Westminster Ringers, Inc.

737 Holland Lane

Westminster, MD 21158

**For immediate release:**

*Westminster Ringers* will present a concert of exciting handbell music on (your information here).

The concert, a multi-sensory program under the direction of Larry Henning, will celebrate familiar sacred songs, secular favorites and original bell compositions.

Admission information here

The Westminster Ringers, Inc. is supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive. An agency of the Department of Business & Economic Development, the MSAC provides financial support and technical assistance to non-profit organization, units of government, colleges and universities for arts activities. Funding for the Maryland State Arts Council is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

The Corporation was formed in September of 1997 to provide gifted area musicians the opportunity to play advanced handbell repertoire at the highest possible level of musical sensitivity and technical clarity. In addition, the corporation seeks to advance the knowledge, awareness and viability of the art of handbell ringing beyond that normally available to members of volunteer church and school groups. In 2010, The Corporation expanded the number of ringing ensembles to include an intermediate ensemble and smaller ensembles. Westminster Ringers, Inc. owns 85 Malmark handbells (spanning 7 octaves) and 7 octaves of Malmark Choirchimes, 2 octaves of Malmark Cymbells and assorted percussion instruments – making for **one of the largest collections of bell and chime instruments in the Mid-Atlantic area.**

In addition to local appearances, the group has performed ‘showcase’ concerts for Arts/Educational conferences, participated in numerous Concert Series, and played individual concerts for churches, schools and other institutions. The current membership consists of 18 advanced, auditioned ringers, whose cumulative handbell experience alone is in excess of 150 years. They are designated a Community/Professional Group by the Handbell Musicians of America, a classification held by less than 1% of the member choirs/ensembles on Handbell Musicians of America’s roster. In July 2010, they were honored to be selected by the Handbell Musicians of America to perform a Showcase Concert at the Guild’s national gathering, Pinnacle. In 2016, they were selected to perform the closing concert at the Guild’s national Seminar. In addition to live performances, the ensemble conducts educational workshops for youth and adults, host a biennial mass ringing event for advanced community handbell ensembles, and has produced two CDs: “A Handbell Holiday” a collection of Christmas music, and “Celebrate The Journey” to commemorate their 10th anniversary as an ensemble. For more information regarding this press release please call your contact information here.