



# 2024 SPRING FESTIVAL— HICKORY

**March 15-16, 2024**

**First United Methodist Church**  
311 3rd Ave NE / Hickory, NC 28601

**Brian Childers,**  
Clinician

## **New for 2024!!**

All attendees will learn the Massed Repertoire.

Then each group will chose to ring the Copper Music OR the Bronze Music.

*Groups may choose to ring the Bronze Music AND the Copper Music.*

*If you should choose both, you will not be available to attend classes.*

*(Classes for those ringing Copper songs are during Bronze rehearsals and vice versa).*

*You will also be expected to attend ALL rehearsals and to participate in ALL songs listed below.*

### **Massed Repertoire**

*Music is to be purchased and learned in advance.*

**Fairest Lord Jesus**  
**arr. Brian Childers**  
Ringing Word #RW8290  
3-5 octaves / Level 3-

**For All the Saints**  
**arr. Lloyd Larson**  
Beckenhorst Press #HB784  
3-5 octaves / Level 3-

**The Strife Is O'er**  
**arr. Arnold Sherman**  
Hope Publishing #1847  
3-5 octaves / Level 3

### **Bronze Repertoire**

*Music is to be purchased and learned in advance.*

**Mountain Journey**  
**Brian Childers**  
Choristers Guild #CGB1242  
3-7 octaves / Level 4

**Sing We Now of Christmas**  
**arr. Cathy Moglebust**  
Choristers Guild #CGB591 (Handbell Score)  
Choristers Guild #CGB590 (Full Score)  
3-5 octaves / Level 4

### **Copper Repertoire**

*Music is to be purchased and learned in advance.*

**While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**  
**arr. Sandra Eithun**  
Choristers Guild #CGB849—2-3 octaves  
Choristers Guild #CGB850—3-5 octaves  
Level 2

**Within the Darkest Night**  
**Derek K. Hakes**  
AGEHR #AG36028  
3-6 octaves / Level 2

## MEET THE CLINICIANS



### Hickory Clinician **Brian Childers**

Brian Childers is an accomplished composer, conductor, and clinician. His choral, instrumental, and handbell works are performed frequently throughout the world. He is in demand as a featured clinician and conductor at music conferences, festivals and workshops across the nation. Brian serves as Music Advisor for Handbell Musicians of America, helping to promote the wealth of handbell music in the AGEHR Catalog.

Brian has earned degrees from Appalachian State University and the M. Christopher White School of Divinity at Gardner-Webb University. In 2022, he conducted Distinctly Bronze East, an auditioned group of ringers from throughout the nation in New Bern, NC. In 2023, he conducted the inaugural “Ringing Nativity” a staged production of the nativity story at the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. He has served churches throughout the Southeast, building vibrant programs for choirs, handbells and instrumentalists at each. He is currently on the music staff at Myers Park United Methodist Church in Charlotte, NC.

Brian’s compositions are published through a variety of publishers, including Bellissimo Publications, available through Jeffers Handbells and Cantate Press, available through JW Pepper. Brian enjoys creating and shaping compositions that are meaningful, distinctive, expressive and timely. His most recent book, “Boo and His Amazing Bells” is a children's book about a young boy who discovers the wonderful world of bells and the thrill of ringing. His devotional book “Ringing Deeply” for directors, and ringers, has been received with strong reviews and is in its third printing.

Brian is married to Keely Childers, a professional counselor and has two adult children, Hannah and Spencer, both of whom served as drum majors in their respective High School and College marching bands. Brian is an avid runner and a rabid fan of the San Antonio Spurs. You can learn more about Brian, Bellissimo and Cantate Publications, “Boo and His Amazing Bells,” “Ringing Deeply” and his conducting schedule at [BrianChilders.org](http://BrianChilders.org).

# FESTIVAL DETAILS

## Registration Fees

**Early Bird – \$75** (postmarked / entered online by January 5, 2024)

**Regular – \$85** (postmarked / entered online January 6, 2024 & by February 9, 2024)

**Late – \$110** (postmarked Feb. 10, 2024 or later, received or entered online by Feb. 23, 2024)

**TABLE FEE—\$10 per 6 foot table**

**New for 2024—Membership to HMA is NOT required.**

If you are currently not a member and would like to join, you will have that option as part of registration.

## Refund Policy

By 3/1/24...all but \$25 of the base ticket fee can be refunded.

AFTER 3/1/24, NO refunds for any reason (including medical or family reasons).

**\*\*EVENTBRITE FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE\*\***

## Hotel Reservations

There is not an official festival hotel. Here are some suggested hotels close to the venue...

### **Courtyard Hickory**

1946 13th Avenue Dr SE / Hickory, NC 28602  
(828) 627-2100

### **Fairfield Inn & Suites Hickory**

1950 13th Street Dr SE / Hickory, NC 28602  
(828) 431-3000

### **Hampton Inn Hickory**

1956 13th Avenue Dr SE/ Hickory, NC 28602  
(828) 624-2000

### **Hilton Garden Inn Hickory**

1320 17th Street Dr / Hickory, NC 28602  
(828) 327-1000

## COVID Protocols

At this time, masks will be optional for all sessions. If there is a spike in numbers as we get closer to the event, we may need to require masks. You will be given ample notice (before the cancellation date) if we decide to require masks.

***While Area 3 is not requiring proof of COVID vaccination, we will follow CDC and local regulations at the time of the event. We ask that if you have recently tested positive or have the symptoms of COVID, that you not participate in the event. Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 will not be held responsible should a participant contract COVID during the event.***

## Other Information

This festival is designed for Adult choirs / individual ringers. If your choir has high school aged students that ring on a permanent basis, the high school students may attend.

**NO students under 9<sup>th</sup> grade will be permitted.** Classes are designed with adults in mind.

(For Youth, please consider our Youth Festival that is geared for those in middle and high school.)

## Meals

No meals are included with the registration fee.  
There are several restaurants within close proximity of the convention center.

## Exhibit Area

There will be a Vendor Area for you to shop.  
If you would like to be a Vendor, please contact our COE. (Vendor Area opens at 4:00 PM on Friday)

## Questions

Sarah Sheffield, Registrar

(704) 779-7359 (call or text)

[Registrar.area3@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Registrar.area3@handbellmusicians.org)

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE HICKORY

## FRIDAY

|              |                                   |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4:00—9:00 PM | Vendors Open                      |                       |
| 4:00—6:00 PM | Registration and Setup            |                       |
| 6:00—6:45 PM | Copper Rehearsal                  | Christian Life Center |
| 6:45—7:00 PM | Opening Bell & Welcome            | Christian Life Center |
| 7:00—8:00 PM | Massed Rehearsal                  | Christian Life Center |
| 7:00 PM      | Faculty Meeting                   | TBD                   |
| 8:00 PM      | Break (Bronze) / Copper dismissed |                       |
| 8:15—9:00 PM | Bronze Rehearsal                  | Christian Life Center |

## SATURDAY

*Mini Schedule will contain your class schedule*

|                  |                                      |                       |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8:30 AM—3:30 PM  | Vendors Open                         |                       |
| 9:00—9:50 AM     | Massed Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 9:15 AM          | Area 3 Forum                         | TBD                   |
| 10:00—10:50 AM   | <i>Bronze Classes</i>                |                       |
|                  | Copper Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 11:00—11:50 AM   | <i>Copper Classes</i>                |                       |
|                  | Bronze Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 11:50 AM—1:30 PM | Lunch (on your own)                  |                       |
| 1:30—2:00 PM     | Massed Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 2:10—3:00 PM     | <i>Bronze Classes</i>                |                       |
|                  | Copper Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 3:10—4:00 PM     | <i>Copper Classes</i>                |                       |
|                  | Bronze Rehearsal                     | Christian Life Center |
| 4:10 PM—4:45 PM  | Massed Rehearsal / Final Run Through | CLC                   |
| 4:45 PM—5:00 PM  | Break                                |                       |
| 5:00 PM—5:30 PM  | Closing Concert                      | Christian Life Center |