

The Milledgeville Singer's Guild

Presents

An

"American Christmas"

Director, Caroline Carson

Accompanists, David Cole and Maria DeBacco

I Wonder As I Wander

Boston

Judea

Shiloh

Quintet: David Cole, Will Humphrey, Nancy Jay, Rae Phillips, Cindy Rivers

Quintet: Leanne Benson, Gay Cowan, John Hargaden, Cindy Rivers, Louise Sallstrom

William Billings (1746-1800 A tanner (not tenor!) born in Boston. A popular writer of hymns and fuguing tunes with simple imitative counterpoint. Known for being quite ornery.)

Appalachian carol

Away in a Manger

The Cherry Tree Carol

The Morning Star

Kathy Adams, Leanne Benson, Arnie Wade

Traditional arr. by Virgil Thompson (1896–1989 (Chief music critic for *New York Herald Tribune*. Received Pulitzer Prize, Brandeis award, and 20 honorary doctorates)

Tune I – *J.R. Murray*, Tune II – *W.J. Kirkpatrick*

Traditional

See The Little Baby

Chill of the Nightfall

At Christmas Be Merry

Leanne Benson

Donald Swift (if you know something tell me!)

John Horman (Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Kensington, MD)

Libby Larsen (first holder of the Papamarkou Chair in Education & Technology in the John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress)

The Angels and the Shepherds

arr. Stephen Paulus (Guggenheim & NEA Fellowships, co-founder of American Composers Forum)

Star Child

Caroline Carson, David Cole –sing with us on the refrain!

Brian Wren (English, but lives and teaches here in GA!)

Ave Maria

Scott Atwood (*Vox Aeterna* professional ensemble, Charleston, SC)

Carols from the Southwest:

Oh Bethlehem

On December's Frozen Ground

Bell After Bell

Conrad Susa (Chair of composition - San Francisco Conservatory, scored many PBS documentaries)

Simple Gifts

Caroline Carson, Kim Hornsby

Aaron Copland (1900-1990 Wrote ballet, orchestral, choral and movie scores. For the better part of four decades Aaron Copland was considered the premier American composer.)

Blue Christmas

Billy Hayes & Jay Johnson (Written in 1945, first recording was by Hugo Winterhalter and his Orchestra. Rock and roll versions have been around since 1957. Made super-famous by Elvis)

Rise Up Shepherd and Follow

Traditional arr. by Roger Emerson (Popular composer, arranger, and clinician from Oregon)

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Lynn Smith, Will Humphrey

arr. John Wesley Work, Jr. (1872-1925) (pioneer in collecting, performing, and preserving African-American folk music. Taught Latin & Greek at Fisk University)

Carol Sing – See the handout and sing with us!

Christmas in About Three Minutes!

Arr. Mark Weston

Donations are gratefully accepted this evening as you exit the church. The collection will be used for postage/publicity, accompanist fees, and rental of orchestral parts for our spring concert (repertoire TBA). Checks may be made out to “First Presbyterian Church – Music/MSG”

A HUGE **thank you** to the following people who have made this evening possible and have been extra helpful and encouraging throughout the rehearsal season: First Presbyterian Church and Rev. Julia Parker Simmons, David Cole, Gay Cowan, Maria DeBacco, Rae Phillips, Rev. Dr. Chuck K. Robertson, Louise Sallstrom, Arnie Wade and Dr. Larry D. Wyatt.

Milledgeville Singer's Guild Personnel

Soprano I

Leanne Benson – student extraordinaire

Becky Henderson – I love to sing!

Dianna Hornsby – Recently undertook the challenge of her life...teaching Pre- K !

Lindsey Hornsby – Future American Idol

Rae Phillips – “Bride-zilla” at her best!

Lynn Smith – Life without music is like a forever winter.

Soprano II

Shirley Eady – Music is a primary part of my life.

Kim Hornsby – Make a joyful noise! Go Braves!

May Lee – no news is good news...

Cindy Rivers – Enjoy learning all over again by teaching my seven-year-old at home.

Ruby Werts – the most “un-retired” retired teacher!

Alto

Kathy Adams – Recently transplanted from the Lone Star State

Grace Anne Azahar – “Oh, Bother!”

Nancy Jay – Art and Music are my major loves.

Cathy Maddox – Singing and music are my life.

Louise Sallstrom – To God be glory, laud, and honor forever and ever!

Tenor

Gay Cowan – Xena in disguise.

William L. Humphrey – The concert is at 8:00 right?

Bass

David Cole - Maestro

John Hargaden – Used to be an alien, loves to sing...

Eustace Palmer – I AM an alien!

Arnie Wade – Living with “Bride-zilla”!

Caroline Carson, Director - Caroline teaches at Central HS Magnet in Macon and is Dir. of Music Ministry at First Presbyterian in Milledgeville. She has served on the faculties of GC&SU and Shenandoah Conservatory. This is her fourth year as visiting professor at the University of Varna, Bulgaria. Caroline holds a BM in Music Education from the University of South Carolina and an MM in Conducting from Emory University. She is completing (slowly) her doctorate in Conducting at USC.

David Cole, Accompanist – David is a professional musician originally from North Carolina and is a new resident of Milledgeville. He holds Church Music degrees in Organ and Voice from Furman and Samford Universities. David currently serves as Minister of Music at Hardwick Baptist Church.

Maria DeBacco, Accompanist – Maria currently teaches piano and is an accompanist at GC&SU. She received her BM and MM in Piano Performance from Memphis State University in Tennessee. Maria also currently is the pianist and organist at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church in Macon.

About the group... Our singers come from all walks of life and give their time each Monday evening for the love of singing. Last year, the group performed Vivaldi's *Gloria* and portions of Handel's *Messiah* with a small orchestra during the holiday season. In the spring, the ensemble gave a poetry recital and sang half of Brahms's *ein Deustches Requiem*. We hope to increase our size and that you will consider singing with us! Spring rehearsals will be Mondays from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Contact Caroline Carson at choralmusicrules@hotmail.com or call (478) 453-2646 for more information.

CAROL SING

Jolly Old St. Nicholas

Jolly old Saint Nicholas,
Lean your ear this way!
Don't you tell a single soul
What I'm going to say;
Christmas Eve is coming soon;
Now, you dear old man,
Whisper what you'll bring to me;
Tell me if you can.

When the clock is striking twelve,
When I'm fast asleep,
Down the chimney broad and black,
With your pack you'll creep;
All the stockings you will find
Hanging in a row;
Mine will be the shortest one,
You'll be sure to know.

Johnny wants a pair of skates;
Susy wants a sled;
Nellie wants a picture book;
yellow, blue, and red;
Now I think I'll leave you to
What to give the rest;
Choose for me, old Santa Claus,
You will know the best.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the
silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are
met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together,
proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and
peace to all on earth!

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow,
in a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go,
laughing all the way. (ha ha ha)
Bells on bob-tails ring,

making spirits bright, What fun it is to
ride and sing a sleighing song tonight.

*Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the
way! O what fun it is to ride in a one-
horse open sleigh. (hey!)
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the
way! O what fun it is to ride in a one-
horse open sleigh!*

A day or two ago,
I thought I'd take a ride
and soon Miss Fanny Bright,
was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank, misfortune
seemed his lot;
He got into a drifted bank and we got
upsoot.

Oh....Jingle bells...

The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
Jack Frost nipping at your nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Eskimos.

Everybody knows a turkey and some
Mistletoe help to make the season bright.
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow
will find it hard to sleep tonight.

They know that Santa's on his way!
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies
on his sleigh. And ev'ry mother's child is
gonna spy to see if reindeer really know
how to fly.

And so, I'm offering this simple phrase -
to kids from one to ninety-two.
Altho' it's been said, many times,
Many ways; "Merry Christmas to you"

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light. From now on
our troubles will be out of sight.
Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yule-tide gay,
From now on, our troubles will be
miles away.

Here were are as in olden days,
happy golden days of yore.

Faithful friends who are dear to us
gather near to us once more.

Through the years we all will be
together if the Fates allow.
Hang a shining star upon the highest
bough and have yourself - a merry little
Christmas now.

Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la...
Strike the harp and join the chorus.
Fa la la...
Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la...
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la...

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la...
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la...
Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la...
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la, la la la la!

Rudolf the Red-nosed Reindeer

Rudolf, the red-nosed reindeer
had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw him,
you would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer
used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolf
play in any reindeer games.
Then one foggy Christmas eve
Santa came to say:
"Rudolf with your nose so bright,
won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"
Then all the reindeer loved him
as they shouted out with glee:
"Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer,
you'll go down in history!"

Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks
dressed in holiday style.
In the air there's a feeling
of Christmas
Children laughing, people passing,
Meeting smile after smile-
and on ev'ry street corner you'll hear:

*Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, hear them sing
Soon it will be Christmas day*

Strings of street lights Even stop lights
Blink a bright red and green
As the shoppers rush
home with their treasures

Hear the snow crunch, See the kids
bunch, this is Santa's big scene;
And above all this bustle, You'll hear

*Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, hear them sing
Soon it will be Christmas day*

Let it Snow!

Oh, the weather outside is frightful,
But the fire is so delightful,
And since we've no place to go,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

It doesn't show signs of stopping,
And I brought some corn for popping;
The lights are turned way down low,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

When we finally say good night,
How I'll hate going out in the storm;
But if you really hold me tight,
All the way home I'll be warm.

The fire is slowly dying,
And, my dear, we're still good-bye-ing,
But as long as you love me so,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy
soul -
With a corn cob pipe and a button nose
and two eyes made out of coal.
Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale they say
He was made of snow, but the children

know how he came to life one day.
There must have been some magic in that
old silk hat they found -
For when they placed it on his head,
he began to dance around!
Ohhhhhhhh.....
Frosty the snowman - was alive as he
could be!
And the children say he could laugh
and play just the same as you and me!

*Thumpetty thump thump
thumpety thump thump
Look at Frosty go,
Thumpetty thump thump
thumpety thump thump
Over the hills of snow!*

Frosty the snowman knew the sun was hot
that day...
So he said "Let's run and we'll have some
fun now before I melt away.
" Down to the village with a broomstick in
his hand -
Running here and there all around the
square saying
"Catch me if you can!"
He led them down the streets of town
right to the traffic cop, and he only paused
a moment when he heard him holler
"Stop!"
For Frosty the snow man
had to hurry on his way -
But he waved goodbye saying
"Don't you cry,
I'll be back again some day!"

*" Thumpetty thump thump
thumpety thump thump
Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump
thumpety thump thump
Over the hills of snow!*

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and
triumphant,
Oh come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of
angels;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the
Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the
Lord.

Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the
feast of Stephen.
When the snow lay round about, deep
and crisp and even.
Brightly shone the moon that night,
though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight,
gathering winter fuel.

Hither page and stand by me if thou
knowst it telling:
Yonder peasant, who is he, where and
what his dwelling?

Sire, he lives a good league hence,
underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence, by Saint
Agnes' fountain.

Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring
me pine logs hither.
Thou and I will see him dine when we
bear them thither

Page and monarch forth they went, forth
they went together
Through the rude wind's wild lament,
and the bitter weather.

Sire the night is darker now, and the
wind blows stronger.
Fails my heart I know now how, I can
go no longer.

Mark my footsteps my good page, tread
thou in them boldly.
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze
thy blood less coldly.

In his master's steps he trod where the
snow lay dinted.
Heat was in the very sod which the saint
had printed.

Therefore Christian men be sure, wealth
or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor, shall
yourselves find blessing.

Happy Holidays!