

Welcome to BellFest 2012: A Joyous Sound!

BellFest! is all about a fun-filled day of ringing! Every year we gather together for this event, we're happy to have so many return ringers! Many of the events are the same from year to year, but there are some changes from past years.

Please share this information with your ensembles and your fellow ringers.



The Bellfest site:
<http://www.nhlc.org/>

North Heights Lutheran Church
1700 West Hwy. 96
Arden Hills, MN 55112

Schedule

7:30am	8:30	Arrival and setup
8:30	8:45	Welcome and warm up
8:45	10:00	Rehearsal
10:00	10:20	Break – Solo Rehearsals
10:20	11:45	Rehearsal
11:45	1:00pm	Lunch & Shops – Solo Rehearsals
1:00pm	2:30	Rehearsal
2:30	3:00	Concert prep & Audience seating
3:00		Concert

General Rules about the day

- 1) Wear comfortable shoes! Also, consider bringing carpet squares to stand on. You will be on your feet most of the day. 
- 2) Dress in layers for greater comfort no matter what the temperature in the room.
- 3) Please do not chew gum during rehearsals.
- 4) Please turn off cell phones and pagers during rehearsals and the concert. There will be time at breaks and at lunch to check and respond to messages. 
- 5) A first-aid kit is available at the registration desk.
- 6) Bring any Singing Bell batons you bought last year. We will use them in the concert!
- 7) With over 150 ringers in attendance, please **have patience** while waiting for coffee, lunch or a restroom. Thank you!

Arrival (7:30 AM)

Plan to arrive at North Heights Lutheran Church between **7:30 AM and 8:30 AM**. As you enter the church driveway, keep to the left and follow the driveway to the east side of the church. Ringers arriving without equipment to unload will park in the large parking lot and enter at **Door C**. Those who are hauling equipment may drive to the south (back) side of the building to unload. Helpers will be available at the south entrance to assist in carrying equipment into the church and setting it up.



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Check-In & Solo Rehearsal Sign-Up

Send **one** member of your ensemble to the registration desk to pick up a registration packet and make any final payments that are due; as well as to sign up for a solo rehearsal time if you have a solo. When signing up for rehearsal time, please make sure there are no time conflicts with other obligations you may have.

Break (10:00 AM) Coffee, hot water for tea, ice water, and cookies will be available at several stations in the hallways around the rehearsal hall. If you have a favorite tea, bring a packet with you as selections are limited (bring hot chocolate or cider, too!).

Lunch (11:45 AM) A hot lunch is available by the North Heights kitchen staff and served in the Great Hall, second floor. The menu is Grilled Chicken Parmesan, served with hand-made marinara sauce, topped with real Parmesan cheese & herbs with steamed vegetables.



Solo Rehearsal (During Breaks) Solo choirs will each be given 10 minutes in which to rehearse their piece and have a sound check. Please be prompt for your rehearsal time. There is a lot of work to be done, and the schedule needs to be followed in order to be fair to all groups. **Please be quiet in the gym while others are rehearsing their pieces!**

Concert (3:00 PM – seating starts at 2:30) The concert at 3:00 PM is open to the public. A free-will offering is collected at the end. Non-ringers are not allowed into the performance space until **2:30 PM**. Seating begins at 2:30.

Packing Up After the concert, the back two rows may drive their vehicles up to the loading dock right away. For everyone else, please wait to drive your vehicles up until the choirs two rows behind you have left the gym.

Bottled Water - \$1.00

This year, bottled water is available for purchase in the gym until 2:30.



First AID

If needed, a first aid kit is available at the check in desk.

Shops (7:30–11:15 AM, 12:15–2:30 PM) Cash, check, and credit accepted.

Jeffers and Handbell Services back by popular demand! This year the shops will be open all day!

- Jeffers Handbell Supply
- Handbell Services
- Heitz Handbells & Music
- Bells of the Lakes
- Photo cards by Marilee Anderson
- And Much More!

A Final Note – Thank You and Have Fun! Everyone in Bells of the Lakes wishes you a very enjoyable ringing experience throughout the day. If we can be of any assistance, let us know...we're the ones in the blue shirts!

Thank you for coming to BellFest!

