

AGEHR AREA VIII—ILLINOIS  
**Handbell Workshop with The Agape Ringers**  
 Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville, IL  
 Saturday, February 20, 2010



## SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.	Unload bells, setup, register (Activity Center); coffee (Fellowship Hall)	
9:00 a.m.	Opening remarks—Kristin Kalitowski, Chair of Illinois State Committee, Area VIII MASSED RINGING—David L. Weck, Director of The Agape Ringers (Activity Center)	
10:15 a.m.	<b>B R E A K / snack (meeting rooms 1&amp;2)</b>	
10:30 a.m.—11:20 a.m. Class session 1—all groups	✓ Chimes (room 231) ✓ Bells & Other Instruments (room 223) ✓ Ensemble ABCs (sanctuary)	✓ Kitchekapoom! (room 226) ✓ Healthy Ringing™ (Activity Center) ✓ Change Ringing (room 224)
11:25 a.m.—12:15 p.m. Lunch—group A (red)* (Fellowship Hall) Class session 2-Group B (blue)	✓ Ringing Basics (room 226) ✓ Bass Bells (room 227) ✓ Beyond Beginning (room 224)	✓ Chimes (room 231) ✓ Shelley (Activity Center)
12:20 p.m.—1:10 p.m. Lunch—group B (blue)* (Fellowship Hall) Class session 3-Group A (red)	✓ Intermediate Bells (room 224) ✓ Four-in-Hand (Activity Center) ✓ Kitchekapoom! (room 160)	✓ Ringing Basics (room 226) ✓ Bass Bells (room 227)
1:15 p.m.—2:05 p.m. Class session 4—all groups	✓ Beyond Beginning (room 224) ✓ Adv Bass Bells (room 227) ✓ Shelley (Activity Center) ✓ Special Techniques (room 226)	✓ Bells in Worship (sanctuary) ✓ Weaving 101 (room 231) ✓ Be A Better Ringer (room 160) ✓ Stem Direction (room 223)
2:10 p.m.—3:00p.m. Class session 5—all groups	✓ Intermediate Bells (room 224) ✓ Four-in-Hand (Activity Center) ✓ Weaving 101 (room 231) ✓ Special Techniques (room 226)	✓ Young Ringers (room 160) ✓ Bell Maintenance (room 223) ✓ TAP (room 234)
3:00 p.m.	<b>B R E A K</b>	
3:15 p.m.—3:45 p.m.	Mini-concert by The Agape Ringers (sanctuary)	
3:45 p.m.	Pack up, head for home—safe trip!	

\*Groups w/ > 3 ringers will be given roughly equal #s of blank IDs for groups A (red) & B (blue).

Groups of 3 or less will be randomly assigned to a group; **you must trade w/ someone to switch lunch periods.**

## CLINICIANS

Advanced Bass Bells	Karl Kay	Healthy Ringing™	Darren Reynolds
Bass Bell Techniques	Karl Kay	Intermediate Bells	Kim Ahlgrim
Be a Better Ringer	KC Congdon	Kitchekapoom!	Debbie Perisho
Bell Maintenance	Sharon Schmidt	Ringing Basics	Sarah Ward/David Weck
Bells & Other Instruments	David Weck	Shelley Ringing	Kurt Mockenhaupt
Bells in Worship	David Weck	Special Techniques	Linda Lunt
Beyond Beginning	Darren Reynolds	Stem Direction Counts	Sharon Schmidt
Change Ringing	Sarah Ward	TAP	KC Congdon
Chimes	Linda Lunt	Weaving 101	Kristin Paul
Ensemble ABCs	Quadrille	Young Ringers	Karl Kay
Four-in-hand	Kristin Kalitowski		
		The Store (fellowship hall)	Music from Hope Publishing and “bell” accessories from Handbell Services (managed by Debi Robey)

## **AGEHR Area VIII—Illinois—Workshop with The Agape Ringers**

Massed Ringing Session - The day begins with a massed ringing session. If your organization is bringing bells that are used in this session, you will be hosting ringers from other groups at your table. Please welcome them and make room! If you did not bring bells, you will be assigned to a table for that session.

### **General Class Descriptions**

- Advanced Bass Bell Techniques - Prerequisite: *Bass Bell Techniques*. In a seminar-style format, we will continue to discuss topics and questions raised in the preliminary class in round-table fashion. Everyone bring a story.
- Bass Bell Techniques - Successful bass bell ringing comes from teamwork, creativity, and devotion to musicianship. We'll explore these themes by translating them into strategies and techniques for bells below C4.
- Be a Better Ringer - Are you bored because you find your choir music too easy? Are you frustrated with a complex rhythm you can't master? Are you having trouble communicating with your director? Then this is the class for you! Prerequisite: a sense of humor.
- Bell Maintenance (Malmark and Schulmerich) - Poorly adjusted bells make ringing SO much more difficult - **bring your sick bells & your repair kit to this class** and take home practical, usable advice about caring for your handbells.
- Bells & Other Instruments - We will take a look at handbell music, which has been enhanced with the addition of another instrument or multiple instruments. In addition, we will look at the new Piano/Organ/Handbell/Choir publications.
- Bells in Worship - With the help of Hal Hopson's "Creative Use of Handbells in Worship", we will study and try different ways to incorporate handbells in worship.
- ◆ Beyond Beginning - Developing skills beyond the basics, such as dynamics, table damping, simple bell changes, and bell notation.
- ◆ Change Ringing - Ever want to ring the tower bells in England? Come learn how you can do it with handbells.
- ◆ Chimes - This class, for ringers and directors, covers basic chime playing techniques, special effects, repertoire, teaching aids, maintenance, and performance ideas. It also discusses ways to combine chimes and bells together as well as with other instruments.
- Ensemble ABCs - A **discussion session** focusing on the ups and downs of creating and working with a small ensemble. Topics include finding music, making assignments and creating an organizational structure.
- Four-in-Hand - Learn the difference between Shelley ringing and 4-in-hand ringing, how to ring different set-ups of 4-in-hand, and then practice these methods using real music.
- ◆ Healthy Ringing™ - This class takes a hands-on look at ringing methods and exercises designed to reduce strain and fatigue associated with playing handbells. Based on the book "Healthy Ringing™" by Susan Berry, the ideas presented will help make handbell ringing more enjoyable for both beginning and advanced ringers.
- Intermediate - Multiple bell changes, challenging rhythmic exercises, and rapid technique changes.
- ◆ Kitchekapoom! - Come ready to ring and to absorb ideas like a sponge! We will teach techniques to help you play together as a choir, make chords sound together, and make your director happy.
- Shelley Techniques - An introductory hands-on class to playing treble bells in Shelley style (two bells in one hand that sound together with a forward ringing stroke), which will include alternate Shelley.
- ◆ Ringing Basics - Here's your chance to learn basic handbell techniques! We will explore basic damping of whole, half, and quarter notes. A must attend for beginners and those wanting to brush up on their basic ringing skills.
- ◆ Special Techniques - This class explores stopped sounds, mallets, and non-stopped sound techniques along with other special effects that can be used with handbells and chimes.
- Stem Direction Does Count! - We'll walk through several pieces of handbell music and talk about how to use all the information presented in the music, including the bells used chart, brackets & parentheses, plus tricks for finding the melody. The critical skill of using stem direction to determine what technique applies to which notes will be covered in-depth.
- ◆ TAP - Are you a follower of the group STOMP? Do you enjoy the antics of BLUE MAN GROUP? Then come to this class and try your hands as a "busker".
- Weaving 101 - Want to know the basics for weaving handbells? The answers to all of your questions "loom" ahead. This hands-on class will teach you all of the basic skills needed to do three and four bell changing patterns, a necessity for solo/ensemble work.
- Young Ringers - What's different about ringing activities for kids vs. teens vs. adults or "younger" vs. "older" beginners? Let's find out by exploring repertoire, assignments, techniques, rehearsal strategies, etc. Come to ring and talk.
  
- ◆ Classes recommended or suitable for beginners
- Classes for more experienced ringers or groups
- Classes for any ringers or groups