



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master'Singers



Encourage
to Engage

Arkansas Master'Singers at the
Arkansas Baptist State Convention 2017

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A Cooperative Program ministry of



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DIRECTIONS

I can't say a big enough thanks for your ministry at Williams Baptist College. We had a fantastic group of Master'Singers and an awesome crowd of people to sing to. I lost many nights of sleep wondering if we would fit, if we would be able to balance instruments and voices, etc. But as always, my fretting was in vain because you were incredible! Carla Whittington, my amazing ministry assistant sat in the back and said it was just incredible in every way! Many of you have shared that it was a great night of worship for you and some have said it has been your favorite Concert of Worship of all time. All that to say...thank you for blessing so many. You bless each other in your friendships and ministry, and you bless all who hear. Life as a Master'Singer is an awesome thing!!!



We are up again! We will sing 30 minutes as a part of the Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Every time we sing is very, very important to me, but the annual meeting is a big deal for me. It is an opportunity to lead pastors and other staff members who serve so faithfully in our churches in a time of worship, spiritual refreshment, and encouragement. I have such respect for those who serve our churches. It is an honor for Master'Singers to minister to these friends!! I wish you could have heard the positive comments in the planning meeting today for the annual meeting about YOUR ministry! So encouraging! Robert Ramsey and FBC Russellville have been planning for months for this event and they have been planning for you!!! We will have more room than we had at Williams! :-) Plan to join us!

EVERY MASTER'SINGER needs to please confirm your participation or that you cannot attend by clicking the black box.

Don't leave us hanging! We got responses from all but 19 of our 250+ members for Williams. That is the best RSVP to date! Everyone please respond by Tuesday, October 31st. We need to confirm our order of food on Wednesday.

Register to Attend the ABSC Annual Meeting

Please take note of where we are asked to park for the annual meeting located in this edition. Parking is going to be a huge issue at FBC Russellville, so we are parking off site and have 3 buses and 2 vans to shuttle us to and fro.

UKRAINE UPDATE: Exciting! We have gained a few more. Our participation continues to slowly but steadily grow. We could use a few more instrumentalists, we are growing in our soprano support, and in other voice parts as well that will help balance when people are playing instruments. Very exciting...after Williams, there were two folks who so want to go, but cannot go, so they paid the way of two others to go! Incredibly generous!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MINISTRY, YOUR FRIENDSHIP TO ME AND TO ONE ANOTHER, YOUR HEART, AND YOUR FAITHFUL SACRIFICE TO SERVE WITH THE MASTER'SINGERS.

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



Belonging

Sharon Sanders
Women's Chorus President

This past weekend I had the privilege of having two of my grandchildren stay with me for several days. One night, my seven year old grandson was quoting scripture verses that he is learning—which happen to be the plan of salvation verses. At one point he asked me, “Now, GiGi, where is it in John that it says ‘No one can snatch them out of my hands’?” We looked it up in John 10:28 and talked about what that verse meant. As I later reflected on our conversation, I was reminded again of the importance of our belonging to the Good Shepherd, and how He knows each of us and everything about us. When we belong to Him, no one, no event, no action we take, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING can “snatch” us from His hand. Now that is quite an awesome thought!!! It also reminded me of one of my favorite passages from Isaiah 43:

*“I have called you by name; you are Mine!
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you
And through the rivers, they will not overflow you
When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched
Nor will the flame burn you
For I am the Lord your God,
The Holy One of Israel, your Savior...
You are precious in My sight...
You are honored and I love you
Do not fear for I am with you”*

What a privilege to be so loved and protected by our Heavenly Father.



People of Gratitude

Tim Gunter
Men's Chorus President



What a night of worship we enjoyed at Williams Baptist College!!! In spite of some things that you could have complained about, which is how the world would have behaved, you worked hard and made everything work like an exquisite clock. Thank you for your sacrifice of time and effort to share your talents from the Lord with each of us and the large crowd in attendance. To God be the glory! Now we move to a different venue and a different set of circumstances in a couple of weeks. This night is shorter but it is always so special to lead worship for our state convention. I hope you will make plans to be there.

Have you thanked the Lord today for the incredible blessing of music He blessed you with? Have you thanked the Lord today for the opportunities He gives us to share our talents with others, both lost and saved, in worship? Have you thanked the Lord today for His immeasurable gift of prayer? My challenge to you and me in this edition of our newsletter is to be a people of gratitude and prayer. Let us not be a people who only pray when we need God for something, as if He were a genie who comes to our rescue when we think we need Him. Let us be a people of prayer who talk to Him about anything and everything throughout each day, in both good times and bad, busy times and leisure time, and in sickness and good health. Let us also be a people who thank God daily for His endless love, grace, and peace. We serve a mighty and holy God who has a perfect plan for each of us and He is worthy of being the center of our lives.

I am honored to serve you and I look forward to seeing you in Russellville! Blessings!

**Register to Attend the
ABSC Annual Meeting**

Concert of Worship: ABSC Annual Meeting

November 7, 2017

First Baptist Church - Russellville

Host: Robert Ramsey

Instrumental Schedule

- 9:45 am Instrumental Check In - Great Hall
- 10:00 am Instrumental Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:30 am Lunch - Disaster Relief serving
- 1:00 pm Instrumental Sound Check - Worship Center
- 1:15 pm Instrumental Ensemble plays prelude for Afternoon Session - Worship Center

Singer Schedule

- 12:30 pm Choir Check In - Great Hall
- 1:15 pm Separate Rehearsals
 - Women: New Student Auditorium
 - Men: Choir Room (Room W129)
- 2:00 pm Brief Break (no food)
- 2:15 pm Combined Rehearsal - New Student Auditorium

Combined Schedule

- 4:15 pm Sound Check in Worship Center
- 5:00 pm Break (snack meal and change)
- 6:00 pm Gather in Student Auditorium
- 7:00 pm Enter Loft of Worship Center
- 7:15 pm Sing Concert of Worship
- 7:45 pm Executive Director's Message
- 8:15 pm Church Planter Commissioning Service
- 8:40 pm Closing Prayer

Tentative Concert Order (subject to change)

- With A Shout
- Holy, Holy, Holy
- I Sing Because I'm Happy (Women's Chorus)
- God
- How Great Thou Art (Men's Chorus)
- For God So Loved the World
- It Was Finished On the Cross

PARKING INFORMATION

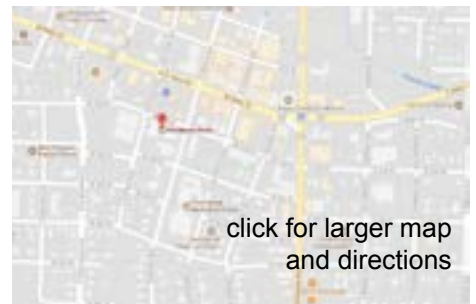
Master Singers have been asked to park on the big parking lot near Brangus Steak House at 1509 East Main Street. There will not be enough parking at the annual meeting for those attending if we park at the church. Take Weir Road exit. Turn left and at the second light (corner of Main and Weir), turn right. Brangus Steakhouse/1509 East Main Street will be on the right. Park on the other side of the lot from Brangus so as to not interfere with their business parking. There will be buses and vans available from 9:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Directions

Google Map
to **PARKING**



Google Map
to FBC



Check-in will be in the GREAT HALL. That is the hallway between the new worship center and the El Paso Street entrance by the gym and fellowship hall.

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Click for more information



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 Quachita 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 3-5

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

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

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

Attention Arkansas Worship Leaders

A friend of David Tatum's who is doing Doctoral Research in Hymnody in the Southern Baptist and Church of Christ Churches needs your help. If you will take just a couple of minutes (no more than three) to complete this survey, you will help a brother as he seeks to add to the scholarship relating to hymnody in our convention and beyond. No personal or church information is asked. Thanks in advance for your help.

Take the Survey

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