



praiSING Him

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Master Singers



Russellville
Concert

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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

**CLICK HERE TO
REGISTER FOR
RUSSELLVILLE**



It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another Master'Singers year. Our final concert of worship for the year is at First Baptist Russellville on April 25th. I look forward to the opportunity for us to be together one last time and offer our praise to God. It has been an amazing year. THANK YOU!!

Please click on the link posted above my article, and throughout the newsletter to confirm your attendance or absence, or just click on the following link: <http://www.absc.org/mastersingers-concert-fbc-russellville>. Be sure you click the submit button at the bottom of the form. You WILL receive an email confirmation that will tell you for certain that you have submitted your information .

I can't say thanks enough for all that went into making the split concert days a great success. Thank you to David Gagel at East Side, Paragould and to Jacob Ray at FBC, Fort Smith and all who helped to make those such incredible days. Thank you David Tatum, Keith Clutts, Elizabeth Barnett, and of course Carrie Taylor for your leadership that day. To all who covered keyboards and solos and leadership responsibilities, thank you as well.

Everything you need for the Concert of Worship is in this newsletter. I encourage you to not delete it until after Russellville. As time gets closer you may wonder what the schedule for the day will look like. As time gets closer you may want to look again at the selections that we will be singing and playing to make sure you have your music in order. As time gets closer you may want to know where there are some good restaurants to eat in Russellville. As time gets closer you may need to know the address of the church or directions of how to get there. All of those things are in this newsletter. BUT If you do delete it, you can always find it on our website www.arkansas-mastersingers.com.

Thank you to this year's leadership team for all you have done. As I have already said, it has been a great year. I am grateful for your service under the leadership of presidents Elizabeth Barnett and Andrew Pouncey. The 2019 - 2020 leadership team will be affirmed in Russellville.

(Continued on p. 5)

Click HERE to
Register for FBC-R
Concert of Worship

<http://www.absc.org/mastersingers-concert-fbc-russellville>

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



Encouragement

Elizabeth Barnett

Women's Chorus President

As we approach the end of another season of Master'Singers, I am grateful for each member of the Women's Chorus and her contribution to the future of our organization. As I consider the impact Master'Singers has had on my life and as I hear from others in our group about their own similar experiences, I'm struck by a single word that both encapsulates the Women's Chorus at its best and represents the potential we have to shape the future of churches in Arkansas: encouragement.

On days when we've gathered for an event and my mind was whirling in a thousand different directions with my own worries and responsibilities and circumstances, you've helped me quiet my thoughts and focus for that one day on the simple joy of being together and singing together. When my family needed prayer and support during my father's unexpected heart surgery, you prayed for us and posted uplifting messages to our Facebook group. And when I need to be reminded of the purpose to which God has called each of us and the specific roles he has given me to serve my church and nurture my family, my thoughts often turn to members of this group, some of whom were serving long before me and who have personally invested in me, others who serve alongside me in similar situations, and still others who will carry the banner forward into the next generation.

Encouragement is our greatest asset and the greatest tool we've been given to accomplish the purpose of our organization. Kind words and actions exchanged between members of the chorus encourage us in our personal lives. The power of our songs encourages churches all over Arkansas. The investment we make in the next generation of worship leaders and their families helps advance God's kingdom in ways that are beyond our earthly comprehension. These are powerful reasons to encourage each other, but in reality, God's word gives all the reason we need.

"Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose" (Philippians 2:1-2 NLT).

The Priority of God's Word

Andrew Pouncey

Men's Chorus President



In 2 Kings 22, the high priest discovers the Book of the Law for the first time in hundreds of years. Can you imagine finding the long lost book of God's Word while rummaging through some old stuff? If Christians today are not careful, we can also let the Bible lose its priority in our own lives.

God's Word should be the foundation that worship is built on. In Matthew, it says that a wise man builds his house on the Rock. *insert kids music* It is the only reliable foundation that we can count on. We can rely on church activities/programs, building improvements, and even pastors, but if you want a strong lifestyle of worshiping God, it has to start in His Word! Don't let Sunday be the first time you open your Bible during the week.

Not only is God's Word the foundation of worship, but the preaching of God's Word is an irreplaceable aspect of corporate worship. I'm not just talking about your pastor. To preach means to publicly proclaim or to teach. Master'Singers has the awesome responsibility of teaching anyone in attendance God's Word through song. 1 Timothy 4:13 says to encourage not only yourself, but others with your music.

Genuine worship is also a response to divine truth. You can sing songs in church and never worship. You can listen to a good speaker and never worship. You can even hear a touching story, get emotional, and never worship. We worship when we respond to the truth of God's Word on display; the truth of Who God is and What He has done for us.

At the end of 2 Kings 22, the king hears the Book of the Law and tears his clothes in shame. He realized that the nation of Israel had strayed from the Word of the Lord and commanded the people to return to God's Word and fall down in worship. Is God's Word a priority in your life, your family, your church? If not, it is the foundation where worship begins.

CONCERT OF WORSHIP: Russellville FBC



Robert Ramsey
Minister of Music
Russellville FBC

We are thrilled to be hosting the Arkansas Master'Singers on April 25 at First Baptist Church in Russellville. In the fall of 2017, we hosted the state convention, and we got just a taste then. But, our folks are so excited to host a Concert of Worship this year! We are praying for an incredible night of worshiping, lifting up Jesus' name, and proclaiming the gospel. I hope each and every one of you can join us, and I thank you ahead of time for making the trip!!!

When you arrive, we encourage you to park on the west lot, across the street from the worship center building. This will be close to the worship center, choir room, and restrooms.

For lodging needs, the two newest hotels are the Holiday Inn Express and the Courtyard by Marriot. We've also used the La Quinta, Comfort Inn & Suites, and The Fairfield Inn & Suites.

And, for dining, we Russellvillians have our favorites. Brangus Steakhouse is a hometown place with a very reasonable lunch menu. Also you'll find Stoby's, Whataburger, CJ's Burgers, Brown's Catfish, and Old South Restaurant. For bbq, there is Old Post and Fat Daddy's. Umami's is a great Japanese restaurant. Pasta Grill is just about a block from the church, and The Old Bank Sports Grill is close, too. There are also the familiar Chik-fil-a, Chili's, Steak-n-Shake, and Sumo (hibachi).

I pray you have an incredible time during Easter, and that it pours over into our time together on the 25th. God bless!

In Him,
Robert

Schedule for the Day

11:00 am	Leadership Team Meeting
12:30 pm	Check-in and Fellowship
1:15 pm	Separate Rehearsals Women Men Instrumental Ensemble
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 FBC
Concert of Worship

<http://www.absc.org/mastersingers-concert-fbc-russellville>

Tentative Order for the Concert

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

Click [HERE](#) for
All Publicity Items

Directions



If the links are not working
for you, please contact
Melissa Overstreet
moverstreet@absc.org

Directions (continued from p. 2)

Last call to nominate a man and/or a woman for the Nininger 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); Andrew Pouncey, current men's president, (andrew.pouncey@mcbccabot.com); or Elizabeth Barnett, current women's president (elizabeth.barnett@mac.com).

Ukraine 2020! Have you given a yes or no for your participation for this most important ministry opportunity? 70 have responded to-date with 47 yes responses so far. Please click on this link to indicate your involvement: <https://goo.gl/forms/MVf11lcNwZoRWzQq1>

Split concert locations for 2019-2020 are set. If you are able and interested in hosting the full group (usually 200+) for February or April, please contact me as soon as possible.

The Master'Singers scholarship applications are online. If you know of someone who is preparing for worship ministry and should apply, pass the information along. <http://www.absc.org/resources/arkansas-mastersingers-memorial-scholarship-letter-and-guidelines2019>

I cannot thank you enough for the ministry that you provide. It has been a great year! I look forward to our 10th year together starting in September. Let's make it the best one yet!

Larry

Ruth Nininger / Ervin Keathley Award Nomination Information

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

Men:
Here's
Your
Tie!



NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

student worship arts camp



praiseworks
Ouachita Baptist University
July 8-12, 2019



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

Arkansas Master'Singers
Mission Ukraine

April 20 - May 1, 2020

Click Here to
say "I want
to go!"

2019-2020 Events

September 12-13, 2019

Annual Retreat

October 3, 2019

Concert of Worship

Harrison High School Fine Arts Audit.

(Eagle Heights Baptist Church)

Harrison

October 22, 2019

ABSC Annual Meeting

Geyer Springs FBC - LR

January 27, 2020

ABSC Evangelism Conference

February 13, 2020

Concert of Worship

TBA

March 12, 2020

Split Concerts of Worship

Immanuel BC - Warren

First BC - 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



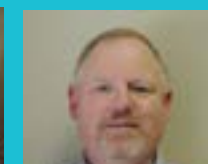
Darrell Spigner
2nd Vice President



Randy Cross
Ten 1 Host



Taylor Keenen
Ten 2 Host



Kevin Taylor
Baritone Host



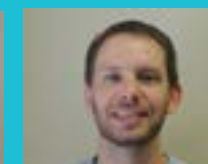
Rick Couch
Bass Host



Butch Riddle
Chaplain



Bart Morrison
Accompanist



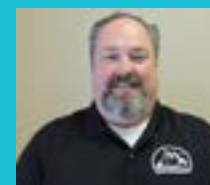
Phillip Johnson
Seating Coord.



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