

# Notes from the Music Ministry

## Carillons at Messiah -- The Second Era Begins

"Ring the bells (ring the bells) that still can ring  
 Forget your perfect offering  
 There is a crack in everything (there is a crack in everything)  
 That's how the light gets in".

--Leonard Cohen



Thanks entirely to the generosity of many of our parishioners, the carillon stand has been moved from high up in the bell tower to the ground floor, behind the Sacristy. The work was done without event by Ken Neill Carillon (aka Ken, the Bellman), he/they didn't go over budget, and we are pleased with the results.

Quite "simply", Neill took apart the carillon stand, brought it out of the tower, literally drilled holes in the vestibule ceiling to accommodate the cable

for each bell, ran cables, extenders, springs, etc. for each bell, re-assembled the stand in the appropriate spot, connected everything, and we were back in business.

The carillon stand now sits full-square in the former church vestibule in an absolutely perfect setting. Ringers will stand with their backs to the former front door, looking toward the Sacristy. Several plaques in this area, including one dedicating the last three carillon bells, can now be seen easily and be fully appreciated. Best of all, ringers no longer have to brave extreme temperatures, heights, winding stairs, ladders, etc. to make beautiful carillon music!

This relocation could not have easily happened without the gracious cooperation of Nancy Sisson and Deb Casey, who have gone well out of their way to make adjustments, find new places to store some of their materials, figure out the best ways to share the space, etc. Their cooperation is deeply appreciated.

Carillon ringing, by the way, is very easy and satisfying, and no, you don't have to read music to do it. There's no more ladders to climb, you won't freeze in the tower, so ANYONE who would like to try is welcome to check it out. We invite you to take a look and have a go at our newly-accessible carillon stand! Please speak to Martha Hewson for additional information.

