

## AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup> , 2012 GREAT NEWS!

"When you let go, you'll be carried along, on the breath of a song. All will be well"  
From *Carry Us Through This Night*

Dear Friends, Far and Near -

I have exciting news to share. After a year of some painful transitions, life has taken an unexpected and wonderful turn. My husband Scott has been hired as the new business manager for Holden Village, a remote retreat center high in the Cascade Mountains. I'll be the new Posti...Postmistress...and will work on programming. We will be there for two or three years, then will return to Bellingham. As I sit among the boxes and clutter of 35 years of living in this house, I need to keep reminding myself of the blessings of letting go. How hard it is to leave that which is comfortable and familiar! But that has been my challenge of the past year, and I believe in my bones that this is all happening as it should.

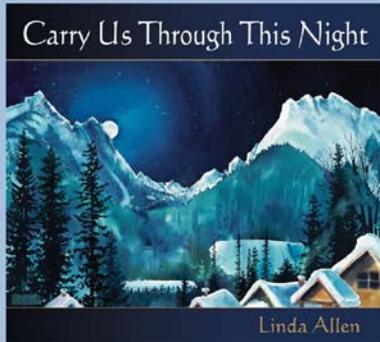
Holden Village has been a sacred place to me since working there as a college student in 1966. It's been a beacon of what an intentional community can look like. And because community building through music and art has been my passion for all these years, Holden has always been special. Last October I spent a month there as Creative Resident, writing 18 songs for the two Threshold Choirs that I have founded and directed.

And that leads me to my second exciting news. The new CD, *Carry Us Through This Night*, is now complete, and the accompanying songbook should be at the printers any day. There are 28 songs on the CD and in the songbook – 18 new songs and 10 from previous recordings, all fitting the theme of "songs to heal the heart and lift the spirit". I've attached the cover photo, and a poster for the upcoming CD Release and Benefit concert that will be held September 5<sup>th</sup>, here in Bellingham at the YWCA at 7:30. I'll be joined by Julian Smedley on strings, Karen FitzGerald on piano, and more musical friends. I hope you can join me to celebrate this new recording and songbook, as I say farewell for a few years.

I won't completely disappear: I'll be doing a "Here's to the Women!" presentation on September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Tahoma UU Church in Tacoma at 2:00, and I'll be doing a concert on Saturday, November 10th in Seattle...details to follow.

To order the new CD, please visit my web site's ordering page: <http://www.lindasongs.com/pages/order.html>. It's the old-fashioned way...print out the form and send a check. We'll soon be updating the site to include more information, ways to order, song samples, and more...but after the move. It will soon be available on CDBaby, I-Tunes and more, but after the move. For those of you in Bellingham, it is available at Village Books.

Colleen O'Rell, my beloved friend and singing sister, is taking over as director of Women with Wings. I will so miss the opportunities to sing with these wonderful women who have been my friends and companions over the past year. But I'm thinking maybe we'll have a Holden Village Threshold Choir!



**Carry Us Through This Night**  
Linda Allen

★ ★ ★

WEDNESDAY, September 5 7:30  
★ YWCA, 1026 N. Forest.

Linda Allen with Karen FitzGerald, Julian Smedley, and a host of musical friends in a concert benefitting  
★ Women with Wings,  
a healing song community bringing music to those who are lonely, isolated, ill or dying.

★ \$10.00 Tickets available at  
Village Books and Community Food Coops.  
Sponsored by Whatcom Homemade Music Society  
and Whatcom Family & Community Network

And I'll certainly plan to keep teaching and sharing this work. I'm thinking a Spring "Healing Songs" retreat at Holden. Stay tuned!

Many blessings to you all. Come visit me at Holden!

With love,

Linda

PS: Here's a link with more information about Holden Village:

[www.holdenvillage.org](http://www.holdenvillage.org)