

# ***CHRISTMAS BELLS***

presented by the

## **SEAWAY VALLEY SINGERS**

conducted by

**Robert Jones**

accompanied by

**Margaret Whisselle**

**Sunday, December 4, 2016**

**at 3:00**

**Gerry Rosenquist (Master of Ceremonies)**

**Iroquois United Church,**

**Iroquois, Ontario**

### **Programme**

All: Hymn 27 *Tomorrow Christ Is Coming*

Advent Carol of Hope (Lorraine Howard, *flute*)

Mary, Did You Know?

'Twas in the Moon of Winter Time (Winchester Handbell Choir)

Christmas Bells! (accompanied by the Winchester Handbell Choir)

Wonderful Peace (Kathy Spruit, *violin*)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

One Small Child

A Carol for All Seasons (Winchester Handbell Choir)

Ring, Christmas Bells (accompanied by the Winchester Handbell Choir)

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (see insert for text)

A Manger Carol

The First Nowell / Pachelbel's Canon

Four Carols

i) *Veni Emmanuel*

ii) *Minstrels*

iii) *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* (Lorraine Howard, *clarinet*)

iv) *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*

Jingle Bells (accompanied by the Winchester Handbell Choir)

Descant by Robert Jones

Don Besig

Buddy Greene

Frances Callahan

Gordon Young

Gustav Nordqvist

John Rutter

David Meece

Terry Price

Mikhail Leontyovich

arr. David Willcocks

Kenneth Jewell

arr. Michael Clawson

arr. Stephen Mallinger

John Stainer / Robert Jones

*Please join us downstairs for refreshments following the concert.*

**Our spring concert will be held here at Iroquois United Church**

**on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

**It will feature a lot of Canadian music in celebration**

**of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.**

## THE SEAWAY VALLEY SINGERS

**Robert Jones, conductor**

**Margaret Whisselle, accompanist**

Sopranos: Eleanor Allison, Anne-Marie Carmoy, Viv Charbonneau, Marianne Coligan, Lorna Driscoll, Joan McGinn, Minnie MacKay, Marni Marriott, Barbara Pilkington, Margaret Reid, Rhonda Schneckenburger, Madeleine Sisk, Sydney Smith, Margaret Swerdfeger, Judy Veinotte, Benjamin Vreman, Susan Wells, Mary Ann Whittaker.

Altos: Dawn Atwood-Ouellette, Carol Barkley, Nancy Bresnahan, Harriet Clarke, Isabelle Delage, Alice Douma-Howland, Jill Dumaresq, Lorraine Howard, Nancy Jordan, Annette McRae, Elizabeth Temple.

Tenors: Volker Gruetzner, Randy Lacey, Sam Moss, Bob Ruddock.

Basses: David Black, Ab Carr, Mike Ouellette, Chris Rowntree.

Absent: Holly Johnston, Doug MacKay, Gary Unsworth, Aria Whisselle.

Established in 1993, *The Seaway Valley Singers* is a non-profit organization based in Williamsburg. Its members, as their title suggests, come from throughout the Seaway Valley: Avonmore, Chesterville, Finch, Ingleside, Iroquois, Morrisburg, Mountain and Williamsburg. The first director of the Seaway Valley Singers was Michael Goodwin. Alex Thomson took over as conductor in the fall of 2000; Mark Ehlebracht—who served as the accompanist for the 2001-02 season—served as the conductor for 2003-04, and Robert Jones has been their conductor since the fall of 2004. Our purpose is to provide our members with the opportunity to improve their singing skills by learning and singing choral music, both sacred and secular for the entertainment of the general public. As a charitable organization, we welcome and depend on donations from individuals and the corporate community. Donors are listed in each concert programme and on the web site. Rehearsals are held at the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg (12436 County Road 18, ½ km. east of County Road 31) every Wednesday evening (7:30-9:30), and new members are welcome. **Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, January 11, 2017.** For more information, please phone our president Annette McRae at (613) 346-2616 or visit [www.seawayvalleysingers.ca](http://www.seawayvalleysingers.ca).

**Robert Jones** is a graduate of the University of Windsor and the University of Western Ontario and he has also studied at the Royal School of Church Music (Croydon, England). He also holds the Associateship and Choir Master diplomas from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. Bob has been the Organist and Choir Director at St. Luke's Anglican Church (Somerset Street) since 1999. He also plays for the Saturday mass at St. Basil's Church. This is Bob's twelfth season as conductor of the Seaway Valley Singers. From 2004-12 he directed the two handbell choirs at Winchester United Church; from 2004-15 he was also the conductor of the Bytown Voices (Ottawa). He has lived in Chesterville since 2001.

Our accompanist **Margaret Whisselle** graduated from Queen's University in Kingston with a Bachelor of Music degree. She was the original Seaway Valley Singers' accompanist (1993-2000) and returned to us in September 2010! She sang vocal solos with SVS and was a member of the "Renaissance Voyces" choir. Margaret has been the Organist/Choir Director at Iroquois United Church since 1987 and before that, fulfilled the same function at St. John's Evangelical Parish in Riverside Heights. Since 2015 she has also served as Organist/Choir Director at Lakeshore Drive United Church in Morrisburg. She has been teaching piano, vocals, and theory privately since 1986 in this area. In addition to her own private music students, she is teaching piano/vocals at Rock My House Music Centre in Kemptville. Margaret has performed in off-Broadway type shows at the Upper Canada Playhouse and has recently appeared as Bloody Mary in *South Pacific* at the Brockville Arts Centre. Margaret is working on upcoming concerts in association with Christopher Coyea, Alex Fleuriu Chateau and Ottawa's Maple Leaf Brass Band. She will be appearing in an English premiere production of Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute* (accompanied by brass band) in May 2017. Margaret comes from the Ingleside area and is the mother of five.

In 2002 Winchester United Church purchased its three-octave set of handbells manufactured by Malmark (of Pennsylvania). The **Winchester Handbell Ringers** ring periodically for services at Winchester United Church as well as at various churches throughout the Seaway Valley. Colleen Howard—who recently retired as the band teacher at Maple Ridge Senior Public School in Chesterville—took over from Robert Jones as conductor in 2012. Colleen has started a new handbell choir for beginners. New members would be most welcome. If you are interested in learning how to ring handbells, please speak to Colleen.

### HANDBELL RINGERS OF WINCHESTER UNITED CHURCH

Lowest bells to highest: Harvey Blais, Rose Lauriault, Ron Porteous, Heather Rose, Kathy Spruit, Margaret Reid, Lorna Driscoll, Valerie Flowers, Moira Law, Arlene Nesbitt, Helen Kerr.

Director: Colleen Howard