

# Faith in Focus: Music Made in Heaven celebrates children who died too soon



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Music Made in Heaven, a Raleigh handbell choir that performs in memory of children who have died, will present its annual Gathering Concert on Sunday, May 15.



Each bell the choir rings has been donated by a parent, and the name of the child is inscribed on the handle. At the concert, each bell will ring and the name of each child will be read aloud.

Music Made in Heaven was founded by Elizabeth Barnes, who lost her 9-year-old daughter Janet to a devastating tornado that swept through Raleigh in 1988. Barnes is a ringer in the choir, and nearly all of the members have lost a child.

Throughout the year the group participates in memorial services, sings holiday carols at Duke University Hospital and last year organized a mass ringing of the national anthem at a Durham Bulls baseball game with more than 100 ringers from other handbell choirs.

The Gathering Concert will begin at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at First Baptist Church on Salisbury Street in downtown Raleigh. For more information about the choir, go to [www.mmibraleigh.org](http://www.mmibraleigh.org).