

HANDBELL HISTORY AT FAITH COMMUNITY UMC

Spring of 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of handbells at Faith Community United Methodist Church. In the fall of 1988, Rev. Stanley Lawrence had a dream for the music program of our church. While Stan was in the hospital recovering from a burst appendix, he asked Sue Newell if she would become FCUMC's new handbell director, provided funds were available to purchase the bells. Early in 1989, the church purchased the initial 3-octave set of handbells, funded by the 1988 Christmas offering. In April 1989, a group of volunteers demonstrated the bells to the congregation in the old sanctuary.

The Chancel Bell Choir's first full season began in September 1989. The original choir was comprised of both youth and adults (orig. members: Bill Cambridge, Sharon Clark, Susannah Detjen, Barb Hobe, Erin Hobe, Cal Kinney, Judy Lavash, Bonnie Monroe, Kristina Monroe, Becky Naegele, Carl Rullmann, Rita Rullmann, Michael Swigert, and Donna West). Chancel Bell directors have included Sue Newell (7 years), Dave Maroon (1), Michael Swigert (1), and Sharon Clark (11, current director).

In 1990 the choir was divided into two choirs (youth and adult). Directors for the Joyful Noise youth bell choir have been Sharon Clark (11 years), Julia Sager (2), Susan Crabtree (2), and Gwen Elvy (4, current director).

In its 20 years, more than 80 youth and 50 adults participated in the handbell ministry.

The fourth octave of bells was purchased in 2000 with a gift from the Hawks family in memory of Jim Hawks, who loved the bells. In 2005 members of the Chancel Bell Choir donated money for the purchase of the fifth octave of bells.

FAITH BELLS "BY-THE-NUMBERS"

- FCUMC has 61 bells covering 5 octaves of the white and black keys on a piano keyboard (a piano has 88 keys).
- The smallest bell weighs 7 1/2 oz. and has a diameter of 2 inches.
- The largest bell weighs 7 1/2 lbs. and has a diameter of 10 inches.
- We use up to 26 mallets.
- We use 36 linear feet of table space for the bells.
- Ringers in the middle range play 3-4 bells (2 white keys and 1 or 2 black keys).
- Ringers near the top play up to 8 bells (sometimes 4 at one time).
- Ringers near the bottom play up to 6 bells.
- FCUMC also has 4 octaves of hand chimes (49 chimes).

20 YEARS OF RINGERS

The list on the other side of this insert reflects 20 years of ringing at FCUMC (current members indicated by *, substitutes indicated by **). We've done our best to make this a complete list and apologize if we have left anyone out. Please let us know of any missing names so that we can make sure future lists are complete.

CHANCEL BELLS

Cathy	Anderson
Cindy	Bathalter
Karen	Beekman
Mim	Bridgman
Bill	Cambridge*
Bob	Chrysler**
Dick	Clark*
Sharon	Clark*
Ruth	Claypoole
Carol	Detjen
Susannah	Detjen
Amy	Elifrits*
Chris	Ellis**
Jeff	Ellis**
Dave	Elvy
Gwen	Elvy*
Debbie	Freeland**
Laura	Gale
Laura	Grafton
Marty	Haake*
Kirsten	Hall*
Lynne	Hannen*
Barb	Hobe
Sue	Jones*
Kyle	Kaiser**
Laura	Kaiser
Cindy	King*
Cal	Kinney
Judy	Lavash
Dave	Maroon
Valoree	McLean**
Marilyn	Meckes*
Mark	Meckes*
Elizabeth	Mohr
Becky	Monroe*
Bonnie	Monroe
Sue	Newell
Lori	Pelfrey
Heather	Remley
Carl	Rullmann
Rita	Rullmann
Julia	Sager
Laura	Sanders
Glenn	Scott
Susanne	Sutherland
Jim	Stelene
Michael	Swigert
Amy	Valentine**
Pam	Venneman**
Cindi	Walters
Donna	West
Kelly	Waldrop**
Jennifer	Withrow

JOYFUL NOISE

Caroline	Adams
Patty	Adams
Megan	Bailey
Rachel	Bailey
Jeremy	Baldwin
Ashley	Bathalter
Bonnie	Bennett
Charis	Bridgman
Karen	Bruce
Allison	Cheers

JOYFUL NOISE (cont)

Melissa	Clapper
Bryan	Clark
Kelly	Claypoole
Robert	Clifford
Jonathan	Coleman*
Nathaniel	Davis
Kevin	Dehoff
Robert	Dehoff
Heather	Denney
Bethany	Dishion
Kathleen	Dishion
David	Ellison*
Savannah	Fulmer*
Kaitlyn	Gilfert
Chris	Greene
Amy	Greene*
Savannah	Griffin
Stefany	Herbert
Erin	Hobe
Lauren	Hotaling
Kara	Jones
Kirsten	Jones
Leah	Jones
Dallas	Kaiser
Heather	Kelly
Julie	Manual
Lisa	Manual
Dusty	Maroon
Mike	Maroon
Wendy	Maroon
Erin	Martini
Nicole	McAfee*
Kim	Mendenhall
Stacie	Mendenhall
Melanie	Miller
Kristina	Monroe
Emily	Moore
Natalie	Moore
Kelli	Morgan
Becky	Naegele
Liz	Naegele
Anne	Newell
Kristine	Newell
Jennifer	Oberlag
Morrigan	O'Brien
Ashley	Osterman
Lauren	Powell
Lisa	Russell
Ricky	Russell
Melissa	Schultz
Alex	Severson*
Alaina	Sigler
Leisha	Sigler
Renee	Sptizfaden
Elizabeth	Stumpf
Karen	Stumpf
Julie	Swigert
Michael	Swigert
Leah	Theuring
Elliott	Valentine*
Ethan	Valentine*
Daniel	Wagner
Jennifer	Wagner
Thayer	White
Deanna	Whitten
Jessica	Wortman