**MARCH 2025** 

## VOLUME 8 - ISSUE 4 **DESCRIPTION OF A NEWSLETTER FOR THE ARKANSAS** Matter Singers

Little Rock

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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.



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#### from Jim Daniel

Each year we attempt to evenly divide our forces to deliver two simultaneous concerts in churches who have requested our ministry yet could not provide for the entire



group. Although this is difficult logistically, I feel it is a worthy endeavor as we creatively seek opportunities to utilize this great resource.

It is opportunities like these that case me to stop and reevaluate our purpose as a ministry. Being reminded of "why we do what we do" is a good thing. You can probably recite it with me, but our purpose is to gather in fellowship as we encourage one another, celebrating the Gospel with other believers and proclaiming the Gospel to the lost. We are blessed in many ways as we continue in this purpose.

Blessing number one: We are encouraged as co-laborers in the Gospel through the fellowship of the saints. The author of Hebrews writes, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 12:24-25). As we gather in preparation for the day, we are encouraged by the friendships we share together and we "spur one another on" in the work of the Kingdom. What a blessing.

Blessing number two: We are given the opportunity to lead both believers and non-believers to consider the truths of the Gospel. The believers are encouraged as we remind them of the attributes of our great God. The non-believers are confronted with the truth of the Gospel and given the opportunity to respond to this Truth in faith. "Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and the sojourner within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God and be careful to do all the words of this law" (Deuteronomy 31:12). What an opportunity!

So, as we do the work of preparation and as we make the sacrifice of time and resources to be present at the concerts of worship, let our love for our Savior, our love for one another, and our love for the lost fuel our preparation and our presentation of the Gospel. I am looking forward to what the Lord does through each of us!

> Click HERE to Enroll for the Season If you haven't done so yet



https://app.easytithe.com/App/Form/0794bd32-d15c-4a55-8281-5da93ab691e7

Please click or double click on the link to Enroll for the 2024-2025 year. If you do not receive an email confirmation, you have not completed the registration process.

### PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



**Thorns** Lynda Chapman Women's Chorus President

Wasn't our time at Woodland Heights wonderful? What an incredible night of worship. Greg Childress and all the staff, choir, and a host of others were so wonderful to us. The best part was that God met us there.

February has always been the month I have trimmed back my rose bushes. While I was out trimming them the other day, I had to be very careful of the thorns. There was hardly a place on the stems and branches that were not covered. Some very big and some just getting started. Even though I was wearing gloves I stuck myself several times and thought it was a good thing the roses were so beautiful, or it would not be worth the effort! What a blessing, though, those blooms are in the spring and summer.

Isn't that like our lives? The blessings along the way are just like those rose bushes. Some days are pricklier than others (days of great challenge and sometimes heartache) but there are blessings everywhere if we will just look for them. The Lord surely wants to bless us no matter our circumstance.

We have an opportunity to be a blessing to two different communities in just two weeks. I urge you, if you have not already done so, to select one or the other; either Immanuel Baptist Church, Warren or FBC, Dover. Our host churches are preparing for a wonderful evening of worship. Please don't miss out on this OPPORTUNITY of sharing Christ and being a blessing as we worship together.

Let us meet and share the mighty name of Lord through our music on March 13. God promised that his priestly blessing enabled his name – his power and authority – to be placed on his people. What an incredible gift! We have a responsibility to share Christ and His blessing at every opportunity in life. Here is one such opportunity. I am excited to share the gift of Christ through music that evening and let the Lord bless.

Numbers 6:24-26 reads "The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Just as there are too many thorns on my rose bush to count, God's blessings are too many and more wonderful for me to fully comprehend or count. God commanded his servants to bless His people. I pray we are that blessing on March 13. We ARE the Master'Singers.

I love you all and am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Click HERE to go to PCO to Accept/Decline your invite Reflect on God's Faithfulness Jeremy Raines Men's Chorus President



Bienvenue, Master'Singers Family!

I want to take one more opportunity to celebrate the Concert of Worship at Woodland Heights. Greg Childress and staff took incredible care of us, and helped us prepare for a night where God was glorified, and He moved not only on the platform, but in the congregation as well.

I'm sure you've heard people say it's not good to "dwell in the past". The term can have negative connotations in some instances because it refers to us spending too much time living with past regrets. However, for us as believers to remember, or reflect on God's blessings is crucial to our walk. In Psalm 143, David talks about remembering, meditating, and considering the works of the Lord. In this Psalm, David was crying out to the Lord desperately longing for His response, and reflecting on past works which gave him comfort. In the upper room, Jesus instructed His disciples to "take, and eat" as a form of remembrance for His sacrifice. Remembering the past can be help us with grief, and give us faith-building hope for what God has for our future, including His return. It can even be therapeutic to remember. In the ten commandments, the Israelites were instructed to remember the sabbath and keep it holy, encouraging us to rest and refrain from work. The positive attributes of remembering, greatly outweigh the negative.

I'm a huge Tommy Walker fan, and several of his songs focus not only on hope for the future, but encourage us to reminisce on God's faithfulness. In his song, We Will Remember, there's a line in the fourth verse, that says:

I still remember the day You saved me The day I heard You call out my name You said You loved me would never leave me And I've never been the same

On Thursday, March 13th, in two locations, we have an incredible opportunity to share with what we remember and Whom it is that has changed us! After that night two communities, Dover and Warren will never be the same. I encourage you to prayerfully consider joining Master'Singers in one of those two venues. Remember what He's done for you, and remember He blessed you with an incredible talent that needs to be shared with a dying world.

Looking forward to Worshiping with you in two weeks!



## SPLIT CONCERTS OF WORSHIP



Caleb Reynolds Worship Pastor FBC - Dover

Hey all you lovely people! We are so excited to have you guys here in Dover. You are going to be a huge blessing for so many people, me included!

The address for First Baptist Church of Dover: 149 AR-164 E Dover AR 72837

There are a few hotels in Russellville if you don't want to stay with

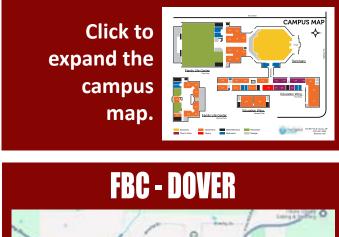
me in the mountains of Dover Iol! The Courtyard Russellville is the newest one to the town, there is also a Hampton Inn. Both are right off the interstate and 10 minutes from Dover.

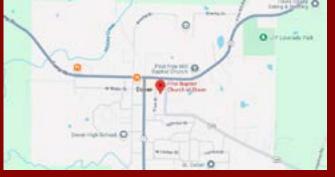
There's a bunch of great food spots too. I recommend Brick Oven Pizza, Stoby's, Old South, Wildflower Café, Ridgewood Brothers BBQ, Fat Daddy's BBQ, Brangus Steakhouse, CJs Burgers, and my personal favorite – Daddy's Smackin' Wings And Things

#### Ephesians 3:12

"Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence."

Something I love the most is the joy and confidence that the Master'Singers have as we enter the throne room of Almighty God with praise and adoration for Him. It has always encouraged me in my walk, even before I joined the team. I can't wait to encourage more people and lift up the Lord with you in just a few days! May God bless you all.







TJ Files Worship Pastor IBC - Warren

Immanuel Baptist Church is ready to host Master'Singers and is looking forward to a great night of ministry. TJ Files has been the worship pastor at Immanuel for 17 years. He ministers to the church and community through a strong worship ministry and a large community choir. He is also very involved with the Southeast Arkansas Performing Arts Center in Monticello. You will

enjoy being served by the church and the sweet members of TJ's ministry.

There are some great places to eat if you want to grab a bite before we meet for rehearsals. Warehouse B and Nanny's Nest Boutique is a nice deli spot downtown. There is also El Palacio, Robertson's Smoke House, and Molly's Diner, which all get good reviews.

Hebrews 10:23-24 encourages us to hold fast to the confession that we have in Christ Jesus, to consider creative ways to stir one another on to love and good works, and to encourage one another, especially as we see the day approaching. I know the time we have together will accomplish these goals as we sing and celebrate the Gospel and as we encourage one another through love and fellowship. Our Prayer is that the Lord would pour through Master'Singers as we worship Him and as we lead others to do the same.

### **Immanuel BC - Warren**



## SPLIT CONCERTS OF WORSHIP

#### Schedule for March 13, 2025

1:30 pm	Check-In
2:00 pm	Rehearsal
3:30 pm	Break
4:15 pm	Rehearsal
5:30 pm	Dinner and Dress for Concert
6:40 pm	Line-Up and Prayer
7:00 pm	Concert of Worship

#### 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 <u>and</u> female members. All nominations must be submitted by email to <u>lgunter@absc.</u> org by May 1st. Non-eligible members: **Current directors (Jim Daniel, Angela White, or Tim Gunter), current presidents (Lynda Chapman and Jeremy Raines) 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 Vicki Bedford and Lee Barnett
  2020 Carrie Taylor and Doug Moore
  2021 Shelia Moore and Larry Grayson
  2022 Sharon Sanders and Jerry Miller
  2023 Lamona Gunter and Robert Ramsey
- 2024 Bobbie Debusk and Darrell Spigner

All Master'Singers are eligible to make nominations. Information and requests for nominations will be found in the March and April newsletters annually. Nominations will be submitted to the Selection Committee (president's council) for a vote during the summer. Recipients will be announced and awards presented at the Annual Fall Retreat.

#### Program for the Concert of Worship

Combined Chorus Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts) Holy (Psalm 29) Psalm 24

Welcome from Women's Chorus Leadership *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name This is God Beauty of the Cross* 

Offering/Prayer- Men's Chorus Leadership Holy Forever Endless Praise My King is Known By Love

Gospel Presentation Abide Not to Us

### **CONCERT DRESS**

For the Split Concerts of Worship we will be wearing our normal concert attire:

Men: gray slacks, white shirt, black jacket, and Master'Singers tie.



Ladies: Your purple and black outfits.

Please remember that you will receive **TWO PCO** invitations for our March Split concerts. Please **ACCEPT THE ONE** you wish to attend and **DECLINE** the other.

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW click for more information





July 14 - 18, 2025 Ouachita Baptist University



#### 2024 - 2025 Events

September 9, 2024 Concert of Worship White County Fair, Searcy

September 12-13, 2024 Annual Retreat Immanuel Baptist, LR

October 22, 2024 ABSC Annual Meeting Geyer Springs FBC, LR

November 14, 2024 **Concert of Worship** West Baptist Church, Batesville

January 27, 2025 ABSC ECON Gever Springs FBC, LR

February 13, 2025 Concert of Worship Woodland Heights Baptist, Conway

March 13, 2025 Split Concerts FBC, Dover & Immanuel BC, Warren

April 22, 2025 Concert of Worship **Ouachita Baptist University** 





**Jim Daniel** Director





John Cole Ten 1 Host



Jacob Ray Chaplain

**David Tatum** 

Communications

2024-2025 Leadership Team





keitn Ciutts Ten 2 Host



**Greg Childress** Accompanist



**Kevin Taylor** 

**Baritone Host** 

**Taylor Keenen** 

**Past President** 

**Matt Jones** 2nd Vice President



**Jerry Miller Bass Host** 



Inst. Ens. Dir.



Director



**Karla Tarkington** Sop 1 Host



Lynda Chapman

President

**Diane Rodtnick** Sop 2 Host



**Peggy Pearson** Accompanist



Katie Stauber

**1st Vice President** 

**Michelle Smith** Alto 1 Host



**Cheri Cloud** Past President





**Sharon Sanders Outfit Coordinator** 



**Christina Stanley** 





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