



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers

ECON

2018 STATEWIDE CONFERENCE ON
EVANGELISM + CHURCH HEALTH

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A Cooperative Program ministry of



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DIRECTIONS

I hope you had an incredibly blessed Christmas and are off to a great start in 2018. This year holds many amazing opportunities and blessings.

Master'Singers will sing at the Evangelism Conference on January 29. The schedule for the day is in this newsletter. We will not sing from this year's repertoire. We will learn at least one Brooklyn Tabernacle selection since we precede Jim Cymbala speaking. We will also learn a couple of selections to sing with the Cross Church worship leading team as a worship leading choir for the night. **FOR THIS EVENT, MEN WE JOIN THE LADIES WEARING ALL BLACK INSTEAD OF THE REGULAR MASTER'SINGERS ATTIRE.**



PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE by Monday, January 22 by clicking the button below. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE!

Register to Attend the Evangelism Conference

To date, we have these participating in Ukraine 2018:

1st Sopranos - 5
2nd Sopranos - 7
1st Altos - 5
2nd Altos - 8
1st Tenors - 8
2nd Tenors - 11
1st Bass - 10
2nd Bass - 4
Instrumentalists - 8
Spouses/other - 7



When I brought the Ukraine trip to the group last April, I told the leadership team and the group that this could not be MY trip...it had to be OUR trip. I heard over and over...let's do it! Yes! Let's go! I have so many testimonies from people who have committed to go sharing their amazing stories of how God has provided for them to participate...provision they didn't see possible! We have a great group, but a smaller group than I expected at this point. I'm a little concerned about balance and about filling the size of rooms where we will sing. I need a few instrumental slots filled. I am committing daily to trust God that He will provide us exactly what we need, though I find myself waking up at night in Ukraine sweats! I am still praying for others to join us for this life-changing mission. Since God has told us to go to the world and make disciples, we already have our mandate to go and to serve. We usually ask God to prove to us why we SHOULD go. Let me ask you today to pray this prayer today..."God, reveal to me why I should NOT be involved in this mission." At this time, if we are able to continue to book flights at the current prices for others who join us, the trip should come in around \$2600...that's even better than we had expected. (Those who have already signed up have flights booked).

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



JOY

Sharon Sanders
Women's Chorus President

I've got the **JOY, JOY, JOY, JOY** down in my heart....
The **JOY** of the Lord is my strength.....

... 'Twill be my **JOY** through the ages to sing of His love for me.

One dictionary definition of **JOY** is "a source or cause of delight"

Is **JOY** dependent on our circumstances?

Do we only have **JOY** when we have adequate resources to meet our financial, emotional, physical, or professional needs?

Is **JOY** some euphoric "feeling" that makes a person super excited or overwhelmingly happy?

Where and how do we get **JOY**? Is it only for those who are always optimistic or have a "Pollyanna" attitude? Is it a special blessing reserved only for those who are "super spiritual"? Are there "10 Steps to **JOY**" that we must work through to have **JOY** in our lives?

JOY is one of the nine attributes Paul named in Galatians 5:22 as fruit of the Spirit. Therefore, it is a quality that we must cultivate in our daily lives. The more we praise God and express our gratitude to Him, the more we are aware of His blessings in our lives. When we focus on Him and His goodness and greatness, His **JOY** is reflected in our lives. Then we become a reflection of that **JOY** to those with whom we have contact every day.

JOY is a stable "constant" that is readily available to each of us. No matter our current situation or circumstance, we can be full of **JOY** knowing we have a Heavenly Father who loves and cares for us infinitely beyond our comprehension. With this realization, we can – and should – be full of **JOY**.

Let's all strive in 2018 to be a person who reflects the **JOY** of the Lord in every aspect of our lives. Let's start each day with this praise, "Thank you, Jesus, that you are my **JOY**."



Sharing

Tim Gunter
Men's Chorus President

I was convicted in a powerful way this past Sunday morning by a great word from the Lord! Both Pastor Smith from Immanuel BC and Pastor Ken Shaddox from Park Hill BC spoke about how important it is to share the Gospel. Both shared frightening statistics about not only the growing number of non-Christians, but the shockingly low number of people overall who don't attend a church service anymore. Brothers and sisters, as Christians, we have no one to blame but ourselves for this. But instead of casting the first stone at you, I will start by looking in the mirror at myself. When is the last time I asked someone to attend a church service? More importantly, when is the last time I shared my testimony, the Good News, with someone, particularly a lost person? We must do better! If we don't, we will continue to see a decline that could have been prevented.

I am constantly amazed at the multiple and ongoing blessings in my life from God and how many faith warriors He has placed in my path to teach and guide me all my life, yet I still sin and don't share the good news as I should. I consider many of you to be some of those faith and prayer warriors who constantly live a life for Christ. As we look toward the Evangelism Conference in a couple of weeks, let's commit together to share our testimonies with the lost and to ask people to attend church with us. To know Jesus is to want to share His saving grace and mercy with others! Let's share the love of Jesus with others! I look forward to seeing all of you again at the Evangelism Conference at Geyer Springs!



EVANGELISM CONFERENCE: GEYER SPRINGS FBC

Evangelism Conference

Geyer Springs First Baptist Church

12400 I-30, Little Rock

Monday, January 29, 2018

Schedule for the Day

- 3:00 pm 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!
- 5:45 pm Sound check in the Worship Center
- 6:15 pm Dinner (provided)
- 7:15 pm Convene in choir room to line up, etc.
- 7:30 pm Enter Loft
- 8:10 pm Sing 2 Brooklyn Tab selections and selections with Cross Church Team and remain in loft while Jim Cymbala preaches.
- 9:15 pm Evening session concludes

Directions

Google Map



Bring a black folder for the music you will use.

THERE WILL BE NO IPAD/TAB-LET MUSIC AVAILABLE FOR THIS CONCERT

CONCERT ATTIRE FOR THIS EVENT IS SOLID BLACK!

Register to Attend the Evangelism Conference

UKRAINE MISSION TRIP 2018



NOBODY TOLD THEM!

from Michael Gott

It appears that no one told them that a choir concert might put them to sleep or be boring! When the MasterSingers were last in Ukraine, the response to their musical message was explosive and enthusiastic. Almost unanimously, huge crowds, packed

into the largest facilities available, reacted with heartfelt appreciation and approval.

The upcoming evangelistic/music tour is set to put the choir before even more young adults and thousands of people who could be called a “searching generation.” Jan Gott, who is helping plan the events, recently said, “I believe I can confidently promise any person involved with Larry and the choir that they will sense incredible fulfillment as they see evidences nightly of God drawing people to Himself.”

The date is April 16-27, 2018, and even now people are signing up to have a place in this unique mission. Please join them now!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO GO!

God is moving across Ukraine and we have the opportunity to strike for the Gospel while the country remains open. As believers we are called and created to Go and Tell. Will you fulfill your purpose? Ask God to reveal to you why you should NOT go.



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

Annual Arkansas State Handbell FESTIVAL

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR &
JOIN US THIS SUMMER!

JULY 16-20, 2018

JoyWorks and PraiseWorks are two simultaneous camps for children and students on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University that focus on developing worshipers and worship leaders. Each is an exciting opportunity to develop talents, encounter dynamic, relevant worship, and to be challenged by the truth of God's Word!

JOYWORKS
For children who have completed grades 3-6

pw
praiseworks
For students who have completed grades 6-12

REGISTRATION OPENS
MARCH 1, 2018
www.joyworksarkansas.com
www.praiseworksarkansas.com

A Cooperative Program ministry of the
**EVANGELISM & CHURCH
HEALTH TEAM**

Arkansas
BAPTISTS

www.praiseworksarkansas.com

www.joyworksarkansas.com

2018 Events

January 29, 2018

AMS at ABSC Evangelism Conference
Geyer Springs First Baptist Church
Little Rock

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

September 20-21, 2018

Master'Singers Retreat
Immanuel Baptist Church
Little Rock

October 23, 2018

AMS at the ABSC Annual Meeting
Central Baptist Church
Jonesboro

November 1, 2018

Concert of Worship
Calvary Baptist Church
Little Rock



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