer, Donald Bowman, Lettie Davenport, Charles & Halen Foster, Jerry & Barb Fuller, Terry & Sharon Graham, Claudia Heineman & Devern Chubb, Marla Holle, Marci Hooper, Susan Kilmer, Cecelia Kramer, Dan & Lois Krieger, Steven & Maria Leiby, Jennifer Lewandowski, Michael & Susan Mahoney, Paul & Nancy Marttila, Greg & Mary Masters, Sonia McCarty, Elaine Noffze, Wendy Pratt, Duane & JoAnn Russell, Rick & Lynn Russell, Carol Swinehart, Joan Travis, Frank & Linda Wheeler, Randy & Cricket Young

Tin (\$25-\$49)  
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*Friends of Capital City Ringers*

Contribution Levels	
Tin	\$25 - \$49
Copper	\$50 - \$99
Bronze	\$100 - \$249
Silver	\$250 - \$499
Gold	\$500 - \$999
Platinum	\$1,000 plus

Mail completed form and check payable to:  
**Capital City Ringers**  
 1104 Alexandria Drive  
 Lansing, MI 48917  
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