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*The Cumberland Singers Present*  
**Autumn to Auld Lang Syne**

*Music from fall to winter  
with a healthy dose of Christmas in between*

**Friday, December 14, 2007 ~ 8:00 PM**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg**

**Saturday, December 15 ~ 7:00 PM**

**Community United Methodist Church, New Cumberland**

**Sunday, December 16 ~ 3:00 PM**

**Shepherdstown United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg**

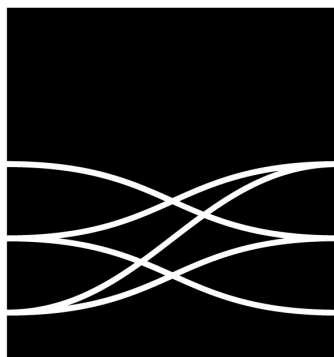
**Tuesday, December 18 ~ 7:30 PM**

**Messiah Village, Mechanicsburg**

***Alissa Plant,  
Director***

***Lindy Mack,  
Accompanist***





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**Merry Christmas!**

**the basses**

**Bruce, Ed, Jack, Jim, John and Nathan**



## About the Cumberland Singers

The Cumberland Singers are a non-auditioned community choir, performing each Christmas and spring season in varied musical styles, including classical, popular, Broadway, jazz, folk, multi-cultural and holiday. We have been enjoying and celebrating music for over thirty years—our original 25 singers first performed on June 19, 1976.

We welcome all singers of any range and ability. The only requirements for joining us are a love of singing, willingness to practice and learn parts, and a time commitment to weekly rehearsals and seasonal concerts. The ability to read music is desirable but not necessary.

The choir rehearses for the holiday concerts from September to December and for the spring concerts from January to April. Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:15 PM at the Mechanicsburg Middle School.

To help cover our music and staffing expenses, Cumberland Singers members pay dues at the beginning of each season. Members are also asked to participate in fundraising activities throughout the season.

We welcome your participation in the Cumberland Singers as a singer, volunteer, or board member. Speak with one of us today for more information, or contact the director any time at 367-8030 or [imamezzo@aol.com](mailto:imamezzo@aol.com).

For more information, including rehearsal and concert dates, visit our website at [www.CumberlandSingers.org](http://www.CumberlandSingers.org).

*Support for this program is provided through a partnership with Fry Communications, a printing company specializing in shaping communications for the future. For more information on Fry, visit [www.frycomm.com](http://www.frycomm.com).*





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## About the Director

Alissa Plant is conducting her 8th season with the Cumberland Singers. Her other musical adventures include directing and singing with the women's a cappella ensemble **Marmalade** and teaching private voice lessons in her home studio.

[www.divadea.com](http://www.divadea.com)



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## About the Accompanist

Lindy Mack has been providing the accompaniment for the Cumberland Singers since 2001. He has played piano since the age of five and has been recording and performing professionally since 1975.

He has a degree in Piano Performance from the California State University, East Bay, and his experiences have taken him to various parts of the U.S. and internationally. He has performed and recorded with California groups The Magic Flute, the Jeannine Carol Project, Jupiter II, Memorabilia and Ally.

In addition to playing piano, he plays drums with the Singer Band of Mechanicsburg, where he occasionally conducts and plays the alto sax. He is also a keyboardist and vocalist for the local folk music trio, We3.

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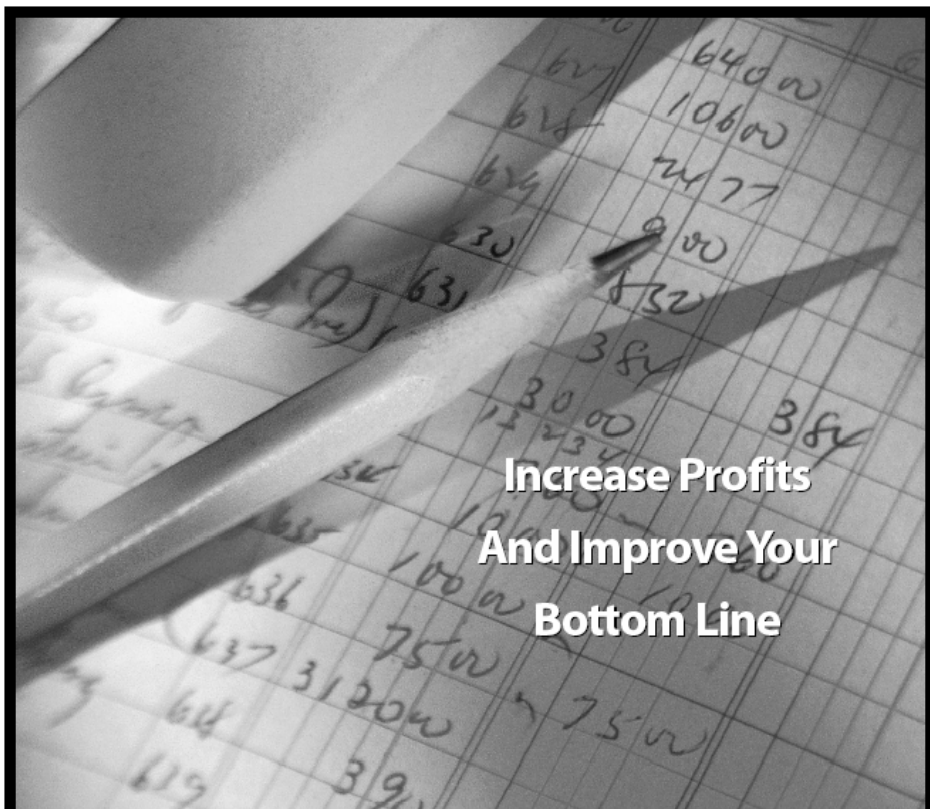
After years as a Cumberland Singers "groupie," I joined one of the most fun & friendly groups! I've never felt more welcome & at home.

Thanks guys!

Now I wonder...why didn't I join sooner? Don't put it off another season!

See you in January at practice!!

*Lisa*



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**Many thanks to this season's music sponsors!**

Auld Lang Syne ~ Ron Flory  
Autumn Leaves ~ Hollich Studios  
Blow Winds of Fall ~ Lindy and Vicki Mack  
Christmas Waltz ~ Tom Longenecker  
Fields of Gold ~ Russ and Paulette Matthews  
Huron Carol ~ Linda Figueroa  
I Saw Three Ships ~ Arleen Shulman  
It's Christmas Eve ~ Barb Ward  
Past Three O'Clock ~ Tina Stauffer  
Rise Up Shepherd and Follow ~ George Hollich  
Try to Remember ~ Connie Shover  
Velvet Shoes ~ Judi Koppenhaver  
What Child is This ~ Sandra Loyer







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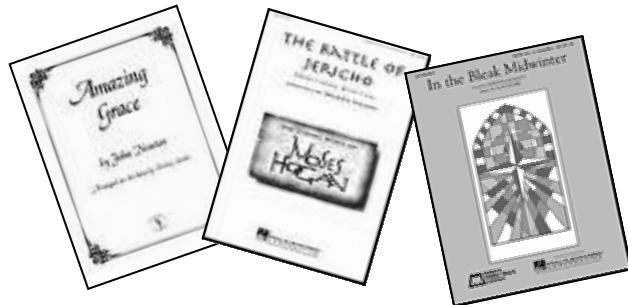
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hoot, just a  
little bit of  
nanny.”



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## PROGRAM

### **Velvet Shoes**

**Ruth Elaine Schram**

A simple and beautiful setting of an Elinor Wylie poem, sung by the women of the choir.

### **Oh Radiant Light**

**Alissa Plant and Anmarie Jezorski**

The director and president of the Cumberland Singers teamed up this season to compose an original piece for winter.

### **Winter Light**

**Zbigniew Preisner, Linda Ronstadt and Eric Kaz  
arr. Jackie O'Neill**

From the motion picture *Secret Garden*.

### **Auld Lang Syne**

**trad. Scottish tune/Robert Burns  
arr. James Gossler**

And we've made it through fall, Christmas and winter, arriving at the New Year. This song, penned in the 1700's, is often sung at midnight on New Year's Eve and at memorial events.

### **A Merry Christmas**

**trad. West Country English carol  
arr. Arthur Warrell**

Mmmm, figgy pudding...



**Thank you**

for attending the Cumberland Singers *Autumn to Auld Lang Syne* concert today. We truly appreciate and enjoy our audience!  
Please join us after the program for a reception.

# PROGRAM

## It's Christmas Eve

R. G. Rhoades

An original holiday choral anthem by Randy Rhoades, a local musician who composes, teaches music lessons and performs throughout the central PA area.

## Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish

*Sleigh Bells: Paulette Matthews*

A beloved song, recorded by everyone from the Mormon Tabernacle Choir to Ella Fitzgerald to the Spice Girls.

## The Christmas Waltz

Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

arr. Pete Schmutte

## A Musicological Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas

Craig Courtney

An original, to say the least, take on a familiar carol. Whether you're the snobbiest of music snobs, a listener only, or somewhere in between, this journey through styles of western music from past to present is good fun.

### 1. A Partridge from 6th Century Rome

*Solo: Ron Flory*

### 2. Two Turtle Doves from 15th Century France

*Ensemble: Jenna Raniowski, Miriam McMechen, Ron Flory, Nate Crowther*

### 3. Three French Hens from 16th Century Italy

### 4. Four Calling Birds from 17th Century Italy

### 5. Five Gold Rings from 18th Century Germany

### 6. Six Geese a-Laying from 18th Century Austria

### 7. Seven Swans a-Swimming from 19th Century France

### 8. Eight Maids a-Milking from 19th Century Germany

### 9. Nine Ladies Dancing from 19th Century Austria

### 10. Ten Lords a-Leaping from 19th Century Italy

### 11. Eleven Pipers Piping from 19th Century Russia

*And finally (drum roll, please...)*

### 12. Twelve Drummers Drumming from 19th Century United States of America

## The Cumberland Singers

### BASSES

Bruce Smith  
Ed Bittner  
Jack Hakes  
Jim Nagy  
John Succa  
Nate Crowther

### ALTOS

Barb Ward  
Becky Noll  
Christine Burhans  
Connie Shover  
Judi Koppenhaver  
Kathy Kline  
Lennie Nyman  
Linda Figueroa  
Linda Tschopp  
Lisa Lyons  
Paulette Matthews  
Sandra Loyer  
Tina Moyer  
Tina Stauffer

### TENORS

Bob Fake  
Don Allan  
Frank Fisher  
Ron Flory  
Russ Matthews  
Tom Longenecker

### SOPRANOS

Amy Braun  
Anmarie Jezorski  
Billie Hakes  
Janeé Robinson  
Jenna Raniowski  
Judy Wiley  
Karen Vittone  
Karen Volles  
Kim Hollich  
Miriam McMechen  
Steph Hoot  
Susan Johnson

### Board of Directors

Anmarie Jezorski, President  
Tom Longenecker, Vice President  
Amy Braun, Secretary  
Miriam McMechen, Treasurer

## PROGRAM

### Blow, Winds of Fall

Greg Gilpin

Welcome to our concert. We open with an original modern choral setting of a poem by John Parker. For many people, the best time of year is when autumn starts to move in, leaving behind the oppressive heat and bringing the energizing fresh air and beautiful colors.

### Try to Remember

Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones  
arr. Jay Althouse

*Solo: Ed Bittner*

*Ensemble: Ed Bittner, Susan Johnson, Linda Tschopp, Russ Matthews,*

*Lisa Lyons*

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

From the long-running musical *The Fantastiks*.

### Autumn Leaves

Joseph Kosma and Johnny Mercer  
arr. Deke Sharon

*Ensemble: Amy Braun, Miriam McMechen, Susan Johnson, Jenna*

*Raniowski, Paulette Matthews, Becky Noll, Ron Flory, Russ Matthews,*

*Tom Longenecker, Nate Crowther, Jim Nagy, Ed Bittner, Lindy Mack*

This jazz standard was originally in French, with poetry written by Jacques Prévert. The English words were written by Johnny Mercer in 1949, and the song has been recorded numerous times by groups and individuals and for several films.

### Fields of Gold

G. M. Sumner  
arr. Roger Emerson

*Solos: Amy Braun, Jim Nagy*

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

This popular love song evokes images of late summer evenings and autumn harvest.

### I Saw Three Ships

trad. English carol  
arr. Russell Robinson

In reading a bit about this traditional holiday carol, I found that it has almost infinite verses and just as many interpretations. What does the *three* stand for? Three ships of Columbus? Three wise men? The three virtues of faith, hope and charity? Or possibly none of the above. I like to think of this piece as a children's Christmas lullaby, simple and sweet.

## PROGRAM

### Past Three O'Clock

trad. English carol  
arr. Eugene Butler

*Ensemble: Steph Hoot, Anmarie Jezorski, Karen Volles, Linda Tschopp, Kathy Kline, Barb Ward, Tina Moyer, Ron Flory, Bob Fake, Connie Shover, John Succa, Ed Bittner, Jim Nagy*

Also known as the *Carol of the Town Watchman*, this is, again, a traditional carol using the number three, and it happens to have way more verses than we will sing today. My favorite of the verses found goes like this: *Cheese from thy dairy, bring it for Mary. And not for money, butter and honey.*

### Huron Carol

trad. French folk song  
arr. Ed Henderson

Originally, this carol was written in 1641 to an old French tune by Jesuit priest Jean de Brebeuf, who was working as a missionary in Sainte-Marie in Canada among the Hurons. The English lyrics were written in 1926 by Jesse Edgar Middleton. Its intent was to tell the nativity story with words and concepts familiar to the Hurons at the time, and it even uses the Algonquian name for God, Gitchi Manitou.

### Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

trad. carol  
arr. Jeff Funk

*Solos: Bob Fake, John Succa, Nate Crowther, Bruce Smith*

This traditional carol is sung today by the men of the choir with a bit of call and response.

### What Child is This

trad. English tune  
arr. Donald McCullough

A glorious arrangement of this well-known tune, also known as *Greensleeves*.

~Intermission~