



# praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers

**COMING**  
page 5 **UP**

**El Dorado**  
**Concert**  
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A Cooperative Program ministry of



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# DIRECTIONS

A huge thank you for the split concerts on March 2. Every location had a great night of worship! I'm so grateful to directors, accompanists, soloists and for EVERY SINGLE MASTER'SINGER who made this happen. I know we had a great time at Hamburg and I heard only the best of things from Maumelle and Beebe!

And wow...what a generous love offering we got from these three churches: \$4533.44. Per our plan this year, ½ goes to mission trip fund and ½ goes to scholarship fund.

Our last full Concert of Worship is April 20. Tony Weston and Brian Trostle from FBC El Dorado are doing a lot of work to prepare for us. Any time the concert of worship is not in the local church setting, it requires even more detailed planning! Please take note of the schedule of the day...it is different. The instrumental group will rehearse at the Municipal Auditorium. The other rehearsals will be at FBC just a few blocks away. EVERYONE WILL PARK AT VICTORY CHURCH/EL DORADO SHOPPING CENTER and be shuttled to their rehearsal location. Take note that the schedule is a little different so that we can have time to transport to the municipal auditorium and do a sound check there.

It has been a great year, and I can't wait for El Dorado when we get to have everyone back together again! Please click the purple box to confirm your attendance or absence from this event if you have not already done so!

WANT TO RIDE THE BUS TO EL DORADO? Don Nichols

is willing/planning to drive the Levy bus. If he can get 15-20 people to ride and pay \$5.00 each, that will cover the expense of taking the bus. If you want to ride, please contact Don ASAP. Call or text 501-231-3295.

You can print posters for El Dorado and find advertising for electronic media by clicking [HERE](#).

Every year, working out the prison ministry day is difficult. I'm used to that! In the past, we have always been able to work it out, but it doesn't appear that it is going to happen this year. I am so sorry and so sad. I had us set for Tucker since last summer, but communication in recent days revealed that they will only allow a maximum of 25. I tried to get us in at other facilities, but could not make it happen this time. I will certainly miss this incredible opportunity. Maybe we can get several smaller groups together for prison ministry in the future!

After the the El Dorado Concert of Worship, everyone should turn in their music to prevent you having to mail it to me. Collection boxes will be available.

Lastly, we need to be moving toward a mission ministry trip of some kind. Singing in churches all over our state is such a blessing, but a group like ours needs to be challenged to take the gospel beyond our ABSC churches. Would you pray about that? I am trying to do some homework to see if God opens any doors for us, but if I don't have the group behind me in prayer as well as a willingness to consider being a part of such an endeavor, all is vain. Feel free to email me your thoughts, concerns, etc.

Be blessed as you continue to serve! Larry



Register for the El Dorado  
Concert of Worship

# PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



## Is It Over Already?

Lamona Gunter  
Women's Chorus President

I can't believe we are wrapping up another Master'Singers' year! April is here and it's time for our final Concert of Worship, and I am looking forward to the day in El Dorado. It has been a wonderful year of ministry for us as a group. And, although we will soon be taking a break for a few months, I'm already looking forward to the year ahead and whatever the Lord has in store for us. Master'Singers is one of the greatest blessings in my life and I am grateful for the opportunity to sing and participate, but also the opportunity I've had to serve as President of the Women's Chorus this past year. Some of the sweetest things about this group are the friendships that are made, the sweet fellowship among brothers and sisters, and the awesome corporate worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

When we meet in April, we will be presenting our new slate of officers. The Women's Chorus will be under the leadership of Sharon Sanders next year and will be in great hands. I can tell you that she was one of the first people that I met and who made me feel welcome when I joined several years ago. Coming into this group can be an intimidating experience, so that made a big impression on me and she has been a friend ever since. I look forward to her leadership. Her example should challenge us all to be a friend to someone new or someone we don't know and take advantage of the opportunities to build relationships. You never know what a difference it will make!

Thanks for a great year! I love you all and will see you in El Dorado!



## Opportunities

David Tatum  
Men's Chorus President

As Arkansas Master'Singers, we have so many opportunities to impact people for the Kingdom of God. We have had some incredible times of worship this year. Thanks, once again, to all of our hosts. They worked tirelessly to get everything just right, and we so appreciate you!

The Men's Chorus, and I know that the Ladies' Chorus as well, has had a tremendous leadership team this year. To each of you, thank you for your efforts and your work to make Master'Singers so effective in presenting the Gospel. I look forward with great anticipation to the team that God is gathering for next year. I am confident that He will do mighty things through us because of their work.

We have another opportunity to share the Gospel in April. I am so excited that we will be able to sing in the Municipal Auditorium in El Dorado. It is my prayer that God will use this venue and this time to draw others to Himself.

With the last Concert of Worship each year my heart is saddened. I so look forward to our days together. Your fellowship and encouragement, not to mention the incredible musical and worship experiences, help to rejuvenate and refresh me for what I do day in and day out. Why don't you encourage someone else to start that journey with us next year! Our Annual Retreat starts on September 21st at Geyer Springs First Baptist.

See you in El Dorado!



Don Nichols is taking a bus from  
Levy Baptist to El Dorado.

Cost is \$5.00

Contact Don if you'd like to ride!

[Email Don Here](#)

# IN CONCERT: Municipal Auditorium - El Dorado



**Tony Weston**  
Assoc. Pastor  
of Worship

Tony and I are so excited to be hosting Master'Singers in El Dorado this month. It has been over 10 years since the group ministered here in South Arkansas. This regional event encompasses the three counties of Liberty Baptist Association. In addition, we have at least doubled, if not tripled, in size since the last concert in El Dorado.

Many of you will travel a great distance to participate on this day, so we say thank you in advance for your willingness to make the trip. If you are coming early to enjoy lunch on the Square or staying overnight after the concert, there are many great choices now in El Dorado that were not here some 10 years ago. Please feel free to email Tony or me for recommendations.



**Brian Trostle**  
AP Sr. Adults &  
Pastoral Care

Parking is an important item to be aware of for this day. You need to park at Victory Church, located at 1432 N West Ave. Please fill up the parking lot staying closest to N West Ave and moving to the west. Please do not park at the Municipal Auditorium. Parking is limited, and we need to save it for our concert attendees.

In both of these situations you will be shuttled to FBC. Shuttles will begin from both lots at 12 Noon. Parking and Check-in for the **Instrumentalists** will be at the El Dorado Municipal Auditorium located at 100 W 8th St. Please park in the above lots after delivering all your gear and then walk to the Auditorium.

When the concert concludes everyone will have a short walk back to your vehicles from the Auditorium.

**Get Publicity Items  
for the El Dorado Concert of  
Worship by clicking here.**

We will have a shorter turnaround for dinner and getting dressed since we have to shuttle to the Municipal Auditorium. You may want to consider wearing much or most of your concert attire. **WEAR GOOD SHOES!!!** While we will have a sit row at the concert, there will not be seating on the stage for the rest of us. Like we did at Ouachita, the men will file off the stage and sit while the ladies sing their three numbers and the ladies will file off the stage and sit while the men sing their three songs.

**Don Nichols is taking a bus from Levy Baptist to El Dorado. Cost is \$5.00  
Contact Don if you'd like to ride!**

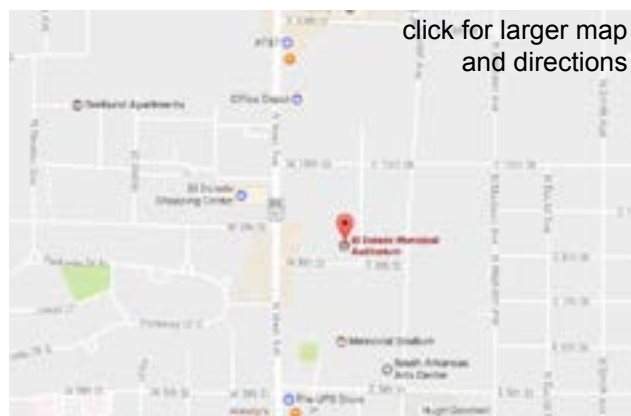
## Directions

From the North:

Use US 167 or AR 7 south. N. West Avenue is Highway 167B.

From the East or West:

Take Highway 82 to Highway 82B, the 167B



## Schedule for the Day

11:00 am	Leadership Team Meeting (FBC ED)
12:45 pm	Instrumentalist check-in (Municipal Audit)
1:00 pm	Instrumental Rehearsal (Municipal Audit)
1:00 pm	Choir check-in and fellowship (FBC ED)
1:45 pm	Separate Rehearsals Women - FBC Worship Center Men - FBC Chapel
2:45 pm	Break time and refreshments
3:15 pm	Combined Rehearsal (FBC Worship Center)
4:30 pm	Dinner & Dress for concert (Gym)
5:15 pm	Shuttle to the Concert Venue
5:45 pm	Combined Rehearsal & Sound Check
7:00 pm	Concert of Worship

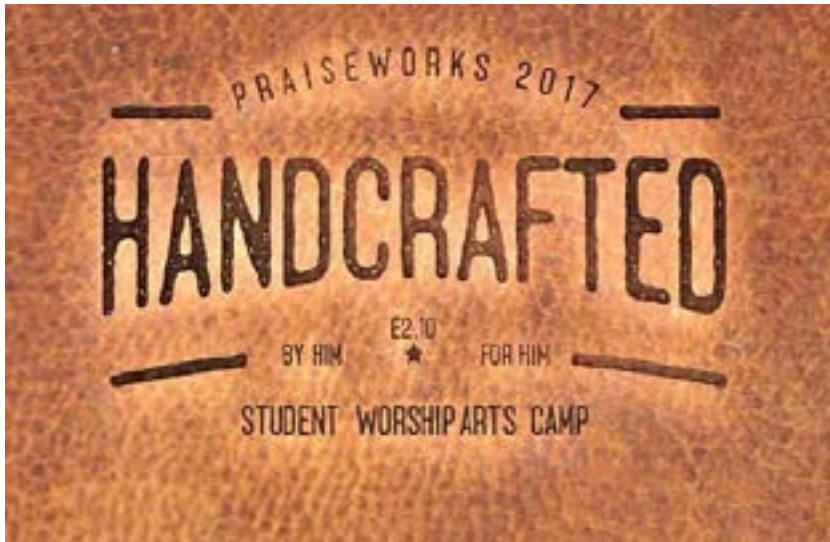
## Tentative Music Order for the Concert

Declare His Glory	Men's Chorus
Shine On Us	I'll Fly Away
Come, Now is the Time	Almighty
Lord, Have Mercy	God Loved the World
Blessed Jesus	Offertory (Women return)
Reading (Men Leave Stage)	Never Once
Women's Chorus	I Believe In A Hill Called Mt.
I Will Sing Of Your Love	Calvary
Yes, My Jesus Loves Me	The Gospel Story
Only God	Jesus, Only Jesus
Congregational Worship (Men return, women leave)	Unto the Lamb



# NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Click any of the following for more information.



Click above to watch the 2017 PraiseWorks Promotional Video



Click above to watch the 2017 JoyWorks Promotional Video

## Arkansas Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship

The Arkansas Master'Singers are committed to encouraging and equipping future worship leaders. The Arkansas Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of deceased members, is awarded annually and designed to support a student who is preparing for some type of vocational ministry through music. Funds for the \$1000 scholarship, renewable for up to three additional successive academic years, are received in the form of memorial gifts and freewill offerings at concerts of worship presented annually by the Master'Singers. Scholarship application forms and information for the 2017-2018 academic year are available now on the Arkansas Baptist State Convention website at [www.absc.org/musicsscholarship](http://www.absc.org/musicsscholarship). Contact the Evangelism & Church Health team of the ABSC at 1-800-838-2272, ext. 5121 with any questions about the scholarship process. All scholarship applications and required supporting documents must be received by June 10, 2017.

# OPPORTUNITIES...

## Mission Brazil

2017 São Paulo, Brazil  
Music Mission Trip  
June 25 - July 5

We would love to invite you to join us  
on this incredible mission opportunity.

For more information about this trip  
please contact David Tatum  
dtatum@fbcsherwood.org - 501-766-3158  
Deadline is April 15th.



## NINIGER BREATHLY AWARD

This award has been established to honor a male and female Master'Singer who have made an outstanding contribution to music ministry in Arkansas. The Award will be presented at Master'Singers Retreat, September 21, 2017 at Geyer Springs First Baptist, Little Rock. Please feel free to nominate one living or deceased male and female member. If you have a name you would like to nominate, please give that name to one of your presidents.

### Past Recipients

- 2009 Jean Pilcher  
Tim Blann
- 2010 Retha Kilmer  
J. Paul Williams
- 2011 Janie Thompson  
John Dresbach
- 2012 Peggy Pearson  
Will Thompson
- 2013 Donna Crenshaw  
Glen Ennes
- 2014 Donna Teague  
Richard Wade
- 2015 Glenda Riddle  
Sam Wakefield
- 2016 Mary Winters  
Bob Endel

Non-eligible members: Current leadership (Larry Grayson, Carrie Taylor, Doug Moore) current presidents (David Tatum, Lamona Gunter), or past recipients.



# 2017 Remaining Events

APRIL 20, 2017  
Concert of Worship  
Municipal Auditorium  
El Dorado

September 21-22, 2017  
Retreat  
Geyer Springs First Baptist

October 12, 2017  
Concert of Worship  
Williams Baptist College  
Walnut Ridge

November 7, 2017  
ABSC Annual Meeting  
First Baptist Church  
Russellville



## 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 Whittington**  
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