

# The Bells of St. Paul's



The choir has a history of many bell ringers and a number of directors. Over the years, the choir has performed in St. Paul's and other churches, in retirement homes and at special events.

Ann McMahon has been our director for the past several years.

The Bells of St. Paul's ring 3 octaves of bells (Schulmerich) and recently have added a G3 Bell donated by the choir's co-founder Mary Young in memory of her husband and choir co-founder Bruce Young.

## **How does a Handbell Choir Function?**

Handbells are unique in that the bells can be considered to be one instrument requiring (in our case) eleven or twelve ringers. Each bell sounds one note of the musical scale and each ringer is responsible for playing four of the bells as needed in the music. Precise timing and team work, as well as sensitivity to the music, are essential. Watching the director is also a helpful thing to do!

To see Handbells in action, click on this [link to You Tube](#) to see and hear a massed choir of Handbells (over 400 ringers) at an Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers (OGEHR) in Hamilton in 2011. The Bells of St. Paul's participated in that Festival and attended OEGHR festival in London Ontario in 2013 and in Peterborough in 2015. [Wikipedia has some interesting information about handbells.](#)

If you are interested in becoming a bell ringer with The Bells of St. Paul's, please contact Mrs. Ann McMahon: [annpeterm@sympatico.ca](mailto:annpeterm@sympatico.ca)  
Our weekly rehearsals are held on Tuesdays from 1:00 - 2:30 PM.  
Contact Barb Guthrie: [bguthrie@ripnet.com](mailto:bguthrie@ripnet.com) if you would like the Bells of St. Paul's to perform at a special event.