



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master' Singers



Concert
of **W**orship
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The Arkansas Master Singers exist as a fellowship of believers to proclaim the majesty and love of Almighty God, to share the gospel message of Jesus Christ, and to provide the encouragement of the Holy Spirit through the medium of music.

A Cooperative Program ministry of



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DIRECTIONS

As we are preparing for the annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in Jonesboro, it is time to prepare the next edition of PraiSing Him for our first Concert of Worship, November 1 at Calvary Baptist Church in Little Rock. I am so grateful to Rick Couch, and our friends at Calvary Baptist for all of the work they will do to host us!



EVERY MASTER SINGER SHOULD CLICK ON THIS LINK AND RESPOND, INDICATING YOUR PARTICIPATION AT CALVARY: <https://goo.gl/forms/5jGEdOye8ZiLam2y1>. PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL CARLA OR ME WITH YOUR RESPONSE UNLESS YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH THE LINK.

We will have a new group photo made while at Calvary. It has been a few years since we have updated our official group photo, and the new ladies outfit have just made the new photo a must!

Even though the annual meeting is in progress, I want to thank Jeff Stotts and Central Baptist Church of Jonesboro for all the work of hosting not only Master Singers, but the entire annual meeting. Specific plans to host this meeting begin a year in advance. Jeff and his crew spent the weekend setting up, moving equipment, etc. Jeff and the rest of the staff and church family at Central will be ready and will host us with excellence!!! THANK YOU!

Leadership team, don't forget our meeting at Calvary. See the schedule listed in this newsletter.

I do want to thank the Women's Chorus Leadership Team for all of their hard work in handling the new outfit for the ladies. You have kept me out of it...which is a good thing for me and for you! I can't wait to see all of you with your new look!

Are you determined to go to Ukraine in 2020 unless God shows you why you should not go or that you simply cannot go? I can't wait to see who God is going to send for what could be our final Ukraine trip April 20-May 1, 2020. Why final you say? At some point, this guy (meaning me) is going to retire, and your next leader will need the freedom to have his own vision, including mission endeavors! As for the retirement thing, I have no idea when it is going to happen, so don't get your hopes up... haha! For now, try praying "God, you have called me to go. Show my why I should not or cannot go in April 2020!"

As you have been hearing through various sources, our friend and supporter, Carla Whittington, is leaving us to go back to the classroom. I am so incredibly happy for her, but sad for us. She assured me the other day that just as God has provided and directed in her life, she is confident that God has somebody for us.

I love you guys and love the privilege I have of serving you in our state and serving WITH you in Master Singers. Thank you for your sacrificial gift of time and talent!

Looking forward to seeing you...At Calvary! (That would make a great hymn title!)

**Register to Attend the
CBC Concert of Worship**

<https://goo.gl/forms/5jGEdOye8ZiLam2y1>

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



Bearing Fruit

Elizabeth Barnett
Women's Chorus President

"He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful" (John 15:2 NIV).

I was recently reminded of the concept of pruning from a book called "Necessary Endings" by Henry Cloud. The book reminded me that there are times when old things must be cut away so new things will have room to grow and flourish. John 15:2 indicates that God not only wants to eliminate the unproductive parts of our lives, the parts that bear no fruit, but He also wants to trim things from the productive parts of our lives so they can be even more fruitful. One way to know if it's time for necessary ending is to ask yourself if an activity has become both non-essential and overwhelming—if it drains your energy faster than it can be replenished.

For me, Master'Singers is one of those ESSENTIAL activities in my life. It feeds my soul in ways that other activities would only dream of doing. I find satisfaction in the music. I find friendships with like-minded musicians are stronger than with others that I have known since grade school, and there is something that happens when you put THAT music with THOSE people and lift up ONE God together. It meets soul needs that nothing else can meet. I want to be intentional about making sure there is room in my life for this necessary activity.

If your life is anything like mine, many activities and obligations seem beyond our control, but we can begin deciding what we can control and taking action on those things. Let's pray that God will help us discern what is best and let some of the other things go. Join me in praying that He will do this pruning work in us so that we might bear more fruit.

Christian Karaoke

Andrew Pouncey
Men's Chorus President



Have you ever been guilty of just going through the motions as you lead in worship? I know I'm guilty of times where I have completely checked out from what I am singing/playing. It is just so easy to think about something else rather than giving our full attention to God in worship. It could be just a simple, "I wonder what's for lunch?" or "Did I pack Samuel's pacifier for him this morning?" I like to refer going through the motions in leading worship as Christian Karaoke: singing the right words, but thinking about something completely different.

Fortunately, even though we may fail God from time to time, He never fails us. In Isaiah chapter 29, verse 13 describes Christian Karaoke by the people of God "honoring me with their mouths, but their hearts are far from me." In the very next verse, God looks at those that are going through the motions and says, "Even so, I will continue to do wonderful things with this people." God's mercy and grace covers our faults, and He still wants to do wonderful things as you worship Him!

So how do you overcome Christian Karaoke as a worship leader? Try your best to be present and focus on more than the notes. Recognize the words that you are lifting to Lord as truth and a means of sharing the Gospel with others. I challenge you at this next Concert of Worship to not be guilty of simply going through the motions, but being TRUE WORSHIPERS that worship in spirit and in truth.

Register Here to Attend the
CBC Concert of Worship

<https://goo.gl/forms/5jGEdOye8ZiLam2y1>

Concert of Worship: CALVARY BC - LITTLE ROCK



Rick Couch
Minister of Music
Calvary Baptist LR

We are excited at Calvary Baptist in the Heights to host the Master'Singers on Nov. 1st. It's going to be our joy to worship with all of you. Our people have been anticipating this night and inviting friends and neighbors to come join us.

Parking in the Heights is at a premium, so we have made arrangements with Iberia Bank to use their parking deck

which is located on the top of their building. You can access the parking deck by coming down Grant Street on the west side of the bank. We will have shuttle service available for you to get to the church if you don't wish to walk the block.

There are several eating places close to Calvary for you to enjoy: Burges Restaurant, Tacos and Tamales, US Pizza, ZAZA Salads and Pizza, Starbucks, Boulevard Bread, Fantastic China, and Lulu's Crab Shack are all within walking distance.

If you are coming from the north and west of Little Rock; follow I-40 to I-430 South to the Cantrell Road East exit just across the River. Follow Cantrell Road east to N.Pierce Street just past University Ave. Turn left onto Pierce Street and go one block to the church.

If you are coming from the south of Little Rock; follow I-530 to I-630 West to N. University Avenue. Go north past Park Plaza Mall and continue up University to Cantrell Road. Turn right (east) onto Cantrell Road and go two blocks to N. Pierce Street. Turn left onto N.Pierce Street and go one block to the church.

If you are coming from the east of Little Rock; follow I-40 West to I-30 West across the River. Take I-630 West to N. University Avenue exit. Follow N. University Avenue past Park Plaza Mall up the hill to Cantrell Road. Turn right (east) on Cantrell Road two blocks to N.Pierce Street. Turn left onto N.Pierce Street and go one block to the church.

We are looking forward to a wonderful worship service with you all. See you on Thursday, Nov. 1st.

Schedule for the Day

11:00 am	Leadership Team Meeting
12:45 pm	Instrumentalist Check-in
1:00 pm	Instrumental Rehearsal
1:00 pm	Choir Check-in and Fellowship
1:45 pm	Separate Rehearsals
2:45 pm	Break and Refreshments
3:30 pm	Combined Rehearsal
5:30 pm	Dinner and Dress for Concert
6:30 pm	Photo in the Worship Center
6:45 pm	Line-up and Prayer
7:00 pm	Concert of Worship

Click [HERE](#) to Register for CBC Concert of Worship

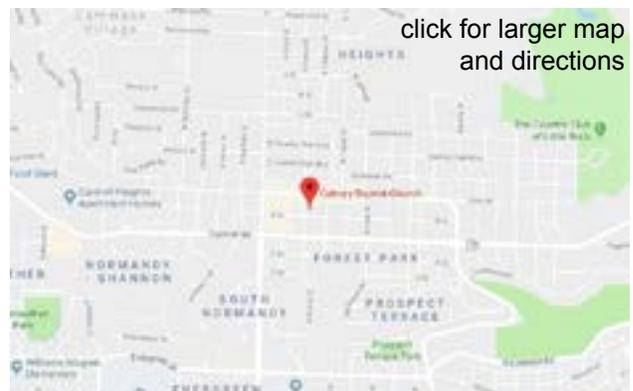
<https://goo.gl/forms/5jGEdOye8ZiLam2y1>

Tentative Order for the Concert

Prelude - Instrumental Ensemble	<i>God</i>
Host Pastor Greeting	<i>Behold Our God</i>
Oh, Give Thanks	<i>How Great Is Our God</i>
Prayer	Offertory
Women's Chorus Greeting	<i>And Can It Be</i>
Doxology	<i>At the Name of Jesus</i>
<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	<i>See Him Face to Face</i>
<i>O Praise the Name</i>	<i>For God So Loved the World</i>
<i>My Eternal King</i>	<i>It Was Finished on the Cross</i>
<i>I Will Rise</i>	Gospel Presentation
	<i>All the Praise</i>

Click [HERE](#) for CBC Publicity Items

Directions



NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Click on each for more information



Get ready for an exciting weekend, Friday night and Saturday, January 25-26, 2019, with a massive choir made up of students from all over the state under the direction of Clinician Dan Baker. PraizFest is for students grades 6-12. Whether your church has a few students who love singing or 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

The Blood of Jesus Speaks for Me - arr. Cottrell
Hlolonofatsa - by Daniel Jackson
I Will Lift Up Your Name - by Cliff Duren
Behold Our God - by Joshua Spacht
No Longer Slaves - by David Wise
Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts) - Neale, Walker, Wagner

find publisher information [HERE](#)

Annual
Arkansas
State
**Handbell
FESTIVAL**

45th & FINAL

March 8 & 9, 2019
Calvary Baptist Church, Little Rock
Clinician: Glenn Ennes

Music Selections

Exultation - by Matthew Compton
(35371)

Gospel Hymn Ring - arr. Tammy Waldrop
(46228)

Good Christian Friends Rejoice - arr. Ron
Mallory (59568)

How Great Thou Art with Majesty - arr. Joel
Raney (2829)

Prelude on Holy Manna - arr. Cathy Marker
(35364)

“Therefore GO and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”
- Jesus

Arkansas Master Singers
Mission Ukraine

April 20 - May 1, 2020

2018 - 2019 Events

November 1, 2018
 Concert of Worship
 Calvary Baptist Church
 Little Rock

January 28, 2019
 ABSC Evangelism Conference
 Geyer Springs First Baptist Church
 Little Rock

February 21, 2019
 Concert of Worship
 Cullendale First Baptist Church
 Camden

March 28, 2019
 Split Concerts of Worship
 First BC - Fort Smith
 Eastside BC - Paragould

April 25, 2019
 Concert of Worship
 First Baptist Church
 Russellville

Upcoming Dates

April 20 - May 1, 2020
 Ukraine Mission Trip



2017-2018 Leadership Team



Larry Grayson
 Director



Andrew Pouncey
 President



Ken Holland
 1st Vice President



Darrell Spigner
 2nd Vice President



Randy Cross
 Ten 1 Host



Taylor Keenen
 Ten 2 Host



Kevin Taylor
 Baritone Host



Rick Couch
 Bass Host



Butch Riddle
 Chaplain



Bart Morrison
 Accompanist



Phillip Johnson
 Seating Coord.



Tim Gunter
 Past-President



Mark Galbreath
 Seating Coord.



Doug Moore
 Inst. Ens. Director



David Tatum
 Communications



Carrie Taylor
 Director



Elizabeth Barnett
 President



Missy Hines
 1st Vice President



Alice Startup
 2nd Vice President



Cheri Cloud
 Sop 1 Host



Melanie Rothwell
 Sop 2 Host



Carol Moore
 Alto 1 Host



Tammy Albrecht
 Alto 2 Host



Janie Thompson
 Chaplain



Peggy Pearson
 Accompanist



Glenda Riddle
 Seating Coord



Mary Winters
 Seating Coord



Sharon Sanders
 Past-President