



# praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers

Yep!  
That's the  
Tie!

A yellow speech bubble with a black outline and a tail pointing towards the bottom left. It contains the text 'Yep! That's the Tie!' in a dark blue, sans-serif font. The background of the entire cover is a dark purple with a fine, repeating pattern of small white dots. Two diagonal stripes, one blue and one yellow, run from the bottom left towards the top right, crossing behind the speech bubble.

**Split**  
**C**oncerts  
page 4

The text 'Split Concerts' is located in the bottom left corner. 'Split' is in a pink, sans-serif font, and 'Concerts' is in a teal, sans-serif font. The 'C' in 'Concerts' is large and stylized. Below 'Concerts' is the text 'page 4' in a small, white, sans-serif font.



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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

This sign up is an urgent one. So that we can divide the group evenly for the split concerts, I need you to respond by Monday, March 11! You can respond by checking one of these responses in the survey:

- ☐ Paragould
- ☐ Ft. Smith
- ☐ Paragould or Ft. Smith (wherever I am needed)
- ☐ I cannot attend.



I will then send out an email with the split concerts personnel the next week. For split concerts, we will only use piano, bass, drums and one string reduction keyboard per site. All other instrumentalists are encouraged to enjoy an opportunity to sing. Click here now to register your attendance or absence: <http://www.absc.org/mastersingers-split-concerts>

The Camden Concert of Worship was so incredibly blessed. Even in the rain, we had the honor of singing to a full house. Cullendale First Baptist (Clay Doss) was an amazing host that went beyond the extra mile! We can't thank you and your awesome church enough for your kindness and generosity.

Men, did you notice the cover of this edition of the newsletter? It is the tie for this year. We have had so much confusion this year! We will keep a picture of the tie in each edition of the newsletter!!!

On another note, this is the time of year that we ask for nominations for the Ninger Keathley Award. In this newsletter, you will find the criteria for this award and those who have already received it since it started in 2009. Please submit any names you would like to nominate by the final Concert of Worship in April to Melissa Overstreet, ABSC Music and Worship Ministry Assistant, ([moverstreet@absc.org](mailto:moverstreet@absc.org)); Andrew Pouncey, current men's president, ([andrew.pouncey@mcbccabot.com](mailto:andrew.pouncey@mcbccabot.com)); or Elizabeth Barnett, current women's president ([elizabeth.barnett@mac.com](mailto:elizabeth.barnett@mac.com)).

Ukraine 2020! It is time for you to confirm your participation for this most important ministry opportunity. 56 have responded to-date. Please click on this link to indicate your involvement: <https://goo.gl/forms/MVf11lcNwZoRWzQq1>

Guess what else it is time to do? Determine the Concert of Worship locations for 2019-2020. If you have any interest in hosting any of the open dates listed in this newsletter, please contact me.

I can't wait for our split concerts of worship! Thanks for your great effort this year to be a part of all of our Concerts of Worship. YOU have made a difference.

Larry

Click HERE to  
Register for Split  
Concerts of Worship

<http://www.absc.org/mastersingers-split-concerts>

# PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



## God Answers Prayer

Elizabeth Barnett  
Women's Chorus President

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how grateful I am for your prayers and your support last week as my father, and fellow Master'Singer, had an unplanned, unscheduled triple bypass surgery. He went into the hospital for a common heart procedure to receive stents, instead, the doctor discovered that the blockage in his arteries required a triple bypass surgery. The blockage was such that they would not even allow him to leave the hospital for fear he would have a heart attack before they could get him back for the surgery.

As this was scary news, we immediately went into preparation mode and I quickly got onto our Facebook prayer page and added the prayer request for him. And what a blessing and comfort it was to receive the messages from so many of you that you were praying for him. You were praying for me. You were praying for my mom and sister, and you were praying for his recovery! You said you prayed immediately. You said you prayed continually. You said when he was brought to your mind, you prayed for him. You said you prayed for the doctors and the nurses and you said you would pray for their wisdom.

Fortunately, he was scheduled for surgery the very next day because the surgeon had a random opening in his schedule. You and I both know that this opening was not "random." God was not surprised by this news and He had gone before us to prepare an opening. So the next morning, before the surgery, I opened up the Master'Singer Facebook page and read my father each and every comment and who sent it. We all listened to each and every one. It was as though you were praying over us and the situation right there in the room. Your love and support was felt as the presence of God filled the room with His peace.

As many of you know, my father came through surgery like a champ and he is on the road to recovery. I know this road is long, but I know you will continue to lift him up to our Father to protect him and heal him over time. There were many people from our church who were also praying, but I wanted to specifically thank you, my fellow Master'Singers, for interceding for my father and for responding to our need and loving us as the church. I have said this before, and I'll say it again: there is just something special about Master'Singers. Let us continue to serve together as we are called to be God's people.

[Click Here to Register for the Split Concerts](#)

## Good People vs. Christians

Andrew Pouncey  
Men's Chorus President

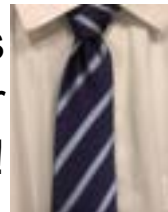


Have you ever seen a telethon raising money for a good cause? What about that sad dog commercial with the emotional music that asks you to rescue a small helpless animal? It is always interesting to me that deep down humanity has a desire to do good things in their lives, whether they are a Christian or not. Even people that do not know Jesus Christ and have not experienced his life-changing message feel the desire to be a part of something greater, to accomplish good in the world. The difference is that we as Christians know that our yearning to help others stems from a desire to become more like Jesus in the way that we live our life.

If we are not careful though, we can fall into the trap of doing good things just like everyone else. I'm not saying that we should not give money to the homeless man on the corner or volunteer our time in a community service project. What I am saying is that, as Christians, it is not just enough to do good things without doing them IN JESUS' NAME. Simply doing good things will ultimately not change someone's life, but connecting those things to the life-changing power of Jesus Christ can! When we live our life serving others, it is our job to let them know that we do those things because it is the way that Jesus lived, and that we want to be more like him.

So the next time you are a part of something bigger than yourself, make sure that you connect it to your relationship with the Lord. Let those whom you serve know that they too can experience him in their lives. The same can be said of our upcoming concert. Let's not just sing the right notes to make beautiful music. We want people to know that we are the Master's Singers, and we do what we do because of Jesus!

Here's  
Your  
Tie!



# SPLIT CONCERTS OF WORSHIP



**David Gagle**  
Minister of Music  
East Side Baptist  
Paragould

East Side Baptist Church is so excited to host one of the Master'Singers split concerts on March 28th. We are looking forward to a great night of worship, declaring the saving work of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our whole church is excited to host the group and are beginning to spread the word to our community and places of business.

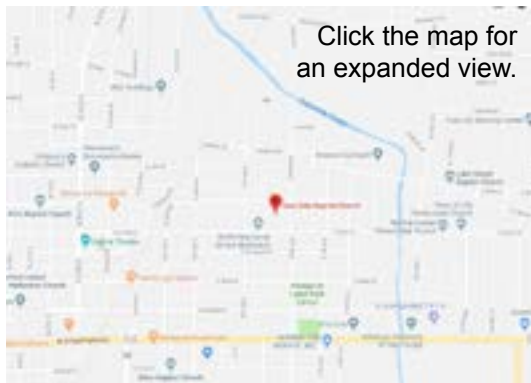
When you arrive at East Side, we ask that everyone park in the north parking lot across E Poplar St. from our building (at the corner of N 6th Ave). We will have parking greeters available as you arrive to guide you to the right area. When walking back across the street to our building, you will walk to the right of our gym (jutting out toward E Poplar St.) and enter at our main gym entrance. You are welcome to drop off those with physical issues by this door before parking.

If you came to the Williams Baptist Concert last year, we are only 30 minutes east coming down Hwy 412. Those coming from directly south or near the Memphis area will probably end up coming into Paragould on Hwy 49 from Jonesboro. These are the 2 main roads into Paragould and they intersect by the McDonalds, Walgreens, and CVS. From this intersection you continue east on Hwy 412, go over the train overpass, and turn on either 5th or 6th Ave and continue 4 blocks to our campus. Our address is 529 E Court St. The north parking area is directly behind our building.

There are many places to eat in Paragould. Some of the closest in proximity to our church are Skinny J's and Hyde Park Café, right in the heart of downtown Paragould. If you are coming in Hwy 412 from Walnut Ridge you will pass many places along your path: Larry's Pizza (buffet), Ikura (Japanese & sushi), Zaxby's, Chili's, Fazzoli's, as well as a variety of Mexican restaurants and fast food choices. If you are needing a place to stay for the night, there is a Holiday Inn Express and Hampton Inn both near each other on Hwy 49S.

We are looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship and worship with those coming our way for the split concert. See you on Thursday, March 28th!

## Directions - East Side Baptist - Paragould



**Jacob Ray**  
Minister of Music  
First Baptist  
Fort Smith

First Baptist, Fort Smith is honored to host the Master'Singers at one of the split concerts on March 28th.

After talking with our Pastor, I believe this may be the first time we have ever hosted the group. We are so excited for this event and are looking forward to a great night of worship.

Our church is located at 1400 Grand Ave., Fort Smith, AR 72901.

- If you are coming in from the South, the best way into Fort Smith is on US-71N which will take you all the way into downtown where the church is located.

- If you are coming from the East, the best way into Fort Smith is to take I-40 W to I-540 S and then take the Grand Ave. Exit (#6) which will take you directly to the church.

- If you are coming from the North, the best way into Fort Smith is to take I-49 S to I-40 W to I-540 S and take the Grand Ave. Exit (#6) which will take you directly to the church.

There are a number of great places to eat downtown; Neumeier's Rib Room, La Huerta, Bricktown, Rolando's, or Gus's. A couple other great local places that are close by are George's (burgers and sandwiches) on Grand Ave. or Burrito Bowl (local version of Chipotle) on Rogers Ave. There are many other restaurants like Chili's, Friday's, Texas Roadhouse, Logan's Roadhouse, Red Lobster, Olive Garden, and Outback, as well as many fast food places in town.

If you decide to stay the night in Fort Smith, the DoubleTree and the Marriott are very close to the church and are within walking distance to all the downtown restaurants. There is a Hampton Inn right off of I-540 and there is also a brand new Fairfield Inn and Suites on Phoenix Ave.

I know it's a sacrifice to drive across the state to be with us, but we greatly appreciate your willingness to come. I am praying that God will bless our evening together and that He would glorify Himself through us.

May Christ be praised!

## Directions - First Baptist - Fort Smith



### Schedule for the Day

12:30 pm	Check-in and Fellowship
1:15 pm	Separate Rehearsals Women Men
2:30 pm	Break and Refreshments
3:15 pm	Combined Rehearsal
5:30 pm	Dinner and Dress for Concert
6:45 pm	Line-up and Prayer
7:00 pm	Concert of Worship

Click [HERE](#) to  
Register for Split  
Concerts of Worship

### Tentative Order for the Concert

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

Click for Publicity  
Files for All Concerts

### Ruth Nininger / Ervin Keathley Award Nominations

This award was established in 2009 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 the Annual Master'Singers Retreat. Please feel free to nominate living or deceased male and female members. All nominees must be in by the final Concert of Worship of the current year. Non-eligible members: **Current directors (Larry Grayson, Carrie Taylor, Doug Moore), current presidents (Elizabeth Barnett or Andrew Pouncey) or past recipients:**

**2009 – Jean Pilcher and Tim Blann**

**2010 – Retha Kilmer and J. Paul Williams**

**2011 – Janie Thompson and John Dresbach**

**2012 – Peggy Pearson and Will Thompson**

**2013 – Donna Crenshaw and Glen Ennes**

**2014 – Donna Teague and Richard Wade**

**2015 – Glenda Riddle and Sam Wakefield**

**2016 – Mary Winters and Bob Endel**

**2017 – Elizabeth Barnett and Louis Criswell**

**2018 – Missy Hines and David Tatum**

### 2019-2020 Events

#### September 12 – 13, 2019

Retreat – Geyer Springs First Baptist Church, LR

#### October 3, 2019

Concert of Worship – Harrison High School Performing Arts Center

Sponsored by Eagle Heights Baptist Church, Harrison

#### October 22, 2019

Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention - Geyer Springs First Baptist Church, LR

#### January 27, 2020

ABSC State Evangelism Conference

#### February 13, 2020

Concert of Worship - TBA

#### March 12, 2020

Split Concerts of Worship Tentatively  
Immanuel Baptist Church, Warren  
FBC, West Memphis

#### April 16, 2020

Concert of Worship and Ukraine Commissioning  
TBA

#### April 20 - May 1, 2020

Ukraine Mission Trip



# NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

## student worship arts camp



**praiseworks**  
Ouachita Baptist University  
July 8-12, 2019

Registration Opens March 1<sup>st</sup> for JoyWorks & PraiseWorks



**JU**  
joyworks

A WORSHIP ARTS CAMP FOR KIDS  
WHO HAVE COMPLETED GRADES 3-6

# unashamed

2 TIMOTHY 2:15

**JULY 8-12, 2019**  
ON THE CAMPUS OF  
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
[WWW.JOYWORKSARKANSAS.COM](http://WWW.JOYWORKSARKANSAS.COM)

**M**Arkansas Master'Singers  
Mission Ukraine

April 20 - May 1, 2020

Click Here to  
say "I want  
to go!"

## 2019 Events

**March 28, 2019**

Split Concerts of Worship  
First BC - Fort Smith  
Eastside BC - Paragould

**April 25, 2019**

Concert of Worship  
First Baptist Church  
Russellville

## 2019-2020 Events

**September 12-13, 2019**

Annual Retreat  
Geyer Springs First Baptist - LR

**October 3, 2019**

Concert of Worship  
Harrison High School Fine Arts Audit.  
(Eagle Heights Baptist - Harrison)

**October 22, 2019**

ABSC Annual Meeting  
Geyer Springs First Baptist - LR

**January 27, 2020**

ABSC Evangelism Conference

**February 13, 2020**

Concert of Worship  
TBA

**March 12, 2020**

Split Concerts of Worship (Tentative)  
Immanuel Baptist - Warren  
First Baptist - West Memphis

**April 16, 2020**

Concert of Worship  
& Ukraine Commissioning - TBA

**April 20 - May 1, 2020**

Ukraine Mission Trip

## 2018-2019 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



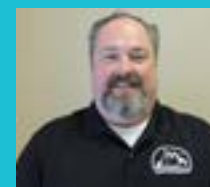
**Phillip Johnson**  
Seating Coord.



**Tim Gunter**  
Past-President



**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