

January 2010

Dear Handbell Directors and Ringers:

Greetings again from the Board of Directors of the Lansing Area Ministry of Bells! Enclosed are registration materials and information for the 26th Anniversary *Spring Ring* on Saturday, March 13. If you have any questions or comments, please call LAMB Secretary Lorraine Finison at (517) 321-3221 (home), 373-9067 (work), or 719-2277 (cell); or e-mail BellGoddess@hotmail.com.

The *Spring Ring* will again be at Waverly High School in west Lansing (Delta Township). We will include the schedule for the day in the confirmation letter which will be sent in early March to registered choirs. Lunch will be "on your own"--there are many restaurants and fast food establishments within a couple minutes of the school. On our website, www.capitalcityringers.com/lamb.htm, you will also find all *Spring Ring* documents, including a restaurant guide.

The deadline for on-time registration is February 28. Registrations **postmarked** after February 28 will require the late registration fee. On-time registration is **\$15.00** per person. From March 1 to 6, late registration will be **\$20.00** per person. No registrations will be accepted after March 6. **Please do not wait until the last minute to register.** It helps our planning efforts greatly if we have approximate registration figures early. It has always been our policy to refund registration fees in full if we are notified prior to the date of the *Spring Ring*. And, you may add ringers at the on-time fee at any time (provided your choir's registration was on time, of course!). Don't hesitate! Register **now!**

As you can see, it was finally necessary to increase the registration fee to what it was many years ago. We lowered the fee because we had an excess in our bank account; however, we have operated at a loss for a number of years now, due to smaller registrations and increased costs for the school. To continue to bring in top-notch conductors to provide an excellent experience for your choir, we must increase the fee. Please help us by bringing as many from your choir as possible. Please don't feel that you must have your entire choir in order to participate. Each one helps us to meet our expenses.

On the registration form, let us know if your choir would like to perform a solo number during the concert. If you or an advanced ringer from your choir would like to ring Tammy Waldrop's *I'll Fly Away* in the Directors'/Advanced Ringers' Double Choir, please indicate that on the registration form.

Our conductor will be Lee Afdahl, who is returning for an unprecedented 4th time as clinician for the *Spring Ring*! Lee is the Director of Music and Organist of First Presbyterian Church of Rochester, MN, and is the National AGEHR President-Elect, as well as a noted clinician and composer/arranger. His rehearsal notes are enclosed. Please work with your ringers so that they are well prepared!

If you do not have your music yet, both B & Y Music (1-888/743-2275) and Handbell Services, Inc. (1-800/37-BELLS) have our repertoire available. Susan will again bring her Handbell Services store to the *Spring Ring*, with many handbell-related jewelry, apparel, and gift items, so please let your ringers know about this opportunity to shop!

Finally, enclosed is information for you to make available to your ringers and congregation about the *Spring Ring* concert. We would appreciate your including this information in your church newsletter, bulletin, or announcements, or posting it on your bulletin board, as the time nears.

The LAMB Board of Directors

P.S. A big THANK YOU to Laura Knudson for volunteering to be this year's President-Elect! We still

need someone to volunteer for next year! Will that be YOU??