



Larry and Carla

Handbell Musicians - Holland, Michigan

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About Larry and Carla

Larry and Carla Sue both started playing handbells in 1987, but in different countries. Carla began playing handbells in England, and, as a member of various handbell ensembles there, she performed extensively throughout England, and also in Europe and the USA.

Larry is a fifth-generation Californian, and was also introduced to handbells in 1987. He has been a member and director of several church bell choirs in the San Francisco Bay Area. As a bass-ringing specialist, he was the Artistic Figurehead and conceptual founder of Low Ding Zone, the World's First Bass-Only Handbell Ensemble, and wrote most of the repertoire for their eight-year existence. He is a published handbell composer and the author of the *Bass Ringer's Notebook*, possibly the most extensive work on the subject. Larry is also an experienced director and clinician for handbell festivals and events.

Larry and Carla first met online on *The Handbell Community* website, and attended their first Bay View Week of Handbells together in August 2010. In 2011 they celebrated their engagement at Bay View, and in 2012 Carla moved from England to the USA, and they were married in California. They started arranging and performing handbell duets together, building up a wide repertoire of pieces arranged for just eight bells. Their repertoire extends across the entire spectrum of hymns, classical music, Christmas carols and folk music, and they continue to be surprised at just how many musical selections can be played using just eight notes. They aim to demonstrate that handbell performances are not only beautiful to listen to, but also a graceful and interesting visual art.

In July 2016 Larry and Carla moved to Holland, Michigan, to continue the adventure there. Since then, they have performed in New York City, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and (of course!) Michigan. They played Christmas carols at the Salvation Army Red Kettle during their first Michigan winter, and were featured on Fox 17 News. They play their duets at concerts, weddings, memorial and remembrance services, corporate events, worship services, and Christmas and holiday events in Michigan and beyond, and provide classes and workshops for handbell choirs and individuals. They can regularly be seen playing duets on 8th Street in Holland, and recently enjoyed taking part in the Downtown Holland Street Performers Series.

Visit Larry and Carla's website: www.larryandcarla.com for videos, testimonials and booking information. Their music is available for purchase and download from their music site: www.choraegus.com. You can also find Larry and Carla on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.