**2023 Lowcountry Handbell Workshop**

**Class Descriptions – Tins**

**Weaving –** Do you feel like your arms look like a pretzel when ringing? Are you having problems damping bells when playing chromatics? Getting the correct bell in the correct hand for the appropriate beat is half the battle in ringing. We will work on creating beautiful sounds and fluid movement while performing passages full of bell changes. This will allow you to look flawless when playing those tricky spots in music with tons of accidentals.

**Beginning Four-in-Hand –** Have you ever wondered how composers expect you to play treble bells in octaves? Have you ever seen accidentals where you cannot play fast enough? Learn how to ring 4-in-Hand and Shelley techniques that allow the ringer to play multiple bells at once.

**Rhythm –** This class offers a practical approach to learning the fundamentals of rhythm and rhythmic notation. Make counting more fun in your rehearsals by developing an understanding of how dividing beats will create clarity and precision in playing. We will cover time signatures, macro and micro beats, and accents.

**Techniques –** Starting with the ringing stroke, this class will explore the proper execution of many popular one-bell techniques. From martellato to mallets, we will discuss the different markings for each technique and what they mean.

**Removing Crutches –** Do you need to “mark” your music before you even consider ringing your bell? Do you lose your place in the music and have trouble finding your way back? Do you struggle with taking your eyes off the music to look at the conductor? Do you miss notes after a page turn? This class will teach tools to address each of these common problems for new ringers.

**Musicality –** How do you turn notes on a page into music? What are the markings in the music that help you understand what the composer heard as (s)he created the piece? Learn a few tips to improve your skills and good judgment in ringing music.

**Small Ensemble Ringing –** Does your group not have enough ringers to ring 2+ octave music? Do you need to conserve space and ring without tables? Would you and a few of your peers like to perform a piece above and beyond what your full group is doing? This class will give you an opportunity to actually ring music designed for smaller groups.