



## Madison Area Concert Handbells

# Messenger

Fall  
2014

### Join us for the *Bells of Christmas*

Greetings from MACH to you!

If you're like me, the holidays are a great time to reflect, looking backwards, and to look forward into the future as the new year comes. Those of us on academic schedules find ourselves between semesters, winding down one term and getting ready to start another. It's a great time to examine what's old and what's new.

The *Piae Cantiones* is a collection of medieval Latin songs, published in 1582. Their origins come from across Europe, including influences from Finland, Sweden, and Germany. Many of the tunes from the original collection are still heard today. Our *Bells of Christmas* concert opens with four new settings of these ancient melodies, all of which you will likely recognize ("O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is one).

We move from new settings of old tunes to new settings of new tunes. New and original pieces for handbells, in addition to a selection by Katy Perry and "Let It Go" from Disney's "Frozen," will be heard.

We move from old, to new, to borrowed next: pieces that were not written originally for handbells, including selections from *Messiah* and *The Nutcracker*. And finally, if the pattern holds, we have old...new...borrowed... so of course we must finish with *Blue* (and *White*) *Christmas*.

We hope you'll join us this holiday season for the *Bells of Christmas*.

**Friday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.**

Middleton High School  
Performing Arts Center  
2100 Bristol Street  
Middleton, WI

**Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m.**

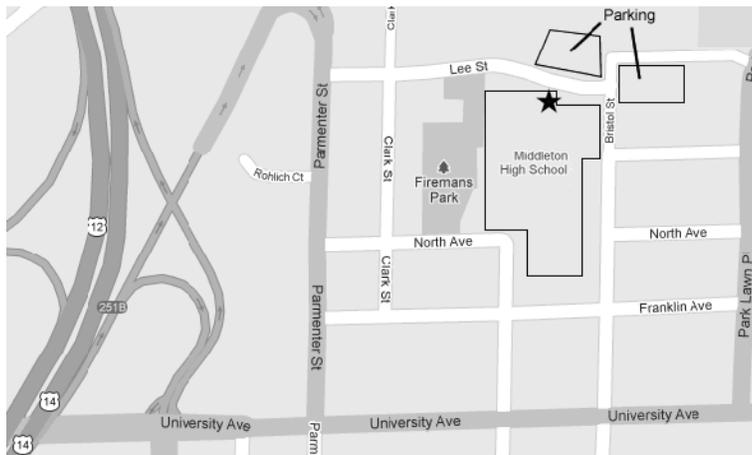
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church  
5700 Pheasant Hill Road  
Monona, WI

Advance: Adult \$12; Student (16 & under) /  
Senior \$9

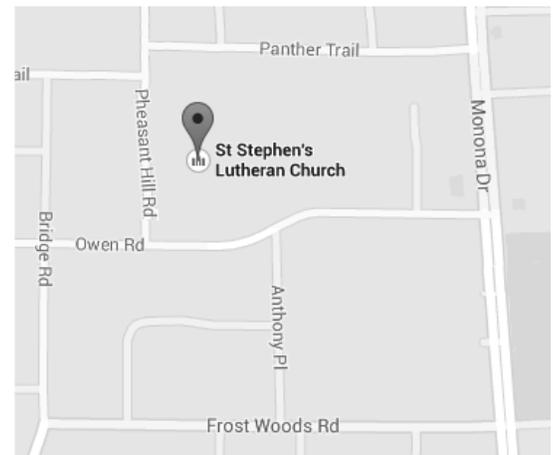
At the door: Adult \$15; Student (16 &  
under) / Senior \$12

Advance tickets will be available in  
December at Cool Beans Coffee Café,  
Ward-Brodtt Music, Metcalfe's Market at  
Hilldale, and Orange Tree Imports.

#### Middleton High School Performing Arts Center



#### St. Stephen's Lutheran Church



## MACH Makes the Most of “Make Music Madison”

“Make Music Madison” is becoming an annual tradition. It happens on June 21 each year celebrating the Summer Solstice. Following in the footsteps of a world-wide tradition that started in Paris in the 1980s, it is a free music festival featuring mini-concerts all over the city, including all types of music. Most of the performances are held outside and include both amateur and professional musicians.

MACH was pleased to participate this year, with a total of three performances: outside the Children’s Museum, in front of Fromagination on the Capital Square, and at First Congregational UCC near Camp Randall. A six-ringer ensemble came up with an eclectic mix of tunes to play including “Mexican Hat Dance”, “Take Me Out to the Ball Game”, “The Jeopardy Theme Song” and “The Lion Sleeps Tonight”. We also included some folk and patriotic favorites. Our rendition of “Singin’ in the Rain” proved prophetic as it was raining by our third performance.



We hope to continue this tradition as long as Madison does. We had some loyal “fans” that came out to see us at all three venues, and we hope to see them again next year!

## MACH Helps Keep the “Rhythm” Alive



MACH kept the volunteer spirit alive and well at this year’s “Rhythm and Booms” celebration on June 28th. Madison Festivals Inc operates “Rhythm and Booms” much like Brat Fest, wherein groups can sign up to work various volunteer shifts and earn funds for their organization. Several members of MACH, along with their families and friends, joined together to help with the morning setup along John Nolan Drive. We had fun and earned over \$300 for MACH. Come join us next year!

Special thanks to Justin Bain, Kallie Bain, Kim Robey, Kevin Brohough, Matt Stemrich, and Cody Corbett for joining us and working on behalf of MACH!

Looking for an easy way to support MACH? Do your amazon.com shopping through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to MACH. You can sign up by going to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1904070>. Thanks for supporting MACH!



Experience the uniquely beautiful music of one of America’s finest handbell choirs!

## MACH Welcomes Two New Ringers



**Natalie Handley** joins us for her first year of ringing with MACH, but spends most of her days surrounded by music. She is the Contemporary Worship Director at Christ Presbyterian Church, teaches voice and piano lessons, is a Christmas music fanatic, and is married to a cellist in the MSO. She first played handbells 8 years ago in her church choir, rang with them for 4 years, then took over directing the handbell choir for the next four years! When not doing music, Natalie can be found outdoors camping, kayaking, or working on their new house. Originally from very rural Michigan (da UP!), then living in very urban Evanston, IL, she is very happy to have moved to a happy-medium city like Madison last February.



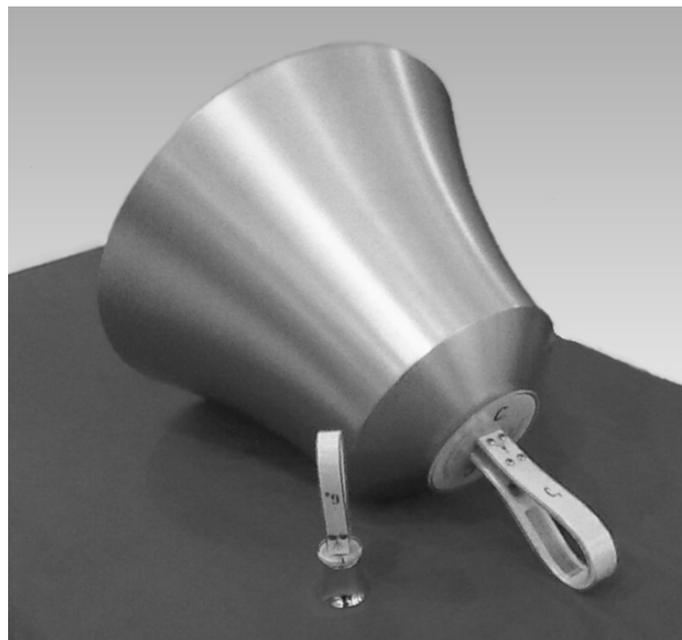
**Kris Lee** first picked up a handbell when she was exploring a variety of clubs as a freshman in college. With so much fun music at St. Olaf college, the handbell group proved to be a great way of being involved in music since she didn't sing and only played instruments (piano, violin) casually. She took a break from handbells while attending graduate school in Madison and starting her family. When she joined St. Luke's Church in Middleton 12 years ago, she eagerly joined their bell choir and hasn't stopped ringing. She has more time now that her nest is emptying and is excited to have a chance to add another day of bell playing to her week and be part of a group that can challenge her in new ways. When not ringing, she works as a biostatistician for one of the research groups at UW-Madison looking at eye diseases. She's been involved with Girl Scouts throughout her life and enjoys a variety of puzzles such as reading mysteries, Sudoku and jigsaw puzzles.

## Your Support is Appreciated!

MACH has grown throughout the years by offering seasonal concerts, educational workshops, and festivals in the community, region, and state. Although our ringers volunteer hundreds of hours of rehearsal and performance time, there are many costs associated with producing concerts and events. Some of these include music, performance space, concert advertising, postage and printing, compensation for guest artists, technical assistance, and artistic staff expenses.

Whether you are a long-time supporter or new friend, we invite you to consider helping us continue to make a positive impact on the artistic and cultural life in our community by making a financial contribution. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, your contribution to MACH is fully tax-deductible as your individual tax situation allows. Please mail your gift to:

Madison Area Concert Handbells  
P. O. Box 44056  
Madison, WI, 53744-4056



## Are you an experienced ringer? Come ring with us!

Does playing challenging and enjoyable music with a fun-loving group whet your appetite? To arrange an audition, contact us at [info@madisonhandbells.org](mailto:info@madisonhandbells.org) or by phone at 608-620-1997.

## How to Contact Us:

Madison Area Concert Handbells  
PO Box 44056  
Madison, WI 53744-4056  
608-620-1997  
info@madisonhandbells.org

Mark your calendar for

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Advance Tickets: \$12 / \$9\*  
At the Door: \$15 / \$12\*  
\*Student/Senior price

Group tickets available; info at  
[www.madisonhandbells.org/perform.html](http://www.madisonhandbells.org/perform.html)

Address Service Requested



# *Bells of Christmas*



## How to Get Concert Tickets

Tickets will be available in advance in December at Orange Tree Imports, Ward-Brodt Music, Metcalfe's Market at Hilldale and Cool Beans Coffee Café, and or by sending in the order form at [www.madisonhandbells.org/perform.html](http://www.madisonhandbells.org/perform.html). Tickets are also available at the door.



MACH's new CD, *A Festive Christmas!*, is now available. You can purchase one (or more — they make great Christmas gifts!) at our concerts or using the order form found on our website at [www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org).

See and hear us on the web!

[www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org)  
[www.youtube.com/machandbells](http://www.youtube.com/machandbells)

or Like us on Facebook