



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers

Go therefore and make
disciples of all the nations,
baptizing them
in the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit

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CONFERENCE **E**
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A Cooperative Program Ministry of



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DIRECTIONS

Happy New Year, Master'Singers!

I have missed seeing you over the last few months and I am so ready to be back together again! Your ministry is loved and appreciated in our state. Thank you for being a committed part of us!

I am extremely grateful to David Tatum for taking on this newsletter to Master'Singers. Communication is so important! We will use this to give you event details and to share other thoughts and insights.

We have two back-to-back events coming up. The State Evangelism Conference is January 30 at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church in Little Rock, and our next Concert of Worship is Thursday, February 2 at Grand Avenue in Ft. Smith. If you need to make a choice, please choose the Concert of Worship at Grand Avenue. That certainly doesn't undermine the privilege we have to sing for the Evangelism Conference, but we only sing a short time for that event. Grand Avenue is preparing to host an entire evening of you singing the gospel!

At the Evangelism Conference this year, Jim Cymbala, pastor of Brooklyn Tabernacle is speaking on Monday evening after we sing. Because of that, we will sing a couple of Brooklyn Tabernacle songs that we will learn Monday afternoon as well as a few worship songs with the Cross Church Worship Leading Team. A schedule for that day can be found on page 4.

Keith Clutts, host for Grand Avenue, is preparing for all of you. They have a great choir/orchestra at Grand Avenue, so they have a strong choir/orchestra following in their community. We should be able to lead worship for a great group of people that evening. The schedule for that day is also included on page 5 of this newsletter.

If you have not yet indicated your attendance for the E Conference and the Concert of Worship in Ft. Smith, please click on the [BLUE BOX](#) now.

[Click here to Sign-Up for the Evangelism Conference and our Concert at Fort Smith](#)

Not to confuse things, but I also need those of you who have NOT yet indicated your options for the split concert in March to do that ASAP. I sent out an email in December asking for you to give me your options, and I am up to 201 of 255. I will have all who respond divided and assigned by the February Concert of Worship. If you have not yet responded to that email, on the [GREEN BOX](#) now.

[Click here to sign-up for the SPLIT Concerts of Worship in March](#)

And finally, let me respond to a question I was asked: What if inclement weather shows up after we have signed up for an event? Obviously, your safety trumps everything. If we do not cancel the event entirely, you most definitely must do what is best for your safety...no questions asked.

Thanks for all you do in Master'Singers and in your local church!



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



Are You Ready?

Lamona Gunter

Women's Chorus President

We hear some form of that question all the time. "Are you ready for the holidays?" "Are you ready for the big day?" "Are you ready for your final?" Work presentation? Concert? Trip?....and on it goes.

I will confess to you that I'm a little OCD about planning. (Ok, maybe slightly more than a little!) I LOVE to make plans! And, as a new calendar year turns over, I find myself scheduling and looking forward to things like our Master'Singers days, vacations, tennis tournaments, family events, and other fun things that I'm blessed to be able to enjoy. I even look back at the previous year and transfer things over that I know will likely happen around the same date this year – just to make sure something doesn't slip up on me! Then there's also the planning of the not-so-fun things like work projects, doctor appointments, tax preparation, home repairs, and other personal things. However, while all that planning may help me be really informed and organized, unfortunately, it doesn't make me the most flexible or

spontaneous person around if something else gets in the way, or gasp! – gets canceled.

As I think about what Master'Singers means to me and the journey that we are all on together in worshiping and serving our Lord, I want to challenge us to look forward to what God has planned for us as a group. We don't usually get to know His plans in advance, which makes us uncomfortable, but can also be exciting. And, some of us may have been disappointed that the trip to Ukraine for this year was canceled and now think that it's going to be just a regular year for us. But, I am sure that there are people in Ft. Smith, Beebe, Hamburg, Maumelle, and El Dorado who need to know that God loves them and has a "plan" for their life, same as those in Ukraine and anywhere else He might use us in the days and years ahead. Would you pray about where that might be? Could you be open and flexible to God's plans? Would you pray for Larry, and for your Leadership Team, and wait in anticipation for God to lead us and direct us to the right mission fields in Arkansas and beyond, so that we can join Him in His work and minister to those who are hurting and who are without Him? Are YOU ready? I can't wait!

New Year... New Beginnings

David Tatum
Men's Chorus President



Oh my... The holidays are over. The turkey is eaten, the presents unwrapped - and some returned. The special music events are over for a few months. 2016 is in the books, and 2017 has begun. I always love beginnings. As a child, I was weird, and always looked forward to the beginning of a new school year. As an adult, the closing of one chapter and the opening of a new one is exciting and intimidating. There is something wonderful about having a clean, fresh slate - free of mistakes and blunders.

As the calendar has rolled forward to a new year, we have tremendous opportunities to make an impact in the lives of others around us. The first chance we

have to do that as a group is coming up in just a few short days as we sing for the state Evangelism Conference. We will have the opportunity to lead pastors and leaders from across our state in worship and encourage them.

Then, on February 3rd, we will all meet together at Grand Avenue Baptist in Fort Smith for our first Concert of Worship for the new year. Keith and his crew will do a fantastic job of preparing for us, and you will be blessed and be a blessing to those in attendance.

It is such a privilege to serve with you in Master'Singers. I crave the fellowship that we have every time we get together. Master'Singers days are some of my favorite days on the calendar, and it is my hope that you will also make our gatherings a priority during this new year.

IN CONCERT: GRAND AVENUE - FORT SMITH



With great anticipation, we are looking forward to hosting Master'Singers at Grand Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Smith on February 2. People are already asking about the concert and exactly who you are. It's been a very long time since Master'Singers has been in Fort Smith so this will be a very special opportunity for all of us. I know Fort Smith is quite a distance from some of you, but I hope you'll be able to participate with us for this great worship event.

I'm sure most of you will check your maps on your phone for directions, but let me give you a few clues. We are not difficult to find. Take the Grand Avenue exit off of I-540 and proceed west. (If you go east on

Grand, you'll end up in the Arkansas River!) As you travel west, you will pass the University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Keep going and just a few blocks later you will see the church. The main worship center sits on the corner of Grand Avenue and 39th Street. We will have signage directing you into the Worship Center. Parking lots are available on both sides of Grand Avenue, with the main parking areas along 40th Street and between 39th and 40th Streets behind the children's building and the activities building/gym.

Again, we look forward to your ministry in the fort on February 2. Safe travels!

See you in Fort Smith!
Keith Clutts

**Get Publicity Items
for the Grand Ave. Concert of
Worship by clicking here.**

Directions

Grand Avenue Baptist is located at 3900 Grand Avenue in Fort Smith.

From the East: From I-40 take exit 7 onto I-540 for 6 miles. Take exit 6 and turn right onto Grand Avenue. In 1.4 miles, the church will be on your left.

From the South: From Highway 71, merge onto I-540 North. Take exit 6 and turn right onto Grand Avenue. In 1.4 miles, the church will be on your left.



Schedule for the Day

11:00 am	Leadership Team Meeting (Fireside Rm)
12:45 pm	Instrumentalist check-in (Lobby)
1:00 pm	Instrumental Rehearsal (Worship Center)
1:00 pm	Choir check-in and fellowship (Lobby)
1:45 pm	Separate Rehearsals
	Women - Choir Room (downstairs)
	Men - Worship Center
3:00 pm	Break time and refreshments (Gym)
3:45 pm	Combined Rehearsal (Worship Center)
5:30 pm	Dinner & Dress for concert (Gym)
6:45 pm	Line-up and Prayer (Gym)
7:00 pm	Concert of Worship

Tentative Music Order for the Concert

Declare His Glory	Sing and Rejoice
Shine On Us	Blessed Jesus
Lord, Have Mercy	Yes, My Jesus Loves Me
Come, Now is the Time	Almighty
(M) I know that My Redeemer	I Believe in a Hill Called Mt Calvary
(W) I Will Sing of Your Love	Jesus, Only Jesus
Congregational Song	Unto the Lamb
(M) I'll Fly Away	
(W) Only God	
Never Once	

GREAT LUNCH SPOTS NEAR GRAND AVENUE BAPTIST

Here is a list of local restaurants if you are looking for lunch when you arrive...

Green Papaya (Vietnamese), on Grand near the church

George's Restaurant, a favorite lunch joint with great burgers & fries

KFC's and Hardee's are near the church

Chili's, Starbucks, Logan's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chick-fil-A are all on Rogers Avenue (take the Hwy 22 exit off of I-540)

You'll find other fine establishments by checking online

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

2017 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

Geyer Springs First Baptist Church
12400 I-30, Little Rock, AR
Monday, January 30, 2017

BRING YOUR BLACK NOTEBOOK FOR THE MUSIC YOU WILL USE!
Wear solid black.

2:30 p.m. - Meet in the choir room to rehearse/learn the music. We will sing two Brooklyn Tab songs (still trying to make up my mind on those songs) and 2-4 selections with the team from Cross Church that is leading worship. We will only use vocals for this event and sing with the Cross Church Worship Band/Team. Instrumentalists, please sing with us!

4:45 p.m. - Sound check in worship center

6:15 p.m. - Dinner (provided)

7:30 p.m. - Convene in choir room to line up, etc.

7:50 p.m. - Enter loft

8:05 p.m. - Sing 2 Brooklyn Tab selections and selections with Cross Church Team and remain in loft while Jim Cymbala preaches

9:10 p.m. - Evening session concludes



Click any of the following for more information.



March 10-11, 2017
Geyer Spring First Baptist Church



WorshipWorks Camps
July 17-21, 2017
Ouachita Baptist University



January 27-28, 2017
First Baptist Church - Benton



Spring 2017 Events

January 30, 2017
ABSC Evangelism Conference
Geyer Springs First Baptist Church
12400 I-30 - Little Rock

FEBRUARY 2, 2017
Concert of Worship
Grand Avenue Baptist Church
3900 Grand Avenue - Fort Smith

MARCH 2, 2017
Split Concerts of Worship

First Baptist Beebe
101 Hwy 64 West Beebe

First Baptist Church Hamburg
203 E Parker St. - Hamburg

First Baptist Maumelle
100 Valencia Dr - Maumelle

APRIL 20, 2017
Concert of Worship
Municipal Auditorium
El Dorado

MAY 11, 2017
Prison Ministry Day
Tucker Unit



Leadership Team

2016-2017



Larry Grayson
Director



David Tatum
President



Tim Gunter
1st Vice President



Andrew Pouncey
2nd Vice President



Will Thompson
Ten 1 Host



Brian Trostle
Ten 2 Host



Mark Galbreath
Baritone Host



Robert Inzer
Bass Host



Phil Powers
Chaplain



Bart Morrison
Accompanist



Dave Wittington
Past President



Doug Moore
Inst. Ens. Director



Darrell Spigner
Seating Coord.



Randy Cross
Seating Coord.



Carrie Taylor
Director



Lamona Gunter
President



Sharon Sanders
1st Vice President



Elizabeth Barnett
2nd Vice President



Mary Ellen Bowman
Sop 1 Host



Mary Stuart
Sop 2 Host



Linda Swint
Alto 1 Host



Barbara Hulsey
Alto 2 Host



Janie Thompson
Chaplain



Peggy Pearson
Accompanist



Bobbi DeBusk
Past President



Glenda Riddle
Seating Coord



Mary Winters
Seating Coord