



FPC MUSIC

March, 2010

Pat Hudsonpillar,
Director of Music

RINGING in SPRING!

Bells, Bells & MORE Bells!

On **March 7, 2010**, FPC Mission is once again hosting the McAllen Music Club's Annual Scholarship Concert. This concert has become somewhat of a tradition to benefit the Music Club – in fact, this is the 8th time! Included in this year's program are bell choirs from The First Presbyterian Church and Calvary Baptist Church, both of McAllen, the hand chime from Bentsen Elementary School in Sharyland, and our own Bells of Faith. A free-will offering will be taken for the Music Club's Scholarship Fund which benefits students from McAllen and Mission who wish to study music in college. The concert begins at **3 PM in the FPC Mission sanctuary**. If you haven't heard a "mass ring" involving multiple bell choirs, you just don't know what you've been missing! See you there -

Did you know . . .

That many of the **Bells of Faith** have been playing together since the group was formed in 1998? Lowell Hudsonpillar, Judy Mayes, Barbara Gray, Lori Cain, & Cinda Sparks helped to start this seasoned group and continue to add their loyalty & leadership to every note that is rung! Thanks, guys – I couldn't do with you!

Is it true that . . .

The family that RINGS together stays together?? Well, in the **BELLS OF HOPE**, ringing is truly a family matter! We have -

The **BUTCHERS**: Grandmother Betty, son, Markus, & grandson, Brady.

The **DE LA GARZAS**: father, Eddie; mother, Zoila, & son, Niko.

The **WATKINS**: father, John & son, Colton.

And, while not related, we love having Amy Manzewitsch, Judy Mayes, Nadine Dierksen, & Christina Alaniz helping to make this group a great success!

Can you guess . . .

How much a handbell weighs? Probably much more than you would expect! The largest of the 61 handbells that FPC Mission owns (C3) weighs **8 pounds 12 ounces** – that's more than most newborn babies weigh! The smallest of our bells (C8) weighs only **8 ounces**. That's quite a difference in size and weight as Lowell Hudsonpillar & Kitty Hutchcroft who play those bells will tell you. Handbells are cast of pure bronze in the approximate proportions of 80% copper and 20% tin. The metal is heated in crucibles to 2,150° F in modern electric furnaces. The molten metal is poured into the sand molds and after the bronze has hardened, the sand is broken away. It is then sent to the lathe department for turning and tuning. In the hands of the craftspeople – in our case, Malmark Bells, raw bronze is transformed into fine musical instruments of beauty and purity of tone. In the hands of our bell ringers, that beauty is released to ring out to the praise of God.

**HANDBELLS
ARE COOL!**



