



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers



2018

page 5

UKRAINE

Retreat

page 4

CONTENTS

- 2 Directions
- 3 Presidential Ponderings
- 4 Retreat Information
- 5 News You Need
- 6 Leadership/Schedule



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DIRECTIONS

Happy New Master'Singers Year! I am excited to have you with us on the 2017-2018 journey! I am honored that God has led you to give of your time, your talent and your heart for God to serve Him in this ministry. I have been and will continue to pray that God will bless and encourage you as you serve this year; that God will use you as you proclaim His message through music; that God will expand your fellowship and friendships with new brothers and sisters throughout our state and strengthen the friendships with those long-time friends. I know how difficult it can be to walk away from the office on Master'Singers day. You have to work ahead, you have to make family arrangements...I understand that. That is why I pray so diligently that God will make EACH time we meet such a blessing and joy to you that you will ALWAYS walk away saying IT WAS WORTH EVERY BIT OF THE EFFORT IT TOOK!



God uses you in such a powerful way. Where else in Arkansas can people go to hear an incredible 200+ voice choir singing for the glory of God? Don't get me wrong...there are some AWESOME choirs in our state led by amazing worship leaders, but very, very, very few of our 1554 churches get to hear what you offer. So let's practice, let's pray, let's humbly commit and serve with our whole hearts and let's give God glory with all we have to offer!!! That sounds like some pretty incredible fun to me!

Thank you Geyer Springs First Baptist and Jon Skelley for hosting our retreat. A lot of work goes into hosting us...just ask those who have hosted! We will have a great two days! Please make every effort to be a part of the entire retreat. Plan to have your photo made when you arrive on Thursday so it can be put on the website to help people get to know you. We hope to have multiple lines going to make it happen quickly! When you arrive PARK IN THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING AND USE THE MAIN FRONT DOORS TO ENTER!

This is the year for Ukraine. Someone asked me the other day "is it too late?" The answer to that is NO! You may call me crazy, but I'm not at all convinced that we have everyone who is supposed to go. I think we are close, but I think there are a few more people. We have

a few more specific needs. We have a few slight deficits, especially in some ladies voice parts. We will be fine, but I will ask again, are you supposed to be with us? Are you the one who is supposed to meet those needs for our trip? I think Jan and Michael Gott will be with us at the retreat to bring greetings. I know many of you who were on the trip four years ago will look forward to saying hello to them

and many of you who are going this time will have the opportunity to meet our evangelist and his wife.

Let's buckle in for a great year! Again, WELCOME!!!



Larry

Register for the Retreat @
Geyer Springs First Baptist

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



Do You Remember?

Sharon Sanders
Women's Chorus President

Do you remember, as a child, how excited you were at Christmas or your birthday? The anticipation of what was to come was sometimes more than you could possibly endure. Not being able to go to sleep and waking up early to experience whatever the day would bring are vivid memories. The past few weeks I have had some of those same feelings when I think about the upcoming year for Master'Singers. The anticipation of what God has in store for us this year is so exciting. His blessings on our group and on us, as individuals, are waiting for us to claim. Just as our parents and loved ones planned and prepared gifts for us for those special days, God has planned and prepared special blessings for Master'Singers for this upcoming year. Whether it be meeting a new friend at retreat, learning a new song that obviously was chosen "just for you", experiencing the joy of making music with a hundred other musicians who love Jesus, preparing for concerts of worship to share the gospel message, witnessing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through the trip to Ukraine, or a combination of all of these and many more is what awaits us as we gather together. So as we come from the "four corners" of our state, may each of us have that childlike excitement for what will happen this year through our Master'Singers ministry.

Register for the Retreat @
Geyer Springs First Baptist



Impact!

Tim Gunter
Men's Chorus President



The beginning of a new year in Master'Singers is here once again and with it come the prayers, hopes, and dreams for changed lives and incredible music-making with friends from across the state. My prayer is that none of us will ever take for granted the various gifts of music God has blessed and planted within each of us. May we always be thankful for all blessings through good times and bad, and seek to honor Him in all we do. But let us also understand the awesome responsibility we all have to share our gifts for the Kingdom to both the lost and saved whenever we are presented the opportunity. This wasn't a suggestion from Jesus, but rather a command!

I am honored and humbled to serve as the President of the Men's Chorus this year. I look forward to seeing all of you in a few weeks at our retreat, and hope you are making plans to be there. I am privileged to lead in a year that will see us return to Ukraine next April. The memories of watching 4000+ people make a decision for Christ in 2014 is still overwhelming and I so look forward to April 2018 when we go back. If you have not committed to going to Ukraine, I hope and pray you will say "yes" to going with us. As we surrender completely to our Savior in the coming months, there is no limit to what He will do through us while we are there. If we impact even just one life for the Kingdom, the trip will be worth it!!!

Master'Singers makes a huge impact in the lives of those who hear us, but I believe the experience has just as large an impact on the people who participate. Come to the retreat on September 21 and 22 expecting big things! 2017-2018 is going to be an awesome year!!!!!!

RETREAT: Geyer Springs First Baptist

Arkansas Master'Singers Retreat

September 21-22, 2017

Geyer Springs First Baptist Church - Little Rock
Jon Skelley, Host

Schedule for Thursday, September 21

- 10:00 am Leadership Team Meeting (Bride's Room)
- 12:15 pm Check-In/Registration & Photos (Atrium)
- 12:15 pm Tablet Training (See info to the right)
- 1:00 pm Opening Session - Welcome - Choir Room
- 2:00 pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal (Student Auditorium)
- 3:00 pm Fellowship Break (Sanders Hall)
- 4:00 pm Separate Rehearsals
Ladies - Choir Room
Men - Worship Center
- 5:45 pm Dinner & Fellowship (Sanders Hall)
- 6:45 pm Combined Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Instrumental Rehearsal (Student Audit)
- 8:15 pm Cupcakes and Conversation (Sanders Hall)

Schedule for Friday, September 22

- 8:30 am Worship & Devotions
Ladies - Choir Room
Men - Worship Center
- 8:45 am Separate Rehearsals
- 9:45 am Fellowship Break (Sanders Hall)
- 10:30 am Business Mtg/Combined Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 12:30 pm Retreat Concludes

Directions



Tablet Training

12:15 pm - Thursday

For iPads, please download *ForScore* app
For Android *Mobile Sheets* is the best

If you have any questions or need help before the retreat, please contact David Tatum
dtatum@fbcsherwood.org

Music for the Retreat

COMBINED CHORUS

Blessed Jesus
Declare His Glory
Doxology
For God So Loved the World
God
Holy, Holy, Holy
I Believe in a Hill
Call Mount Calvary
It Was Finished
on the Cross
Jesus, Only Jesus
Lord, Have Mercy
My Eternal King
Never Once
Oh, My Jesus
Shine On Us
Take the Name of Jesus
With A Shout

MEN'S CHORUS

Almighty
Grace - Mark Hayes
Holy (Psalm 29)
How Great Thou Art
I'll Fly Away
Jesus Paid It All

WOMEN'S CHORUS

I Sing Because I'm Happy
Only God
Still, My Soul Be Still
Yes, My Jesus Loves Me

[Click for more information](#)



44th Annual Arkansas State Handbell Festival
March 9 & 10, 2018
Calvary Baptist Church - Little Rock

Music Selections

Bound for the Promised Land -
arr. Derek Hakes

All Is Well - arr. Joel Raney

This Is Amazing Grace - arr. Peggy Bettcher

Prelude on Ellecombe - arr. Michael Helman

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Click for more information

PraizFest

January 26 & 27, 2018 - FBC Benton

Clinician: Todd Yokotake - Hawaii Baptist Academy

Get ready for an exciting weekend, Friday night and Saturday, with a massive choir made up of students from all over the state! PraizFest is for students grades 7-12, and students in 6th grade may be included if they are part of the student ministry at your church. Whether your church has a few students who love music and singing, or has several dozen students in a student choir ministry, PraizFest will be an opportunity for them to meet, rehearse, and sing a finale concert with students from all over the state.

Music Selections

Forgiven - arr. Cliff Duren
Death Was Arrested - arr. J. Daniel Smith
God is Our Refuge - Allen Pote
Trust in You - arr. Bradley Knight
I Will Rise - arr. Mike Speck
Alive Forever Amen - arr. Travis Cottrell

Ukraine 2018 - Personnel to Date

Tammy Albrecht
Douglas Allen
Nancy Arnold
Ralph Baker
Mila Baker
Michael Battenfield
Gregg Bennett
Carrie Brown
Jane Byers
Rick Couch
Bob Endel
Lequieta Endel
Danny Fagala
Mark Galbreath
William Glover
Larry Grayson
Judy Grimmatt
Tim Gunter
Lamona Gunter
Barbara Hulsey
Larry Killian
Robert Kloap
Lynda Martin
Cynthia McKinstry
GeorgeAnne McMoran

Becky McPherson
Gene McPherson
Jerry Miller
Bart Morrison
John David Neeley
Don Nichols
David Nipps
Peter O'Connell
Pattie O'Connell
Doris O'Connell
Sharon Pearcy
Phil Powers
Carleen Powers
Gaye Ramsey
Robert Ramsey
Jim Raney
Butch Riddle
Glenda Riddle
Sharon Sanders
Bob Sharpe
Michael Shields
Dee Spann
Calleen Spigner
Darrell Spigner

Clint Stanley
Christina Stanley
Glynn Stewart
Jeff Stotts
David Tatum
Kevin Taylor
Will Thompson
Janie Thompson
Brian Trostle

Nancy Trull
Wayne Trull
Joe Vallandingham
Glenda Vallandingham
Sam Wakefield
Peggy Wakefield
Laverne Wallace
Carrie Weindorf
Gordon Wells
Phyllis Wells
David Whittington
Jerry Williams
Jerry Wilson



Everyone who has registered online to go to Ukraine must download and complete this form and bring it to Retreat, or another AMS Event. This form is used to purchase tickets and such. Copies will also be available at the Retreat. Thanks!



2017 - 2018

Events

September 21-22, 2017

Annual Retreat
Geyer Springs First Baptist
Little Rock

October 12, 2017

Concert of Worship
Williams Baptist College
Walnut Ridge

November 7, 2017

AMS at ABSC Annual Meeting
First Baptist Church
Russellville

February 22, 2018

Concert of Worship
Central Baptist Church
Conway

March 15, 2018

Split Concerts of Worship
Central Baptist - Magnolia
First Baptist - Searcy
Balboa Baptist - Hot Springs Village

April 5, 2018

Concert of Worship
First Baptist Church
Sherwood

April 16 - 27, 2018

Ukraine Mission Trip



2017-2018 Leadership Team



Larry Grayson
Director



Tim Gunter
President



Andrew Pouncey
1st Vice President



Ken Holland
2nd Vice President



Berrik Brumley
Ten 1 Host



David Gagel
Ten 2 Host



Gene McPherson
Baritone Host



Michael Battenfield
Bass Host



Phillip Johnson
Chaplain



Bart Morrison
Accompanist



Darrell Spigner
Seating Coord.



Randy Cross
Seating Coord.



David Tatum
Communications



Doug Moore
Inst. Ens. Director



Carrie Taylor
Director



Sharon Sanders
President



Elizabeth Barnett
1st Vice President



Missy Hines
2nd Vice President



Cheri Cloud
Sop 1 Host



Lequieta Endel
Sop 2 Host



Becky McPherson
Alto 1 Host



Doris O'Connell
Alto 2 Host



Janie Thompson
Chaplain



Peggy Pearson
Accompanist



Glenda Riddle
Seating Coord



Mary Winters
Seating Coord



Lamona Gunter
Past-President