

# SGN SCOOPS

MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2016



# LEGACY 5

**ALSO FEATURING:**

**SHELLEM CLINE, JOE MOSCHEO, KELLY COBERLY & MARK LANIER**



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## OUR MISSION

SGNScoops exists to promote the gospel by unveiling what is intriguing and real about Southern Gospel and Christian Country music. With integrity, we aspire to strengthen Christians, highlight people who are fulfilling a call to minister and emphasize the music that inspires audiences and glorifies God.

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# PUBLISHER'S POINT

**by Rob Patz**



Welcome to the February Publisher's Point! I hope that you have had a great start to the New Year and that you are all keeping your New Year's Resolutions! I was smart this year, I didn't make any; that way I didn't have any to break.

This January I got the opportunity to go to Texas and work on the Event we are so excited about. That is Southern Gospel Weekend Texas, which will be held in Sherman, Texas, from April 14th through the 16<sup>th</sup>.

This is the first year of this event and we have some really exciting things coming this month to tell you about. Also, we are excited to be partnering with Faith Church in Sherman. What a fantastic church! I had the opportunity to share my testimony with their congregation while I was there. They made me feel like I was part of the family, and we want you to be part of our Southern Gospel Weekend family! Join us for two great events this year: the event in Texas which I just mentioned April 14th through the 16<sup>th</sup>, and of course the event that we started last year in Oxford, Alabama: Southern Gospel Weekend Alabama, March 10th through the 12<sup>th</sup>. I want to see a lot of you there, so that I can personally thank you for praying for me last year at this time, when I was battling serious health issues.

Have you taken time yet to vote in the 2016 Diamond Awards? We have added some new categories and we hope that you like some of the changes to this year's format. Looking at the totals since we opened the Nominations, that says a lot of you have voted, but remember, tell your friends to vote in the Diamond Awards! Of course, make plans to join us in November 1st for the Diamond Awards during Creekside Gospel Music Convention. We are excited that Dr. Jerry and Jan Goff will be with us as our hosts again this year in Pigeon Forge.

In closing, I'd like to thank the great folks at Channel 57 for all that you do for Coastal Media and SGN Scoops and the Diamond Awards! I'm truly blessed to have great friends like Pat Mathis and Greg West.

See you next month! This is the Publisher's Point!



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## *“Can You Handle It”*

### **Unconditional Love**



By David Staton

February is the month when we celebrate love! Some say that Valentine’s Day was created by the greeting card, chocolate, and jewelry industries. Well, they didn’t create it, but they certainly capitalize on it. I believe everyone has a deep-seated need to be loved, and when you can connect a product to the emotional side of love, it’s easy to make a profit.

Over the last couple of decades I have seen the very definition of love change. When I was a kid, I watched my parents go through some tough times. I watched them do something that I rarely see happening today. I saw them not just say they loved each other, I watched them do love. When times were tough, when the money was gone, and when I’m sure they didn’t feel like they loved each other, their commitment and actions proved that they did love each other and us kids.

Today’s definition of love is much different. Many people think that if you love them, then you must accept every part of them unconditionally. If you op-

pose something that they do (particularly morally), then you are judgmental, and somehow it is interpreted as hate.

We all want love that doesn’t demand anything from us. We all want unconditional love, but is that possible? Are we capable of love without conditions? I personally believe that true love causes us to change. Sometimes it’s a welcome change, and other times it can be painful. I’ve heard couples say that they love each other unconditionally, but when one of them has an affair or abuses the other person’s love, we quickly see that their love was in fact, conditional. Most of the time, faithfulness and a mutual respect for each other are foundational conditions in love.

Do you think that God’s love is unconditional? Before I get into this, I’m prepared for the backlash I’m about to get for what I’m going to say. However, I think if you disagree with me, it’s going to probably be a difference in terminology, but I want you to see why our words are important. They are important



because even though I know what someone means when they say that *God loves us unconditionally*, it means something completely different to someone who does not understand their need for a Savior.

Every day I see posts on social media that say, “God loves you unconditionally.” This sounds almost scriptural, and very encouraging, but let me explain why this can be deceptive to an unbeliever. When most people who are not familiar with the gospel hear that God loves them unconditionally, they think that God’s love doesn’t require any action on their part. In fact, I meet so many people that believe that the gospel message is: come as you are and stay as you are because God loves us all, just as we are. The problem with the unconditional love message is that there is no need to feel remorse for our sin, no need to turn and repent for our sin, and no need to follow or even elevate Jesus to a place higher than our sin.

If God loved mankind unconditionally, would there have been a need for God to send His son? If God loved mankind unconditionally, then what was the need for the horrible scene at Calvary? If God’s love was unconditional, wouldn’t we all go to heaven no matter what we did or didn’t do?

The fact is we needed a Savior, and that Savior is Jesus. We want to believe that we are all God’s children, but the truth is, in order for us to be a child of God, we have to go through the adoption process. There was a common theme throughout Jesus’ ministry. Whenever Jesus displayed incredible acts of grace and mercy, He would tell that person to go and sin no more. Jesus always identified the sin that held that person captive, and he gave them the choice to choose the sin, or abandon it and follow Him.

When the woman was caught in adultery, Jesus did nothing to condemn her. When they dragged her out in the streets, she had been caught in the act so she was more than likely naked. They did this to humiliate her and to make the scene as shameful as they could. Jesus looked down at the sand, I believe, to not be a part of the humiliation and embarrassment.

After He saved her life with His words, He told her that He didn’t condemn her, but He did say, “Go and sin no more.” When the rich young ruler came to Jesus, Jesus knew what this young man’s priorities were and He gave him a choice.

In every case the choice was and still is very clear. We must abandon ourselves, take up our cross and

follow Him. In fact, Jesus said that if we aren't willing to do this, then we are not fit for the kingdom of God.

Does God love everyone? Absolutely! Will everyone go to heaven? Absolutely not! Why? Because we have to make the choice to follow Christ. A choice, a condition, no matter what you call it, God offers redemption, but we have to choose God's plan through Christ.

God's love demands more than a change, it demands a transformation of our life. Does that mean that God's love is conditional?

I welcome your comments and perspective.

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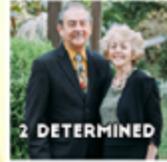
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# SOUTHERN GOSPEL WEEKEND

Expands



By Stephanie Kelley

Many visitors of Oxford, Alabama go there to get away from the hustle and bustle of their daily lives, or to visit Oxford Lake or Coldwater Covered Bridge, but a devoted crowd of music lovers gravitated there last April to celebrate what they consider to be the best music on earth: Southern Gospel, at the first Southern Gospel Weekend (SGW).

An enthusiastic crowd filled the Oxford Civic Center to enjoy an entire weekend devoted to the music and more importantly, the God being uplifted in the songs. The talent hailed from all over the south, representing a variety of states and types of groups, but who all shared a passion for the Lord.

and new faces at the event too, which will help to keep the music and the program fresh.

“If last year’s attendance is any indication, this year’s event should be well attended and well accepted, not only by the Oxford community, but by the Southern Gospel music family. Not only did the crowd enjoy the music, but lasting friendships were built,” said Rob Patz, one of the founders of the event. “And although we love that our guests enjoyed their time at the event, we are most excited about those who accepted our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at the altar call,” Patz continued. Patz is the CEO of Coastal Media.



Like other conventions, attendees were allowed ample time to stroll through vendor booths. This provided guests with the perfect opportunity to get to know their favorite artists and chat with old friends. The merchandise tables displayed the newest projects, which were available for preview and purchase. There were even some spontaneous concerts and intercession happening in the halls of the Civic Center.

It’s almost time to fill that auditorium with music and camaraderie once again. The highly anticipated event, the Southern Gospel Weekend, is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Much of what made last year’s event so successful will remain the same: the venue, many of the same groups and the inclusion of many of the most popular songs. There will, of course, be new groups

There will be the addition of a Saturday Breakfast event, which will be hosted by Jason Runnels and Friends. Runnels is the founder of Jason Runnels Ministries and is a Christian singer, songwriter and evangelist who has sung with such famous names as Tony Gore and has traveled around the world spreading God’s love. The Saturday event will be held on April 16, 2016 and the event planners are expecting a good crowd. “Nothing bonds people together better than good friends, good food and good music,” Patz said.

Breakfast isn’t the only opportunity guests will have to fellowship with friends over food. Like last year, attendees can purchase food at the event. Yummy treats such as pizza, soft drinks and candy will again be available for purchase.

Another addition to the SGW, both in Alabama and Texas, is a VIP seating section. For \$25, true Southern Gospel fans can purchase a pass that will assure them the best view of all the concerts for the entire event. Not only will they have the preferred seating, but also VIP pass holders will receive a special surprise at the event. Anyone interested in purchasing a VIP pass for either the Oxford or Sherman event should contact Vonda Easley of Hey Y'all Media at 256-310-7892.

"The growth of the franchise is, of course, exciting," said Rob Patz, "but seeing people's lives touched and changed through the music that I believe so strongly in, is the most fulfilling aspect of what I do." For more information visit: [www.SouthernGospelWeekend.com](http://www.SouthernGospelWeekend.com)



The event was so well received in Alabama, that in addition to the Oxford date, another Southern Gospel Weekend event has been scheduled for the first half of the year. Fans from Texas will be able to enjoy the same hospitality and talent of the Alabama event, right in their home state. "We are very excited to work with the Faith Church of Sherman, Texas," Patz said. The event will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

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## WISDOM FROM WELLS

by Dusty Wells

***Psalms 46:10: “Be still and know that I am God.”***

How many times have I quoted that simple yet powerful and truthful scripture of Psalms 46:10, to not only myself, but to so many other people who struggle and battle the ever present problem that we all seem to deal with at times. Yup, that yucky, controlling feeling: WORRY. And for so many of us, it absolutely paralyzes us and terrifies us. We’ve allowed it to control us.

Worry can come to us in so many ways. We can stress and worry about financial stuff, relationship issues, family problems, work, our future, health and the list is never-ending; many times the worry is justified and I understand it. Of course, so many of us have heard over and over and over the numerous scriptures, messages and countless devotions concerning us striving to lean on Him, trust in Him, stand strong in

our faith, rest in Him, grasp His faithfulness, embrace the truth He is always with us and on and on and on. Well I think you get the picture.

For me, I can speak so many of the scriptures and words of life over myself. I can stand strong for a bit. I can encourage others with what I truly do know to be true. I can write about it. I can sing hymns about it. I can share the truth of His word concerning it. But then there are those times where I come to that valley of despair where worry seems to control every part of me. I have often let worry ruin many days along the journey. I have allowed worry to control, manipulate and damage incredible opportunities before me. I think we have all been in that struggle and valley, where worry seems to lead the way.

Well my friends, I don’t have an easy answer or quick fix about any of it...I don’t...but I have to go back

to what I just wrote, and stand strong in what I have found to be so very true the last few years, for me, and what seems to help pull me up out of that deep pit of worry. I assure you, it sounds simple and almost way too easy, but there is something about speaking life to all of that which causes us to worry.

So I stand back, and I look at what the worry is all about. I mean I really take a long look at it, then I think about it for a few minutes or so, well maybe more than a few minutes, and then I begin to ask God to help me with all that is taking place in every part of my life that involves the worry. I have learned the importance of identifying the issue, the problem and then I begin to axe the root of it all.

Oh, I assure you it's not easy, but I know that we have to start at the beginning and learn to understand or deal with what gets us to that horrible feeling of worry. So I start at the beginning. I then begin to remind myself that He does have it all in control. He has never failed me or let me down. His timing has always been perfect. He won't leave me nor forsake me. And then I remind myself of those simple but profound truths all over again, and I remind myself of a few other scriptures that ring so true to me.

Again, I will remind you again, it's not easy...but I know that the more we speak life and truth over our circumstances and situations, the more healing and freedom we find. It's true...it really is.

***Luke 12:25: "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life."***

Take a look right now at what is worrying you. What does that worry add to your life? What is worrying doing for you, your family, your life, your career? Most likely - absolutely nothing. So how about this scripture?

***Matthew 6:25-27: "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by***

**being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"**

Friends, you can at least try to work on quitting worrying. Or at least take a look at it, and see if these little nuggets of truth and wisdom will help. I know for me, it does help some. And that makes me feel so much better.

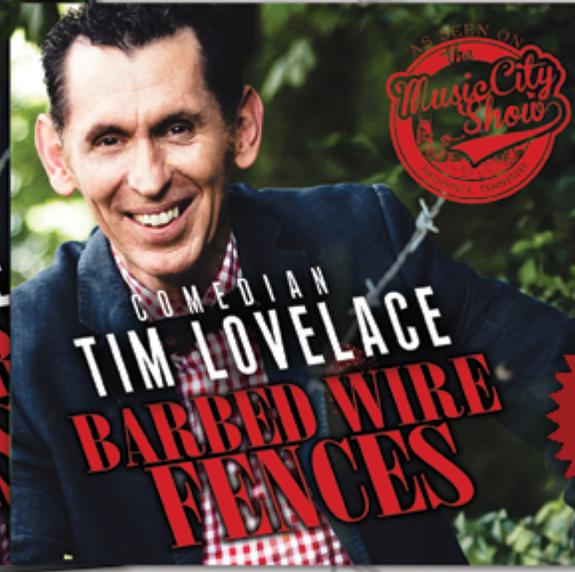
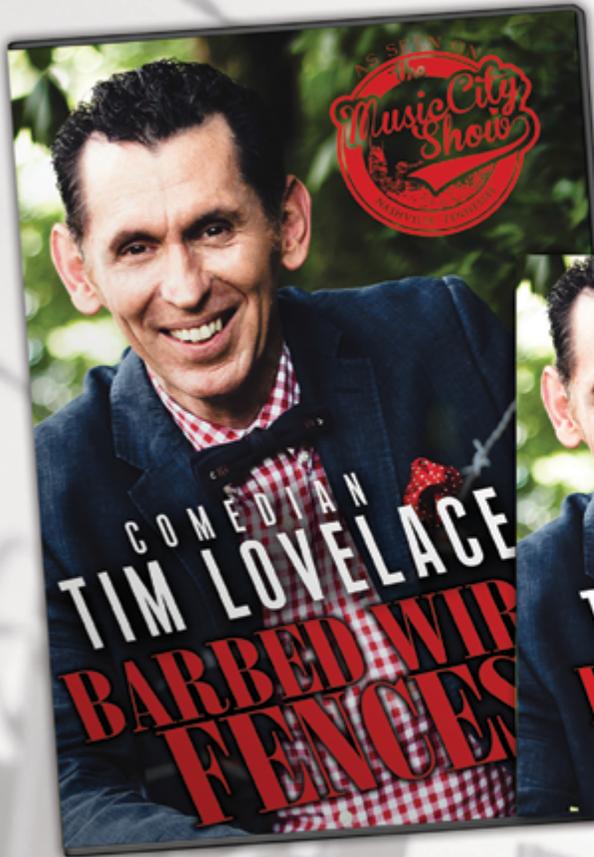
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# QUITE A LEGACY: A LOOK AT LEGACY FIVE



By Justin Gilmore

The Cathedral Quartet is widely considered to be one of Southern Gospel Music's most beloved groups. This stellar quartet has left quite a legacy. Several former members still carry on the music of the group today. One such group is the appropriately named, Legacy Five.

Legacy Five (sometimes styled as Legacy 5 or L5) was formed by Scott Fowler and Roger Bennett shortly after the great Cathedral Quartet retired in December of 1999. Fowler had served as baritone for the legendary group since 1990 and Bennett served as pianist for two tenures (1979-1986) and 1989 until the group's retirement.

In January of 2000, Legacy Five, then comprised of Josh Cobb, Glenn Dustin, Scott Howard, Fowler, and Bennett, hit the road. In the early days, the group was certainly influenced by the Cathedrals. Scott Fowler states, "George and Glen tremendously influenced

us and taught us everything we know about this music. In those days, we also spent a lot of time around Bill Gaither. He was doing lots of the videos and live concert appearances. He had the Cathedrals on many of those in the early days of the video phenomenon." These two major influences can still be heard in their music today.

The group saw great success in its early years with their first album release, *Strong In The Strength*. The group's first Top 10 hit, "I Stand Redeemed," featured young tenor Josh Cobb. Cobb won the Horizon Award in 2000 at the Singing News Fan Awards, but left the group shortly after. He was replaced by tenor Tony Jarman, who remained with the group until 2004. During his tenure, the group recording one of their greatest hits "I Found Grace" which topped the charts in September 2003.

Frank Seamans joined in 2004 and during his tenure

the group continued to record chart topping hits such as “Strike Up The Band,” “I’ve Been Changed,” “Hello After Goodbye,” and “Just Stand.” Seamans left the group in 2009 and was replaced by former LeFevre Quartet tenor Gus Gaches. Gaches brought a powerful and clear tenor voice to the group with memorable features such as “Only The Living,” “Christ Is Still The King,” and “For No Earthly Reason.”

Roger Bennett battled leukemia for most of his tenure with the group. In 2006, Tim Parton served as temporary pianist while Bennett was too ill to perform. Bennett passed away on March 17, 2007 and will always be remembered for his strong faith and his happy and outgoing personality. Tim Parton was then named the group’s official pianist and also supplied a fifth vocal part like his predecessor. Parton stayed with the group until 2011 and can now be seen with the newly formed Jim Brady Trio since January 2015.

Glenn Dustin’s subwoofer rumbling voice quickly became a fan favorite and anchored L5’s sound until late 2012 when he came off the road. Dustin won the Singing News Award for Favorite Bass in both 2004 and 2007. He had many standout features during his tenure, but perhaps his most requested and signature song was “I’ve Been Changed”, which expresses the testimony of someone coming to Christ after years of living in sin.



Fast forward to the year 2016, Legacy Five is still delighting audiences all over the world. The current lineup is stronger than ever. Josh Feemster is the newest addition to the beloved quartet. Feemster sang lead for Mercy’s Mark Quartet from 2004 to 2008. An excited



Scott Fowler states, “Josh has as much passion and excitement in his voice as I have heard since the ‘80’s with Danny Funderburk. He is a trained singer and it shows. I can’t wait for people to start hearing him with us.”

Scott Howard has served as the baritone and resident funny man of the group and continues to deliver moving performances. His warm baritone voice has become a mainstay in Southern Gospel and has had many standout features over the years including “So Many Things,” and “Destination Known.” Fowler has this to say of Howard: “Scott Howard is the only baritone Legacy Five has ever had. He has been here from day one. He also serves as Gospel music’s ‘stand-up comic.’ He is a funny, funny man. Scott and his wife, Kelly, live in Thompson Station, Tennessee and have three children and one two-year-old foster child.”

Matt Fouch joined the quartet in 2012 following the departure of original bass singer Glenn Dustin. Fouch came to the group after serving as the bass singer for Soul’d Out Quartet for eight years. Scott Fowler has high praise saying, “Matt is an exceptional bass singer and has really come a long way since joining us several years ago. He is consistently nominated as a fan favorite every year in the Singing News Fan Awards. A real talent!”

Following Tim Parton’s departure, young pianist Trey Ivey joined the group. “Trey is 26 years old and is the most talented pianist, producer and arranger for his age. Period. Trey was recently voted Gospel Music’s Fa-

favorite Young Artist and that doesn't surprise me in the least. Trey's future is very bright in Gospel music and Legacy Five is honored to have him on our team," says Fowler.

experiences in the over 15 years of their career. One particularly memorable experience occurred following 9/11. Fowler explains, "Just a couple of weeks after 9/11, NYC opened up an observation deck overlooking



Then there's Scott Fowler. Fowler serves as the lead singer and leader of the group. He has become a fan favorite vocalist over his 28-year career in Southern Gospel music. Fowler holds a special honor in Southern Gospel history. Fowler explains, "A bit of trivia here: only two people in Gospel music history have ever won both the favorite lead and favorite baritone singer in the Singing News Fan awards - myself and Glen Payne. Pretty good company, I'd say." This is just one of many accolades the members of this blessed and talented group have received.

Over the years, Legacy Five has released many incredible recordings including *Strong In The Strength*, *God's Been Good*, *Just Stand*, *A Wonderful Life*, and *Great Day*. Their latest album is no different. "*Talkin' About Heaven* is our latest CD and the first one with our new tenor, Josh Feemster. The theme of the CD is Heaven. There are no sad songs that will make you cry on this CD. It is all happy songs about the hope and promise of the joy that awaits all those who believe," says Fowler. This joy filled CD was originally recorded and released as a table project with Gus Gaches, but now includes Feemster's vocals. Each member gives great performances on a collection of fun and mostly convention style songs.

As you can imagine, the quartet has had their share of

the World Trade Center. Legacy Five was there the day it was dedicated by Mayor Rudy Giuliani. There was still smoke rising from the rubble. We waited in line for four hours for our three minutes on the deck. We spent our three minutes singing "America The Beautiful". It was a moving experience and was filmed by the local New York City news and aired that night."

He cites their recent trip to Israel as one of their many memorable experiences as well. Scott also adds, "But to be completely honest, the best memories are the ones that never get reported. They are the amazing testimonies we hear from folks who have been forever changed by the music God gives us." This is the goal of Legacy Five's ministry, which God has greatly blessed.

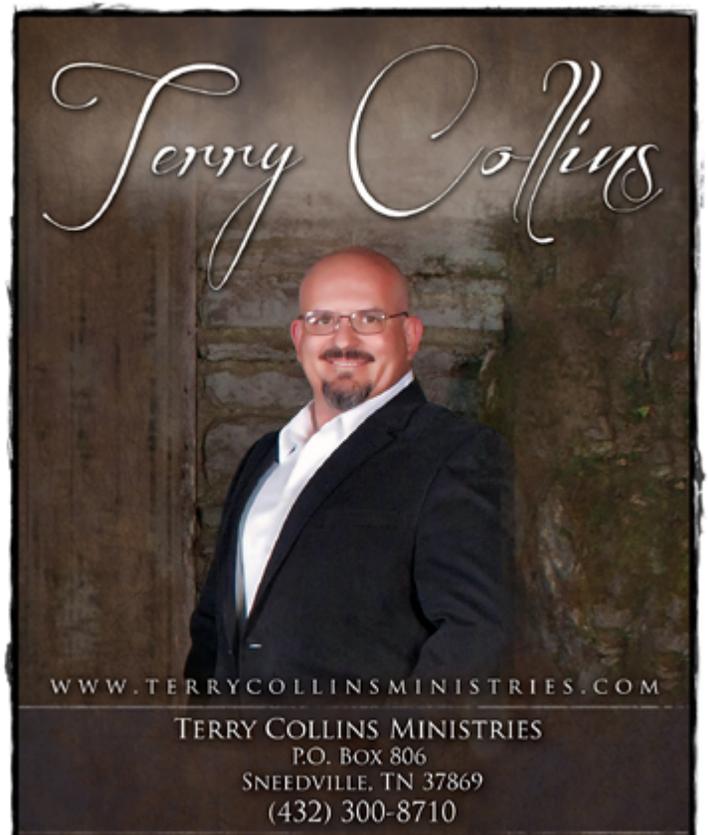
The year 2016 will be busy one for the popular quartet. "We are really looking forward to some multi-day events we are hosting this year," Fowler exclaims. "In March, we co-host Praisefest Branson with Greater Vision. In April, we co-host Daywind Quartet Festival at The Greenbrier in West Virginia. In May, we co-host Praisefest Toronto. Memorial Day weekend, which is the last weekend in May, we will host our very first multi-day event in The Dells, Wisconsin. Then October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> we will host our annual Mackinac Island, Michigan retreat with our Canadian friends, The Freedom Singers. November will have us on our Mexican



Riviera cruise and then in December we end the year with our annual three-day Celebration New Year's Eve event at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel, in Nashville, Tennessee. Information on all these events is available at [www.legacyfive.com](http://www.legacyfive.com) under the tab, 'SPECIAL EVENTS.'" If this busy schedule is any indication, Legacy Five is sure to have a great year of music and ministry.

Legacy Five shows no sign of slowing down as they continue to release quality records and chart topping songs such as "Ask Me Why," "Living in The Palace," and "He Is To Me." They perform for sold-out crowds all over the nation and most importantly praise God and spread the Good News to the world. They continue to stay true to God's call on their lives and their mission statement. The mission is simple according to Fowler: "To present the gospel through our music with excellence with the goal of drawing ALL MEN unto HIM and to encourage the believer." The future is bright for this beloved group as they continue the legacy of this great music.

Press Photographs courtesy of Legacy Five.  
Live Photographs from NYE Celebration courtesy of Craig Harris.



MUSIC WITH A MESSAGE  
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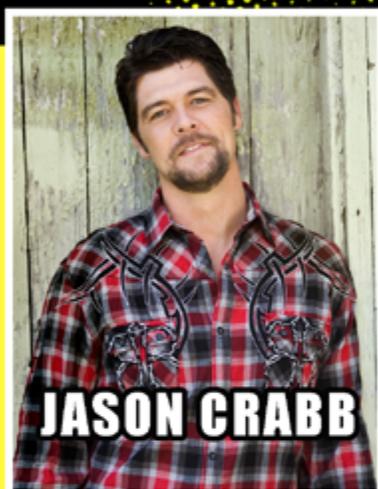
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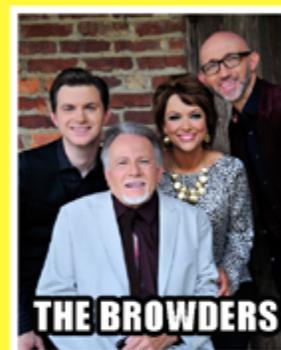
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# *No Greater Love*

By Jennifer Campbell



This Valentine's Day, men and women alike will try to outdo each other by purchasing the freshest bouquet of roses, the sweetest box of chocolates, or the most costly piece of jewelry they can afford. Others may purchase weekend getaways, new automobiles, gourmet dinners, and the like. Children will cut out hearts and write Valentines to their parents, teachers, family, and friends. But even amid all of this red and pink and everything from heart-shaped candies to ice cubes shaped like X's and O's, is this really the best way to convey our love for one another?

Perhaps in all of our haste to wrap the right gift, we may have lost the meaning of Valentine's Day altogether. Love is not found inside a greeting card or even a chocolate truffle. Love is found through our actions. How we talk to others, how we treat them, and what we do for them every day of the year. That's love.

From the creation of the world, love has been the glue that holds everything together. It was with love that God so carefully placed the sun, moon, and stars. Through love, He created bodies of water and dry land. He knew we would need nourishment, so He provided a vast array of plants and animals that would produce food for us to eat. Then, He knew we had an inherent need to feel loved, so he gave Adam a companion as a helpmate.

Even though the world has experienced its fair share of tumult since the moment that pristine Garden of Eden was planted by God's own hands, one thing has never changed. God has never stopped loving you and me.

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should have eternal life."

Throughout the centuries, people have blasphemed, ridiculed, and scorned our Heavenly Father. Yet because of His infinite mercy, He pours out His unconditional love to every man, woman, boy, and girl on this earth. Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

God gave His only Son to save us all, even though we were sinners. He looks beyond our shortcomings, our mistakes, and our wrongdoings. He looks into the heart of the individual and knows they have an inherent need to be loved. Through an unselfish sacrifice of love, we have been redeemed. Through love, we find salvation. This kind of love is greater than we can fully comprehend.

Love is not just a feeling for someone. To love someone means you are willing to do something on their behalf. John 15:3 says, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

This does not mean we should be crucified on a cross. This means we should put others first, sacrificing our own needs to show God's love toward others. A parent's love is likely the closest example to Christ's perfect love displayed by a human. A mother or father sleeps lightly, ready to jump up at the first cry of their child. They don't leap out of bed at four o'clock in the morning because they despise sleep; they do it out of love for their son or

daughter. They would do anything to ensure their child's well-being is put before their own needs. That's unconditional love.

Love is something that cannot be bought or sold. It can only be given away. The only question is: What kind of love we will show to others? Will we send a get well card in the mail, or will we pick up the telephone to see how someone is really doing? Will we give someone a gift card to their favorite restaurant, or will we go out of our way to prepare a home-cooked meal for someone who is living alone, with no family to call their own? Will we stay home on Sunday morning or will we go to the house of the Lord to worship and praise Him for the unmerited favor and matchless love that He has shown toward us?

While every act of love is a blessing to the recipient, the greatest thing we can do is to be a reflection of the love of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet. I John 3:16 says, "This is how we know what love is: Christ gave his life for us."

Jesus Christ is the perfect example of love. He didn't just send a Valentine card. He gave his life so we could have our sins washed white as snow, and in turn, receive everlasting life. That is the greatest example of love ever shown since the beginning of time. There truly is no greater love!

# JERRY Branscomb

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## *Joe Moscheo*

By Charie Griffin

Joe Moscheo was known to thousands of music industry folks due to his performances with the Prophets and later the Imperials. He became noted as an astute businessman and tireless supporter of Gospel music with his long tenure as an executive at BMI and other affiliated companies. Moscheo, 78, passed away on Monday night, January 11, 2016, around 10 p.m. It was posted on Facebook by an Imperials poster.

Joe Moscheo was a musician, a manager, an executive, a producer, a songwriter and an author. Yes there will be a loss to all who knew him.

Of Italian immigrant decent, Moscheo was born in Albany,

New York in 1937. His music pedigree is short of a 'who's who' list. In 1960, following the example of his father who was a government worker turned preacher, Moscheo quit college to join a Gospel quartet. He joined the Gospel group, the Harmoneers. By 1961, he had moved on to perform with Ed Hill and Big Lew Garrison in the Prophets. Many historians consider this time as the Prophets hey-day in Gospel music. However, by fall of 1964 he joined the Imperials as a singer, keyboard player and arranger. He also wrote several songs for the group. It is here Joe Moscheo began to make his mark in Gospel music performance.

This Imperials configuration performed with Elvis Presley in

Las Vegas in 1969-72. Between 1966 and 1971, the Imperials also appeared on a number of Presley's recordings. Moscheo recaptured this time with his 2007 book, *The Gospel Side of Elvis*. He also produced the PBS TV documentary *He Touched Me: The Gospel Music of Elvis Presley*. It became a DVD in 2002. During this production, Moscheo revealed to the world a side of Elvis that only a few in Gospel music had known about.



In addition to their time with Elvis, the Imperials have to their credit backing up such entertainers as Jimmy Dean, Pat Boone, Roy Clark and Carol Channing. The Gospel Music Association (GMA) awarded the Imperials their first award in 1969. Many awards have followed through the years. In 1972, the Imperials became Gospel's first interracial group. Joe and the group were inclusive in a growing time of our country's history; today, the Imperials are still one of Gospel music's most iconic groups to ever grace the stage.

In 1978, Moscheo was hired by BMI. He was the organization's Vice President of Special Projects for the next 16 years. In 1982 and 1983, he served two terms as the President of the Nashville chapter of the Recording Academy. In the mid-1990's, Moscheo formed his own management company. He worked with BeBe and CeCe Winans, Michael English, Naomi Judd and Wynonna Judd, along with others. His love for performance was never far away.

First Union Bank hired Moscheo in June 1996 to establish an Entertainment Division. Moscheo retired from First Union in 2003. He became a consultant to the music company MCS America and assumed its presidency in 2004. Moscheo was a member of the founding council of Leadership Music. He also served as both president and board member of the W.O. Smith Community Music School, and the Gospel Music Association. He was individually inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 2007. This was actually his second induction, for he was also voted into the Hall as a member of



The Imperials in 1998.

He continued to make appearances relating to Elvis and the Imperials until his retirement in 2014. Moscheo remained closely involved in the music industry, according to long-time friend and business associate, Lou Hildreth, who shared, "Joe was a consultant to many in the music industry. People sought him out for advice and he was known for being helpful to everybody."

Moscheo suffered from a degenerative neurological disease. He was moved into an assisted living facility last year and a Give Forward account called the Joe Moscheo Fund was set up for his care. He underwent emergency surgery and was





hospitalized in late December. He remained positive and in great spirits throughout his declining health.

His death is a tremendous loss. It has affected many music people in Gospel and other music forms. "Joe Moscheo was a dear friend of ours and an immensely talented singer, musician and arranger for the Imperials. Elvis loved Joe, and treasured their performances together on stage in Las Vegas and in the studio. Elvis loved Gospel more than any other music genre, and Joe was a big part of many of Elvis' greatest Gospel performances. After concerts, Elvis and Joe would often sing Gospel songs around a piano, long into the night, which are cherished memories for us. Our hearts go out to Joe's family, friends and fans around the world. He will be deeply



missed." says Priscilla Presley and Lisa Marie Presley.

Ed Hill, who hired Moscheo to play piano with the Prophets says, "Joe was a good quartet man. He loved Gospel music, the people and was always looking ahead. He was a natural leader. I have many fond memories of Joe. He was a good friend. We lost a good man today!"

Testimonials from Graceland, BMI executives, former musical group members and personal friends bloomed on social media and in various periodicals. Joe will always be a music man. He will be remembered as a man who really made a difference in music and life. His impact will be measured for years to come.

The following link is a performance during Elvis week in Memphis, TN in 2012. This clip shares the passion of Elvis' singers, the Imperials, on the classic song, "He Touched Me." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zurOLXygoI>

Photograph of the Prophets seated on stools courtesy of Dean Adkins

Other photographs courtesy of John Crenshaw

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# CHRISTIAN COUNTRY EXPO 2016

By Rob Patz

We are excited about Christian Country Expo 2016, in beautiful Pigeon Forge, Tennessee! The Expo is going to be four great days of Christian Country music with some of your favorite artists in the genre. Be sure to join us August 1st through 18<sup>th</sup>. We are going to have evening concerts, daytime showcases and other events that you will enjoy.

If you enjoy your Christian music with a twang, you won't want to miss this. Some of the artists that have committed to already being there are: Kevin Rowe, Greg McDougall, Tommy Brandt, Lindsay Huggins and Chuck Day. More artists will be announced over the next few weeks.

This year at Christian Country Expo, for the first time, the Christian Country Diamond Awards will be presented! We are excited to see the growth of this genre and we are thrilled to be able to celebrate these award recipients separate from the Southern Gospel Diamond Award presentation at Creekside Gospel Music Convention.

Keep watching for more exciting announcements. Don't miss four days of great Christian Country music, fellowship and fun. Ticket information here: <http://www.christiancountryexpo.com/> VIP tickets are also available. Call Rob Patz at 360-933-0741 to reserve your VIP spot. Christian Country artists that would like to be involved, please contact Vonda Easley at 256-310-7892.

Contact Salina Clay for hotel reservations at [hoteles@sgnscoops.com](mailto:hoteles@sgnscoops.com) or call her at 256-239-7716. Like us on Facebook and be sure to check there for all the information! <https://www.facebook.com/christiancountryexpo/>



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# The Fresh New Face of Kelly Coberly

By Tina Wakefield



February is most often the month where our focus turns to the subject of *love*. For a single adult, this time of year can be difficult; but not for one young woman: Kelly Coberly. Kelly says that while she would like to have that special someone to share her life with, “I have the greatest love anyone could ever have and that is Jesus! Pass me the candy hearts, ‘cause I’m celebrating Jesus!”

Kelly was once married and dreamed of a life that would be shared with her husband, but for her and many like her, that was not to be. In 2005, Kelly became a divorced mother of two boys, now aged 17 and 21. I asked her about her hopes of finding love again and she stated, “Being a single Christian is difficult but a divorced Christian is even more difficult, because of the judgments and unfair labels placed on you by others. I do know what the Bible says on the subject, and I also know that God knows my heart, so I am completely trusting His plan for me and I pray His will be done.”

Now if you are looking to fill this vacancy in Kelly’s life, gentlemen, this is what it will take: Foremost,

you must be a Christian – a serious Christian who not only talks, but also walks your salvation in a way that pleases the Lord. Kelly states that she does not judge someone on their past because we all have a past, does not judge on outward appearances because true beauty is within, does not judge on the basis of wealth or lack of it because a Godly man is a rich man in her book!

Kelly Coberly is a fresh new face in Southern Gospel music with a rich heritage of Bluegrass, Country and Gospel music. Kelly actually began singing at the age of nine in her elementary school choir. I asked Kelly about the first song she may have sung. “I don’t quite remember the first song,” says Kelly, “but I do remember around nine years old, singing to the radio in my room when my mom came in and saying, ‘Wow, that was really good!’ At that moment I realized I could actually sing. I was terribly embarrassed to learn she had been listening all the time.”

As the years went by, Kelly admits she was too shy to step out solo as a young adult, but after a little soul searching decided that it was time to face her fears and



step out on stage. Kelly decided the best way to conquer her stage fright was to enter a Karaoke contest. “I was really nervous, and more than likely not going to win the contest, but I also knew that I was never going to be able to overcome my stage fright if I didn’t just get on stage and do it! When I finished, I realized that it wasn’t as bad as I was making it out to be and immediately wanted to do it again.”

Kelly began entering these contests and began to be very successful. Her new-found confidence led her to record her first CD which included two original songs, one of which entitled “Ya Wanna Bet,” received air-play in several countries and rose to number two on the Country chart in Australia. Kelly had finally found the courage and determination to pursue the music career she only dared to dream of as a young girl at her grandparents’ recording studio in Virginia.

“I thought shrink wrapping cassettes in that studio was the coolest thing ever, and I just knew one day I was going to have my very own shrink-wrapped cassette with my picture and name on it. Little did I know that

cassettes would no longer exist, but I did have my very own shrink-wrapped CD with my picture and name on it!” Kelly would go on to record four more CD’s and sing Country and Bluegrass for the next 15 years.

Kelly grew up surrounded by music, as her father was a member of a Bluegrass group for many years. She often traveled with her father to the many Bluegrass festivals listening to them play and sing. She spent most of her life in West Virginia except for the three years she lived in Pigeon Forge, TN pursuing her music career.

During those three years in Pigeon Forge, Kelly worked as a Country/Bluegrass artist, demo singer, back up vocalist and even held a position at the Louise Mandrell Theatre and Country Tonite Theatre. After three years in Tennessee, Kelly decided to relocate home and spend time with her family, putting her music career on hold. Five years passed and Kelly began to feel that call to sing again, so she tried Country and Bluegrass for a few months but in her words, “Something didn’t feel right.” Kelly would soon find out what the *not right* feeling was; a change in direction from a calling God was pouring into her spirit.

In 2013, Kelly rededicated her life to God and began attending church once again as she had earlier in life. She states, “Once I turned my life over to Him, He made everything perfectly clear.” Early in 2014, Kelly received her direction and began to establish a Gospel Music career. Her debut CD entitled *Because He Loved Me*, recorded at Daywind Studios and produced by Marty Funderburk, reached number 12 on SGN Scoops charts, number 16 on Southern Gospel Magazine, and debuted at number 53 in the Singing News.

If you have never had the experience of hearing yourself on the radio for the first time ever, it can be quite a shock. Kelly described the first time she listened to herself on radio: “Don Elrod of WCON from Cornelia, Ga. played my song on the *Georgia Gospel Showcase*, and I was ecstatic! I called my parents and had them come and listen. I get excited every time I hear it, I don’t think that feeling will ever get old. I have a special thanks to all the DJ s that have played my song!”

I asked Kelly about being a female soloist in a genre with very few soloists out there. “I think some of the venues do prefer quartets over solo artists; however, I have only ever experienced not being welcome to an event once,” says Kelly. “It is a little discouraging when

that happens, because I feel that a solo artist is just as capable of delivering a message to others as a group. If the Lord calls someone into a ministry, then they are called for a reason. Someone who excludes a soloist because they are not a group doesn't realize they may miss out on a wonderful testimony and real blessing. I



think a combination of groups and soloist is absolutely wonderful!”

For artists, choosing the right songs to record can be a daunting task. Everyone has his or her own criteria for choosing material. Kelly Coberly explains just how she decides between the songs. “The first thing I look for in a song is the message. If I can personally relate to it and it touches my heart, you can pretty much bet I am going to choose that song. If it makes me tear up and cry like a baby, then I will guarantee you I am going to sing that song! I have to feel it in order to sing it!”

The studio is an amazing place to be and witness what a producer can do with music and vocals. Kelly related that she was amazed during her first time recording, that you don't have to sing the song time and again to correct errors, you can simply sing a word or line and the producer just punches the corrected portion in. “I

thought that was *sooo* cool,” Kelly replied. “I would love to have my own studio one day.”

I am sure that you will be hearing more from new artist Kelly Coberly in the future with her rich Southern voice. Vonda Easley of *Hey Y'all Media*, promoter of Kelly's music, relayed to me that when she called the radio stations to inquire about Kelly's new release, one DJ stated, “That girl just has a special voice!” and Vonda says she must agree!

You don't want to miss hearing the music from Kelly Coberly. She may be a new artist but her awards and charting numbers are stacking up. Find out more about Kelly at [www.facebook.com/kellycoberlymusic](http://www.facebook.com/kellycoberlymusic), listen to her on Reverb Nation and call your favorite Gospel station to play her music. We are sure that you will be hearing more from this young lady!

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# TOP 40

## CHRISTIAN COUNTRY SONGS

1	Arkin Terrell	Clean Slate
2	Tommy Brandt	Broken
3	Shellem Cline	Halfway Down The Aisle
4	Brandon Poole	I Remember The Day
5	Jim Sheldon/Rachel Taylor	New Again
6	Bev McCann	24 hours a Day
7	Fowlers	There's Only Two Choices
8	Tina Wakefield	Jesus Take A Hold
9	Bridge of Faith	Tougher than Nails
10	The Drummond Family	I Stand
11	Chuck Day	Stand Up
12	Marty Raybon	He's Still Doing Miracles Today
13	The Reed Brothers	Crazy World
14	Orboys	Hold On To God's Unchanging Hand
15	Big Mo	One
16	Chris Golden/ Freemans	A Different Light
17	Roarks	When I Get Where I'm Going
18	Crimson Ridge	I'd Rather Have Jesus
19	The Hinson Family	Let's Have Some Church
20	Hope's Journey	On My Way Back
21	The Parrish Family	Old House

22	The Partons	Homesick For a Home
23	Lori Jonathan Trio	No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus
24	Bristos	Heaven Can't Wait
25	Terry Collins	Out of this World
26	Debbie Bennett	Sunshine , Rain, and Roses
27	The Wards	Bible Revival
28	Mitch Pullen	Cross That River
29	Kevin Lynn Woodall	God, Guns, and Amazing Grace
30	Steve Roberson/Randy Finchum	It's A God Thing
31	John Steed	The In Crowd
32	Charles Scarlett	In The Morning
33	Debbie Seagraves	Dream Big
34	Freddy Pate	All Watered Down
35	Peter McDougall	One By One
36	Kenny Gardner	Didn't I Walk on The Water
37	Jerry Branscomb	Somebody Put Me In The Water
38	Waymasters	Hills of Glory
39	Kevin Rowe and The Prodigal Son	He's Coming
40	Carter Robertson Band	God Against The Law

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This chart was compiled from a list of reporting stations. Each month we will be adding more stations.

1	Wilburn and Wilburn	You Asked Him To Leave
2	Whisnants	Worry Ends Where Faith Begins
3	Shellem Cline	Halfway Down The Aisle
4	Kingsmen	Cross Of Grace
5	Karen Peck and New River	I Am Blessed
6	Hope's Journey	On My Way Back
7	Guardians	Shoutin' Sounds
8	Ernie Haase and Signature Sound	Jesus Changed Everything
9	Mylon Hayes Family	The Sweetest Words He Ever Said
10	Perrys	Keep On
11	Bowling Family	One Glorious Moment Of Faith
12	Booth Brothers	Happy Rhythm
13	Williamsons	Monday
14	Kelly Coberly	Because He Loved Me
15	Bev McCann	I've Seen What He Can Do
16	Higher Ground	A Hill A Cross A Place Called Calvary
17	Greater Vision	As We Speak
18	Mark Trammell Quartet	I'll Take It To The Grave
19	Legacy Five	That's A Hallelujah
20	Sounds Of Victory	You're Always There
21	Keith Barkley and Family Tradition	It's Time
22	Lore Family	I Lived To Tell About It
23	Kingdom Heirs	The Chain Gang
24	Hyssongs	There's Still Room, There's Still Hope, There's Still Time
25	Linda Foster	One Prayer At A Time
26	Page Trio	Difference Is The Cross
27	Debra Perry and Jaidyn's Call	Caught Up
28	Chandlers	I'll Still Be Standing
29	Browders	Waiting For You To Get Home
30	Furrows	I've Come Too Far

31	Pruitt Family	Bring It All To Jesus
32	Tim Livingston	I'm In Good Shape
33	Rochesters	As For Me And My House
34	Steeles	Without A Sound
35	Watkins Family	Making Me Stronger
36	Bates Family	Jesus On The Mainline
37	Zane and Donna King	Lovestruck
38	Austin and Ethan Whisnant	1+2+3
39	Jim Brady Trio	Good Lord Willin'
40	11th Hour	Mountain Moving Faith
41	Heart's Song	Jesus Is The Answer
42	McKameys	I Have A Home
43	Freemans	Unwanted Crowns
44	Mark Dubbeld Family	A Little Bit Better
45	Jeff and Sheri Easter	Jesus Loves You
46	Terry Collins	Out Of This World
47	Jason Crabb	He Won't Leave You There
48	Erwins	Ready To Sail
49	Jim Sheldon	Church Like We Knew Back Then
50	Brian Free and Assurance	He Still Saves
51	Williamsons	Shout
52	Blythe Family	Higher Ground
53	Soul Purpose Quartet	In My Robe Of White
54	Gold City	Victory In Jesus
55	Old Paths	Just Can't Get Over
56	Joseph Habedank	Welcome Home
57	Talleys	People In The Line
58	Shellem Cline	I'm The One
59	LeFevre Quartet	Something
60	Troy Burns Family	The Potter
61	Riders	One Holy Morning
62	Nelons	Just Can't Make It By Myself
63	Ball Brothers	It's Gonna Be A Good Day
64	Goodman Revival	The Sweetest Song I Know
65	Shepherds	Oh David
66	Wilburn and Wilburn	Nobody Like Jesus
67	Dunaways	Again And Again
68	Greater Vision	Put Out The Fire
69	Ivan Parker	Silent Prayer

70	Karen Peck and New River	Pray Now
71	Georgia	Great Revival
72	Gordon Mote	Down By The River
73	Violet Maynard and Family	One Sweet Day
74	Reborn	Potter's Wheel
75	11th Hour	Jesus Is In The House
76	Taylors	He's My Guide
77	East Ridge Boys	Pray Pray Pray
78	Conners	Get Me To The Cross
79	Skyline Boys	That's Enough
80	Kirby Stailey	All The Proof I Need
81	Wards	Bible Revival
82	Lorraine Howard	Brand New Day
83	Judith Montgomery and Family	God Provided
84	Brian Free and Assurance	Where There's A Will He Has A Way
84	Austin Whisnant	When Life Doesn't Make Sense
86	Jonathan Bledsoe	Go And Tell Somebody
87	Gold City	Power Of The Cross
88	Kevin Williams	Nosey Rosey
89	Charlie May	It's Time To Send The Singers In
90	New Ground	I Can Still Pray Through
91	Eagles Wings	When I Wake Up To Sleep No More
92	Del Way	Love Held My Savior To A Tree
93	Heaven's Mountain Band	I'll Ride This Ship
93	Chuck Hancock	Jesus I Believe
95	Burning Bridges	Take It To Jesus
96	Coffmans	This Blood
97	Mark Bishop	He Can See My Tomorrow
98	Doug Hudson	If They Could See Us Now
99	Gaither Vocal Band	Jesus Gave Me Water
100	Lakeside	You're As Close To God



SGN **SCOOPS** MAGAZINE

**#getconnected**

# Healthy Weight Loss = Break Fast (Breakfast!)



By Laurette Willis, CHC

Are you a breakfast eater? It's important to eat a nutritious breakfast every morning if you want to lose weight, maintain a healthy weight and maintain a good energy level throughout the day.

A study was conducted by Vanderbilt University with overweight people who routinely skipped breakfast. When they began eating breakfast they became big losers, losing an average of 17 pounds in 12 weeks. They were less hungry at other meals, and eating breakfast fired up their metabolism to burn more fat the rest of the day.

“Break fast” = breakfast. That’s actually what “breakfast” means. We’re to break (or end) the fast (abstinence from food) we’ve been on since our last meal the night before.

I like to see it as a command. Break your fast! Nutritionists and dieticians recommend eating your first meal of the day no later than one hour after awakening. If you’re not hungry in the morning, the reason may be due to eating late the night before and going to bed with undigested food on the stomach.

I often woke up groggy and *hung over* after a late night binge. The last thing I wanted to look at was food. Only around 10:00 a.m. would something like a donut or sugary muffin sound appealing. It starts a vicious cycle.

If you hate eating breakfast like I did, realize that

your blood chemistry may be out of balance first thing in the morning. Breakfast is just what your body needs to stabilize blood sugar and a queasy stomach.

One thing most overweight people have in common is that they seldom eat breakfast. You start the day at a loss by not eating breakfast—a loss of energy, brainpower, and memory as well as a five percent drop in metabolism. Not eating breakfast also provides a built-in trigger designed to cause overeating later in the day.

How can we put together something delicious and nutritious for the whole family on a tight schedule, tight budget – or both? It’s as easy as One, Two, Three for quick energy!

1. Simple carbohydrate (juice, fresh or dried fruit) = Fast start energy
2. Complex carbohydrate (cereal, bread, or whole grains) = Sustained energy
3. Protein (eggs, meat, dairy, nuts, seeds, or soy) = Muscle-building energy

Examples:

- (1) ½ banana + (2) 1 cup cooked quinoa (delicious!) + (3) ½ cup almond milk
- (1) Orange juice + (2) slice gluten-free or sprouted grain toast + (3) 2-3 scrambled eggs
- (1) All-fruit jam + (2) gluten-free muffin + (3) 1 T almond butter

If your meal doesn’t have fat, you may add a small

pat of butter, a few almonds or consider your EFA [Essential Fatty Acid] supplement as fat for the meal.

Get the idea? Now you try it. Think of what you have available in the kitchen right now. Write down two easy combinations you could have for breakfast tomorrow morning that both you and the rest of the family would enjoy. Remember, "It's as easy as 1, 2, 3 for quick energy!" Try it and see how you feel!

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ + (2) \_\_\_\_\_ +
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ + (2) \_\_\_\_\_ +
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_

*Adapted from The Busy Woman's Guide to Total Fitness by Laurette Willis (Harvest House Publishers).*

*To help in your quest to live long, be healthy and strong, get a free copy of the "Ten Bad Foods List" plus a free Self-Health Evaluation you can take online, by contacting Laurette Willis at [praisemoves@gmail.com](mailto:praisemoves@gmail.com).*

*Laurette is a Certified Health Coach, published author, and Founder of PraiseMoves Fitness Ministry. You may contact Laurette at the email address above, 918-458-1800 or [www.PraiseMoves.com](http://www.PraiseMoves.com).*

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# Mark Lanier: He's Got the Whole World In His Hands



**By Vivian Belknap**

Mark Lanier states: “Gospel music was always in my blood,” as he begins to relate his story. “My dad was the choir director and my mother played piano in our church in the small community of Central, Alabama. When I was four years old, my father pulled the piano bench out and I stood on it and sang my first song, ‘He’s Got The Whole World In His Hands,’ in front of an audience.’

Mark’s father had a love for quartet music; he never pushed Mark to sing but always supported him. His mother taught piano and had over 40 students. However, she never taught Mark, because he was somewhat on the ‘hard headed’ side and did not want to take the time to learn and practice. Mark’s piano ability comes from playing by ear. Mark says, “I don’t know how I know what I know but it comes so naturally that it has to be a gift from God.”

Mark is from the same area of Alabama as Coy Cook, the great tenor singer from The Florida Boys. Early in

Mark’s life, his dad and Coy formed a quartet called the Elco Four; the name was formed from the first two letters of Elmore County. “This was part of my heritage and I was bit by the *Gospel* bug early in my life,” says Mark.

Mark Lanier’s early years were filled with a variety of music adventures. Between the ages of four and 12, Mark sang at church meetings and revivals. When he was nine, Mark sang and played lead guitar for a rock and roll band called The Electric Fog. Between the ages of 12 and 17, his parents decided to put a family group together, The Lanier Family, which included Mark, his two brothers and his parents. They traveled several years in an area that never exceeded 50 miles from their home.

Mark had been bugging his father about getting him a guitar and they were at an auction that featured a guitar for sale. He tugged on his father’s coat and kept telling him, “I really, really want that guitar.” His father turned



to him and said, "That was the first thing I saw when we walked into the building." His father paid eight dollars for the guitar and the auctioneer asked Mark to come up front and sing a song. As he sang, people in the audience were flipping coins round his feet. Mark turned to his father and said, "I just figured out what I am going to do for a living, right here at this auction!"

When Mark graduated from high school, he auditioned for Opryland and was hired for two years as a cast member and stage manager of Opryland's *Country Music USA* and *Today's Country Roads*. At this time, he moved to Nashville thinking that Country music or song writing was going to be his direction, but the road he was on always led him back to Gospel music.

In his mid-twenties, Mark returned home and after a time his brother went to hear a group called the Dixie Echoes. They had three members and one of the members, Craig Pippin, was leaving to join the Bibletones. The Bibletones also needed a bass singer and Craig asked Mark's brother Jeff to join. The group also needed a piano player so Mark joined as their piano player and also sang baritone for five years.

The Bibletones were established in 1957 and is the oldest Gospel group in Mississippi. The group was down to only one member, who was 73, when Mark and some of his friends got together and determined to keep

the legacy of the group alive. They bought the group and approached some of the former members to sing. Andrew Ishee agreed to play the piano for the group and Mark and other members filled in when they were available. The Bibletones had the honor of being asked to sing at the inauguration of the Mississippi governor.

While Mark was with the Bibletones, the idea of forming another group came into focus and in 1989, the group Perfect Heart was formed. Perfect Heart was comprised of Mark Lanier (baritone) from the Bibletones, Danny Funderburk (tenor) from the Cathedrals, Dale Shipley (lead) a soloist at Belleview Baptist Church, Mike Presnell (bass) who was with the Sound, and Aubrey Stephens (bass guitar) and Jeff Stice (piano) who were both from the Nelons.

As a newly-formed group, Perfect Heart holds the record of being the first to release a single, "Somebody Touched The Lord," and have it rise to number one. It won the Song of the Year for 1990, Video of the Year and the BMI song of the year. This was a great beginning for the new group and Mark continued with Perfect Heart for seven years. Another song that did well for the group was: "I Hold A Clear Title," which was number two for some time.



Perfect Heart received a lot of help from J. D. Sumner. The group had not been around long enough to appear on the stage at NQC. That year, The Stamps with J. D. Sumner were given 15 minutes to perform. J. D. came on stage and said, "You all know me good enough that I do what I want to do and I want to help somebody out, so would you give me a rousing applause for Perfect Heart." He gave Perfect Heart their entire 15 minutes on the NQC stage and, as Mark tells it, the audience ate it up because he was helping the underdog.

A short time later, Perfect Heart and The Stamps were performing at the Battle Of Songs at Will Rodgers Auditorium in Fort Worth. Perfect Heart went out and purchased a plaque and presented it to J. D. on stage. Mark said, "We announced that this plaque listed all the songs he had written, all of the accomplishments he had in Gospel music, all the awards he had won and all that he meant to Southern Gospel. We gave it to him



and when he turned it around it was blank! He loved the joke and he kept the plaque in his office, signed *From Perfect Heart.*"

Around that time, Mark felt the call on his life to become a soloist in order to have more control over his music and to spend more time with his wife. He met Paula at a Bibletones concert in 1989 and she has been by his side for 27 years. Mark says, "We were in Nashville during the Perfect Heart years and were there for 10 years. However, due to Paula's parents getting older, we made the decision to move closer to them so that our children would know and have a close relationship with their grandparents. So we moved to Louisiana and

have been there for 16 years."

About 2004, Phil Cross and Mark made a decision to bring back Phil's group, Poet Voices. Greg Crowe also joined the trio and Poet Voices released several songs that did well in the charts. After Poet Voices, Mark became an interim music minister for a year. Following this, he returned to his solo career and has been doing that ever since.

Today, Mark is blessed with his wife, Paula, and two sons. He has been privileged to write about 100 songs and to have several of them recorded by outstanding artists. He is in the process of compiling a new project titled, "Songs I've Always Wanted To Sing."

Mark says, "God has used my small amount of talent to do a lot of big things for Him. When I have gone as far as I can, that is where He picks up and takes off. The

best nights I have had are not those nights when I sang before large crowds in venues around the country; but rather the night that I was hoarse and could hardly whisper and someone gave their heart to the Lord. Likewise the night when we had bus trouble, or one of the members failed to show up, or the sound system failed and all of a sudden God showed up in the service. These are the times that rise to the top in my mind, not the big crowds.

"I have been singing for the Lord for over 55 years. I have gotten to this point in my life where I have seen how the Lord blesses and takes care of His children supplying their needs, and walks in front of them throughout their life. As my career began with me singing, "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands," I realize that my life has always been a testimony of this song. I see in my life that He has held me and continues to hold me in the palm of His hand."

For more information on Mark Lanier and his concert schedule, visit his website at <http://www.marklanier-ministries.com>.



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# DJ SPOTLIGHT

## Noah Hinshaw



This month we are spotlighting Noah Hinshaw. Noah is such a talented young man. At only 17, he is a gifted vocalist, songwriter and worship leader, as well as a radio personality.

We asked him some questions and here's what he had to say.

*VE: Tell us about your Radio Show, the station, and your position there.*

NH: My radio show is called: "Praise and Worship Wednesday," and it airs on two FM stations, one AM station, and a live stream outlet. It's a weekly two-hour radio show designed to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! I include a very wide variety of Christian genres on my show, from classic Southern Gospel to the newest Worship releases.

*VE: Will you please share your testimony?*

NH: I was saved at the age of four and I started singing at age four. I grew up in a great Christian home with awesome parents who raised me with God at the center of everything! When I was 13 I started writing my own music and that's where the journey began. I later released my first project with Grapevine Records under Song Garden Music Group, and I was recently blessed with the opportunity to go back in the studio and record my second project produced by Kevin Ward! Ministry is my passion and my goal is to be known as a minister, not a performer. My current ministry consists of my music ministry, preaching, and worship leading.

*VE: Tell us your favorite place to eat while traveling and singing.*

NH: Oh, that's a hard one. Well, normally while traveling from church to church things always seem to be a rush; so if it's a sit down meal, Cracker Barrel seems to be the go-to place.

*VE: If you could visit any place in the world, where would you go and why?*

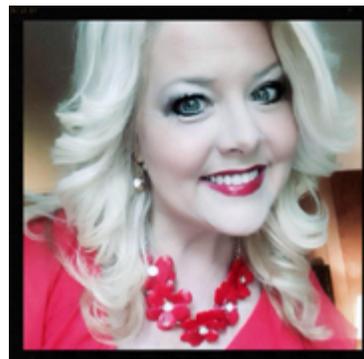
NH: I have a love for wildlife, so if you don't find me singing or speaking on stage I'm probably sitting in a tree stand somewhere. So, I guess I would have to choose Alaska because of the wildlife and cold weather.

*VE: What is the website for the station and also the website for your ministry?*

NH: The station website is [www.wzyxradio.net](http://www.wzyxradio.net). If you want to listen to the show online you can download the TuneIn app and stream it from there every Wednesday night from 5:00pm through 7:00pm CST. My personal ministry website is [www.noahhinshaw.com](http://www.noahhinshaw.com).

Thanks so much to Noah Hinshaw for participating in the DJ Spotlight with us this month. Please be sure to tune in to WZYX radio and listen to Noah on Wednesday nights.

If you have a favorite DJ that you would like to be put under the Spotlight, please let Vonda Easley know at [vonda@sgnscoops.com](mailto:vonda@sgnscoops.com).



**Written By  
Vonda Easley**

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# Day By Day

God's Vessel

By Selena Day

My daughters had a friend when they were younger who liked to quote, "I want to live a life that when I die all my children and grandchildren will want to keep everything because it comes from somewhere far off and exotic." At the time I thought, "Wow, me too!"

In our type of ministry we are very blessed to travel a lot, so I started intentionally purchasing items that have a story with them; items that have meaning for me, or at least a fun story behind the items. For instance, Chuck traded his shoes at a local market in Malawi one time to purchase some items for me. We were so blown away that they would do this that we went back to our hotel and rummaged through our suitcase and went back out and bartered with some jewelry and some other items. Laugh if you want to, but I got some really great things there.

Two things that are my constant in life are tea in the morning with the Lord, and my love for Christmas; so when we travel, two things I like to collect are Christmas ornaments, and mugs or cups.

I love my mugs. They are little reminders of the places God has taken us to and the hope of the journeys yet to come. When you come to our house and I offer you coffee or tea, you will probably not get a nice set of matching cups. When you open our cabinet door you will find an array of cups and mugs from around the world.

Much to Chuck's chagrin I have never liked matching cups. I do keep a few that match our plates just for use when we have company, but I usually give our guests the choice. Most people choose the ones that are from overseas. Not the beautifully handcrafted pieces, but the ones that have the names on the side such as Istanbul, Bangkok, Latvia, etc.

What is ironic is that the several of those mugs are just regular Starbucks mugs, because Starbucks is everywhere, and if I can't find a pretty mug I know I can get one with the name of the city on the side of it. It's pretty much the same mug you can go into your local Starbucks and buy here in the USA, but there is something about having a name such as Manila on the side that attracts people to it.

We humans are pretty much the same way. We choose by the external.

Chuck and I are life coaches for an organization called *The World Race*. It is an extreme missions trip for adults 21-35 traveling to 11 countries in 11 months. We have done this for the past nine years and it has been one of the greatest ministries we have ever known. Early on I realized that these young adults were not just going on a trip to help the poor in third world countries, though that is part of it; they are really on a journey to self-discovery. It is a journey to discovering who Christ is in them and who they are in Christ.

This journey to finding “*Christ in us, the hope of Glory,*” is a pilgrimage that we all have to take. One thing I tell these racers is that during these 11 months, it’s like God is putting you in a pressure cooker and God is imparting into you things that took me years and years to discover about myself.

When I finally discovered that I am in Christ and that He is in me and we are one together, life became an adventure to discovering all the treasures He has laid up for me everyday. Some days it’s just the pure joy of watching TV with my husband; some days it is getting on a plane and flying for a billion hours to get to a strange country and hang out with some crazy missionaries.

All these adventures, all these treasures, are just fragments of Christ coming together to shine a new light on who I am and on the message that God wants to tell the world through my life. The message and power of being an over-comer, and that life is just a journey going from Glory to Glory to Glory.

What is your message today?

Just like my mugs, we are all different and uniquely

made. Some are beautifully crafted and some are plain with just a mysterious name written on the side. Whatever you are, you are the vessel that God wants to use to pour *Himself* into so the world will taste and see that He is good.

So if no one else has ever told you, let me tell you today, that you are fearfully and wonderfully made and that you are God’s perfect masterpiece. When you first begin to live as if this is true, it may feel false and unnatural to you, but as you choose to believe this truth about yourself and how God sees you, you will be amazed at all the doors God will supernaturally open for you in your life, and the favor He will display around you, just for you.

He has a plan for you and you are His plan for this world. So it’s up to you: Choose to believe, Choose to dream, Choose to dare....

**Selena Day is a motivational speaker and is available to speak at your conference or event. You may contact her at [selenaday@me.com](mailto:selenaday@me.com) <http://www.queenliving.org> <http://facebook.com/queenismsbyselenaday>**



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# Shellem Cline

Breakout Star

By Justin McLeod

If you're not familiar with the name Shellem Cline, you might want to change that. The young soloist is already making a name for himself, with his single "Halfway Down the Aisle" charting at Number One in January.

Still a newcomer to the industry after entering full-time ministry in March of last year, Cline will celebrate his 10th year of professional ministry in 2016. He sang with his family group and as a soloist just in regional venues before embarking on his traveling solo career in 2006.

As we chatted, Shellem shared on the beginnings of his career; some of the singers he counts as inspirations; some of his favorite road memories; his current single;

his favorite Scripture and hymn of the church and more.

**SGN Scoops:** *Tell me how you first got started in Gospel music.*

**Shellem Cline:** I started singing at the age of 12 with my family, called The Gilbert Family. We were a local group and traveled only about 30 dates a year in the Carolinas. When I was 16, my grandfather was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease and he and my grandmother had to leave the road, which left my mom and me. I started solo with Mom and Dad driving me. After a few years, I helped form a group in college that is still traveling local today along with two other groups that are as well traveling on the local level throughout North Carolina.

**SGN Scoops:** *Was becoming a Gospel singer always your career of choice? What other vocations did you desire to pursue?*

**Shellem Cline:** I have always loved to sing and write lyrics. I had always wanted to sing full time but went to college to pursue a career in political science and law. During college, I took a job as an entertainment director at a local amusement park and worked there until college was finished. I then took a job as a director of activities at a nursing home until I started my full-time career in Gospel music in March 2015. I believe that both occupations leading up to full-time ministry was God's way of shaping me into the man I am today and giving me the sense that it takes to handle a full time ministry.

**SGN Scoops:** *Why did you decide to embark on a career as a soloist?*

**Shellem Cline:** My grandmother and several of my singing friends had made the statement that they knew that God was using me, and that when I gave it all to Him and went full time, He would use me like I never imagined. After much prayer, I believe that God was moving me into full-time ministry, so I left my job and stepped out on faith. It's amazing that since I went full time, God has opened several new doors for me to minister in and has allowed me to gain my first-ever number one song. All I can say is: God is so good.

**SGN Scoops:** *Who would you count as your musical "inspiration", or who have you used as someone that you emulate when you're on stage?*



**Shellem Cline:** I have always loved Karen Peck, Chris Freeman, Mark Lowry, and Ed O'Neal. I have had the opportunity to sing with a few of these folks and they have taught me that being yourself and sharing your story is far more important than following the others and becoming another Gospel artist. Yes, I do comedy like Mark Lowry and I sing some classics like Ed O'Neal, but I also write and perform songs that tell my story. I firmly believe that God calls people to minister through their testimony and that's why I have my own style and ministry that I believe is touching lives of people across the country. Chris Freeman made this statement to me at a concert: "Son, you have the gift that comes only from God, to sing Gospel Music. When everyone else doubts you, go and show them what God can do through you, and I promise your ministry will be way bigger than you can ever imagine. Just remember to keep God first and yourself second and He will use you in a mighty way." I have lived by that and it's true; God is using the ministry and I'm so thankful!

**SGN Scoops:** *What are some of your favorite memories from time on the road?*

**Shellem Cline:** Well, there are both funny and serious ones. One that really gets me is where I was singing in South Carolina and the pastor introduced me as Shalomi Cline. In front of about 400 people, the pastor asked me if I was named after a squash and the whole place cracked up. Another amazing memory was when I was singing at an outdoor gathering in Tennessee and there was a young man there, about 18 years old, and his parents had divorced, his grandfather had passed away and



his girlfriend had just broken up with him. He actually looked like a kid in a gang and was with a friend at the campground where the concert was being held. Myself and a few of the church groups were playing volleyball; after I saw the young man sitting alone just hanging out, I went and spoke with him and he questioned why I was talking to him since I was from a church. He explained how he had been asked to leave by two churches because of his appearance and we sat and talked for a while before the concert. After the event, we again sat by the campfire and started talking and he explained that he was contemplating suicide and had even written the letters to family and friends. An hour or so later, I had the opportunity to lead the young man to the Lord. That is why I love doing what I do and that is probably my best memory!

**SGN Scoops:** *What are some of the biggest difficulties associated with being a self-sufficient gospel singer and making sure the bills get paid?*

**Shellem Cline:** As a full-time artist, this is the way that I feed my family. With a new little girl in the family and my wife a stay-at-home mom, it can sometimes be challenging when it comes to finances, but God has always been faithful and when it looks like we are not going to make budget, God does something big and we always have what we need to meet the weekly budget.

**SGN Scoops:** *Talk to me about your latest single, "Halfway Down the Aisle" that has seen such a meteoric rise up the charts. How did you come across the song and decide to record it? What was it like to record this song, from the pen of Dianne Wilkinson?*

**Shellem Cline:** The song was actually submitted to me by a good friend Rodney Hedrick. I went in, recorded the song and stuck it on the project. So many people fell in love with the song that we decided to release it and we were astonished. Before this song went out, God had

allowed me to have seven top-40 songs but this song was the ticket that, in my opinion, changed my ministry big time. I had no clue how the song would do but the record label, along with my grandmother, told me that this song was one that had to go out. Since the song's appearance, God has opened so many more doors and so many people can relate to the song because it talks about the day you got saved and it is now one of my most requested songs.

**SGN Scoops:** *What is your favorite verse of Scripture and why?*

**Shellem Cline:** Proverbs 29:18 [*Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. KJV*]... I believe that God has given us all a vision, but so many refuse to use it. If we do not have a vision to move forward for Christ, then I honestly believe we are hurting more than helping the kingdom. With no vision, Christians are allowing people to die and go to hell all because we will not take time to share the Gospel. My question is: what if God would not have seen the only way to save us, and He just refused to come and die? We need a vision and to use that vision for God.

**SGN Scoops:** *What is your favorite hymn and why?*

**Shellem Cline:** "Sweet Hour Of Prayer." I believe that we all need to have a sweet time of prayer in our life. Now as a parent, I desire for my four-month-old daughter to have a great relationship with me and a great relationship is built by talking and spending time together. I love spending time with my daughter and I believe God wants to spend time with us as well. With that being said, prayer is a time to spend with Christ and that hymn brings us to that time and shows what just a moment of prayer can accomplish.

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## LINEAGE OF DAVID

By Jaquita Lindsey

A new and upcoming trio that I am excited to write on this month is Lineage of David. Based out of Wetumka, OK, this Chapel Valley, Sanctuary Label trio is beginning to receive some noteworthy recognition. Lineage of David (LOD) currently consists of David Folenius, his wife, Lisa, and Dave Doolittle, brother to Lisa. This trio has already had appearances at Southern Gospel Picnic at Silver Dollar City in Branson, MO., Dollywood and Creekside Gospel Music Convention, in Pigeon Forge, TN. They are very excited about this year's first-time opportunity of performing during the week of National Quartet Convention on the Artist Spotlight Showcase.

Lineage of David has released their first radio single, "Stepping Out On A Limb," written by Joseph Habedank. The song was released in the fall of 2015. It landed at number nine for Christian Voice magazine

and number 40 on the SGN Top 100 national charts. "Stepping Out On A Limb" is off of LOD's third and latest project, entitled *God Will Make A Way*. The award-winning producer, Shane Roark, produced the project, which was released in the spring of 2015. This recording is made up of several original songs, four of which were written by their very own Dave Doolittle. David Folenius also contributed one song to this project.

Lineage of David got their start in October of 2013. David and Lisa Folenius were married on July 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. Neither of the two of them were strangers to music. They both immediately felt God dealing with them to combine their talent, adding Dave's voice along the way. "God showed us that He had a great work for us to do. He showed Lisa and I that if we were faithful to Him, He would be faithful to



use us. God has definitely blessed us far above our thoughts and what we ever could have imagined would happen,” David shares with us. After much prayer, the two of them both felt that beginning a group was God’s will for their lives. So, David and Lisa stepped out in faith and Lineage of David was born.

David Folenius, filling the lead position for LOD, is originally from Cincinnati, OH. He started leading the singing for the church that his parents pastored at the age of 10. David has been on the road singing for 28 years, traveling with various groups since the age of 15. He has sung with very talented groups, such as

the Williamsons and the legendary Stamps Quartet. David named several musical influences like Michael English, Jim Hamill, Mark Trammell.

“I love what I do. God has allowed me to fulfill a lifelong dream of singing with my wife, traveling on a full-time basis,” David tells us. “However, as much as I love what we do, it does come with a great cost. To be in this type of ministry we have to make huge sacrifices. I not only make sacrifices on myself but on my family also. So, at the end of the day, while I love what I do, it all comes down to the calling on my life. When I am faithful to the call week after week and I see God using me to help others, that



alone is enough to keep me going as long as God says go.” While at home, David enjoys spending his free time fishing, spending time with the family and playing video games.

Lisa Folenius sings the alto part for LOD and originally comes from Springfield, MO. Singing for the first time at the age of three, Lisa quickly grew to love music. “My family traveled on the evangelistic field when I was growing up. My dad would preach and Mom would sing along with us kids. I would play the piano, Dave, my brother, played the drums and our sister, Denise, played the bass guitar,” Lisa recalls. “In later years, my brother and I formed our own group and carried on the ministry that our parents instilled in us. I believe that what my parents lived out in front of us was preparing us for where we are today.”

While off the road, Lisa loves to cook and spend time with their family. She especially enjoys being able to spend time with their grandchildren, Mason, Brady and Ella. Lisa has had to develop tough skin traveling with her husband and brother, who particularly enjoy picking on her. “I continue to put up with those

two guys by the grace of God,” Lisa laughs. “Seriously, He has called me to do a work for Him. I’ve wasted so many years not fulfilling the call that He has on my life. Now, I do it with complete willingness, because I love it,” adds Lisa.

Dave Doolittle serves as the baritone singer for Lineage of David. As stated earlier, he does some songwriting and contributed several original songs to LOD on their latest released project *God Will Make A Way*. Dave started singing at age five alongside his sisters. “Our dad and mom taught us

early on about ministry. Our goal always has been and always will be living our faith for others to see. My personal goal is for God to use us to see lives changed, souls saved and people to be set free,” says Dave.

Dave still makes his home in their hometown of Springfield, MO. He enjoys fishing and hunting when he is not working around their family’s farm. He gives credit to his parents and grandparents for his musical influences. As mentioned before, he and David find entertainment on the road by giving Lisa a hard time. “We were traveling late one night and David was driving. All of the sudden, he had to slam on the breaks. Lisa had been laying down in the backseat. When he slammed on the breaks, an arm came flying over one seat, a leg over another. She ended up in the floor. We made sure she was not hurt, but all had a good laugh. Well, David and I did anyway,” Dave laughingly recalls.

Later this year, Lineage of David will be adding Sam Piper from Ford City, PA. Sam will be wearing many hats while working with LOD. Mainly, he will assume the responsibility of running the trio’s sound.

But Sam is also a great bass singer and he will be stepping up to the microphone on select songs.

Sam has already made several road trips with LOD. The most memorable time involving David and Sam, was after a concert in Pennsylvania. "It was late and the group went back to our hotel rooms. Like most everyone, we all wanted some late-night snacks. So, Sam and I went to the store for everyone. While checking out, Sam offered to bring the vehicle around front to pick me up. I came out of the store and walked up to what I *thought* was our vehicle. I opened the door and almost had one leg in when a woman asked, 'Sir, what are you doing?' I had tried to get in the wrong one. I was so embarrassed. All I could do was apologize. Sam saw it all and laughed the whole way back to the room," David shares with a laugh.

I asked David what he would like to see on the horizon for himself, Lisa, Dave and Sam as Lineage of David. "We want to continue to raise the bar in every aspect of what we do.

We hope to present the gospel to more people than ever before. Time is short. We all need to be doing as much as possible for the Kingdom," he shares.

This group is looking to broaden their ministry in the coming year, visiting new places and meeting new friends. I would encourage you to visit their website at [www.lineageofdavid.com](http://www.lineageofdavid.com).



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# YOUNGER PERSPECTIVE

## Trevor Conkle

BY ERIN STEVENS

A word from the writer...

Today we turn our attention to the Hoppers' well-loved, 17-year-old piano player, Trevor Conkle. Despite his young age, he has quickly covered much ground with America's Favorite Family of Gospel Music. Let's take a look at what the world looks like from Trevor's spot on the bus. It's only the beginning of what God has in store for this talented young man. Take it away, Trevor!

*Erin: When did you first discover your love for the piano?*

Trevor: When I was three years old, my parents gave me a Little Tikes toy piano for Christmas. It intrigued me, they said, and I eventually taught myself how to play, "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." By the time I was five, Mom and Dad had gotten me a real piano and I started playing church hymns on it, by ear. The rest, as they say, is history.

*Erin: What is the story behind how you were hired by the Hoppers?*

Trevor: Kim visited our church for a solo concert during our summer revival two years ago. I played the congregational music for the service that night, and she asked if I could also accompany her on one of her solo songs, too. Afterwards, she approached me and asked me if I would be interested in auditioning for the group. I went and auditioned for them in Chattanooga, TN in October of 2014, and I got to meet the rest of the family that night as well. We really hit it off, and they called me the next day and invited me to go with them the next week on their tour through Western Canada! The only problem was I did not have a passport! So, we contacted our state senator and received an expedited passport within 24 hours. I boarded the bus two days later and I have been with them ever since. It's a God-thing!

*Erin: By far, your favorite venue to play and why?*

Trevor: My favorite venue was Gaither Studios in Alexandria, IN. I was in awe to be performing in the same room in which many of the Homecoming videos were recorded. Plus, playing for and being in the presence of Bill and Gloria was an honor as well.

*Erin: Who have been some of your biggest encouragers?*



Trevor: My parents and sister for sure. I owe a lot to my childhood pastor as well. Dale and Robbie Maxwell of New Ground gave me my first professional gig at Hollywood in 2012. And especially the Hoppers and many of the artists I've had the opportunity to meet!

*Erin: How has God impacted your life as you follow after Him in ministry?*

Trevor: Ever since I was a little child, I have always felt the Lord had a special touch on my life, and that He was going to use me in a mighty way for Him. I'm so thankful to have been raised by godly parents who instilled in me the love that we all should have for Christ. I was raised in an old fashioned Congregational Methodist Church in Arab, AL. My church family has been such a big support in my life, both spiritually and musically. The Lord has given me a heart for people. I love everyone I meet. I learn something from every person I meet as well! Everyone has a story to tell, and many peoples' stories have greatly influenced my life and walk with the Lord. I am blessed to be able to walk out on stage every night and share with crowds of people this gift that God has given me. My prayer is that I can speak to people through the piano. It is crucial in setting the mood and transitioning throughout our program, and I pray that God can use every single note that I hit for His honor and glory.

*Erin: How do you spend your down time off the road?*

Trevor: I am home-schooled so I'm definitely doing school, finishing my last classes online. You will find me at the piano still at least once a day. I love songwriting and I have recently started co-writing with some of the best in SG as well.

*Erin: Bow ties or skinny ties? Classical or Jazz music? Birthday or Christmas? Japanese or Italian food? Yamaha or Roland?*

Trevor: 50-50 on the ties. Classical Music. Christmas time for sure. Japanese food. Definitely Yamaha - a C7 to be exact!

*Erin: Who do you hang out with most often on the Hopper bus?*

Trevor: I hang out the most with Claude. I also enjoy the many Bible chats with Mrs. Connie.

*Erin: Who are your piano-minded heroes?*

Trevor: Kim Collingsworth. She's the one who has influenced me the most. Also, Greg Howlett and my first piano teacher, Gail Smith.

*Erin: How would you build up someone who is just starting out playing piano? What words of encouragement do you have for them?*

Trevor: Practice! Because practice makes perfect. And,



take your time because patience is very important. I would then tell them to not only play from your fingers but play from your heart. The piano can convey many emotions and feelings, but once you touch another person through your music, you have accomplished something. Then, with the Lord as our focus, lives can be changed and great things can happen. And of course... have fun!

Closing words from the writer...

Whatever your passion is, remember to put your heart and soul into it with everything you've got. Take it from someone as young as Trevor, who has accomplished so much while relying on Christ to call the shots. Don't allow age to hold you back from what you are most passionate about. Remember Paul's words to his young friend in I Timothy 4:12... "*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*" (NIV) And while you're out there pursuing your dreams, make sure to pop into a Hoppers concert near you, to get to know the young man behind the keys. I'm sure he would love to meet you!

Until next month, Scoops fans.

*And that's my take on it.*

You can connect with Erin on Twitter - @photosforkeeps  
• Instagram - @photos\_for\_keeps. Who would YOU like to see Erin interview next?



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# High Notes

By Kelly Nelon Clark



*I spoke to a friend a few days ago and she was asking me to pray for her. She has gone through some tough times and was feeling pretty hopeless, wanting to just give up on life. She was prepared to end it all. With God's help I was able to open her eyes to life and let her know she was important to Him. I tried to put into words how she felt as it might be an encouragement to others who may be feeling the very same way.*

There are days when I have no words for how I'm feeling. I would love to say I'm always up and positive but it wouldn't be true.

Some days the sun shines and the skies are blue and everything with the world is right. Days when I feel like it could not get any better than it is right now; days when the birds are singing a brand new song just for me. God is everywhere and in everything I see. I can almost smell the beautiful fragrance of His love. His arms surround me and make me feel like I can take on the world. I feel safe and secure knowing He's here.

Then there are days when the darkness closes in and there is nothing to be seen anywhere. This orphan

feels alone, hopeless, and defeated. The tunnel with the light at the end has turned into a black hole with no way out. I call You but you don't answer. I cry but You don't see my tears. I wonder what have I done to make You not love me? Where have You gone? I stumble in the darkness to find my way. I fall and keep trying to pick myself up, but how many times can I do that without total collapse?

Just at the breaking point, just when I'm going to give up, there is a break in the cloud of darkness. A ray of hope shines through into my eyes. It's what I needed to see, it's what I needed to know. You are still there!

You never really left. It was me who closed my eyes to the light. I let the darkness overtake me. I should have known, I should have remembered that the evil one comes to steal, kill and destroy. Thank You for not giving up on me when I gave up on myself. Thank You for loving me when no one else loved me. Thank You for whispering my name and letting me know I'm not an orphan and I'm not alone.

Lord, I am Your child; keep me near to You.

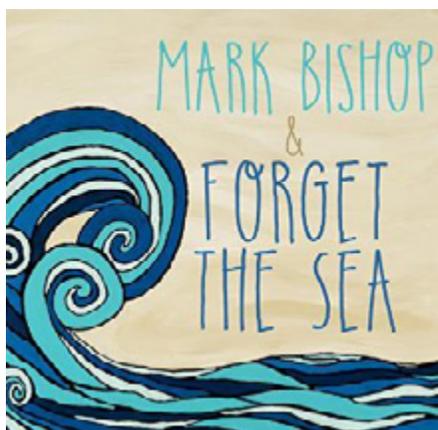
# Randall Reviews It February 2016

by Randall Hamm

Dear Friends:

We've made it through the first month of 2016, only 11 to go until 2017. But, let's not take it so fast! Three new reviews this month: an up-and-coming group, a soloist who has formed a new group and a last review of a Christmas album. *Artists, please send your CDs for review to Randall Hamm, c/o Q-100 WFLQ-FM, P.O. Box 100, French Lick, IN 47432.*

Let the reviews begin!



Mark Bishop and Forget The Sea  
*Forget The Sea*

2016 Sonlite Records

Producers: Jeff Collins and Mark Bishop

All songs co-written by Mark Bishop with John Isaacs  
and Josh Rison

Songs: Baptize Me In The Rain; Everything I Give; I

Will Sing; Ordinary Average Autumn; Pick Me Up And  
Carry Me; Sometime God Whispers; Take To The Sky;  
The Song Is Shining; Tinderbox; You Are, You Are;  
You Love Me Anyway

For 17 years, Mark Bishop traveled with his brother, Kenny and his dad, Kenneth, as the Bishops. Since the Bishops retired, Mark has traveled as a soloist for the past 14 years. Mark has once again re-invented himself; he and his daughters and some fine musicians have formed the group *Forget The Sea*.

The group consists of Mark and his two daughters Courtney Isaacs and Haley Bishop, along with the band: John Isaacs on percussion, Josh Rison on guitar, Chris Withrow on bass and Russell Funk on keys.

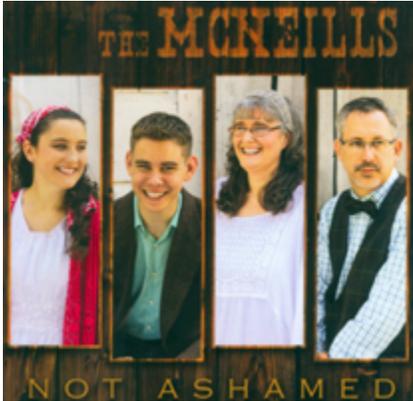
As for the name, Mark explains what *Forget the Sea* means: "With his eyes upon Jesus, Peter was able to accomplish the impossible. He walked on the water just as the Savior did. It was only when the winds and the waves distracted him that he began to sink. As believers, we too are distracted by the storms and the noise in our busy lives. Sometimes we take our eyes off of Jesus when truly, in those times when the wind howls the loudest, we should forget the storms, forget the waves, keep our eyes upon Jesus and "*Forget The Sea*."

Eleven great songs from the pen of Mark Bishop and music by John Isaacs, his son-in-law and band member, and Josh Rison another band member. Also, Rison and Isaacs helped co-write with Mark.

The first song that has been singled is, “You Love Me Anyway.” If you’re a fan of Mark Bishop, this is a little different style. It’s more folk and worship in nature. It’s a good first debut and worth the time to listen.

Visit Forget the Sea at <https://forgetthesea.com/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ForgetTheSeaMusic/?fref=ts>

Strongest songs: “Baptize Me In The Rain,” “You Love Me Anyway,” “Ordinary Average Autumn.”



The McNeills  
*Not Ashamed*

2015 Independent

Producers: Les Butler/Chris McNeill

Studio: Back Porch and Brad Davis Studios

Songs: Building His House (John Darin Rowsey-John Mathis BMI); Do You Wanna Be Well (Megan Sorrelle BMI); I’m Not Ashamed (EM Bartlett); Shut De Do (Randall Stonehill); First Drop Of Blood Daryl Williams-John Mathis BMI); Jesus Did What He Came To Do (Marty Funderburk-John Mathis); Jesus Is Mine (Megan Sorrelle BMI); What The Sparrow Knows (Darryl Williams-John Mathis BMI); Jesus Hold My Hand (Albert E Brumley); What A Friend We Have in Jesus (Joseph Scriven)

The McNeills are a family group based out of Bonham, Texas, comprised of dad, Chris McNeill, mom, Michelle McNeill, daughter Caylie McNeill and son Landon McNeill. There are also eight other children: Ashleigh, Grace, Brianna, Hannah, Samuel, Madlynn, Ayden, and Sarah, who join the family group on some songs in concert and on the CD.

The MacNeills are quickly emerging on the SG Circuit as one of the families to watch in 2016. This is their second CD release, with 10 great songs that feature straight ahead Southern, Country and Bluegrass Gospel, that will have your toe tapping from the beginning to the end of the CD.

The CD starts off with “Building His House,” a Gaither Vocal Band-styled tune that has this reviewer singing right along, really strong lyrics and performed well. Its another great song from the pen of John Darin Rowsey.

The current single: “Jesus Did What He Came To Do,” is climbing the charts and having folks asking, “Who is this group?” They are definitely catching people’s attention. “Jesus Hold My Hand,” is presented in a different way than I’ve ever heard, and makes the song fresh and new and caused me to really stop and listen to the lyrics again. The whole family, all 12 of them, are featured on the old classic, “Shut ‘De Do’.”

This is one CD that you can put in your player or Ipod and play from start to end and hit replay again. Find more on the McNeills at <http://www.mcneillmusic.com/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheMcNeills/timeline>

Strongest Songs: “Building His House,” “Jesus Did What He Came To Do,” “Do You Wanna Be Well.”



Sherry Anne

*Christmas With Love*

2015 Independent

Producer: Tony Griffith

Studios: Mansion Entertainment – Franklin Tennessee

Songs: Do You Hear What I Hear (Gloria Shayne-Noel Regney BMI); Silent Night-Labor of Love (Andrew Peterson ASCAP); O Holy Night (trad); Amen, Amen (David Sanchez-Paul F. Irizarry); Blue Christmas (Bill Hayes-Jay Johnson); Merry Christmas With Love (Greg Wayne Davis-Billy Lee Smiley ASCAP); You Came (Sherry Anne Lints-William Griffith ASCAP); Let There Be Peace On Earth (Jill Jackson Miller-Sy Miller ASCAP); Born In Bethlehem (J Phillips-D Weissman BMI); Sweet Little Jesus Boy (Robert MacGimsey-Carl Fisher ASCAP)

This is the last of our reviews of Christmas projects released for Christmas 2015. Sherry Anne, who is starting to make a name for herself in Gospel Music, presents an 11-song project titled *Merry Christmas With Love*.

Sherry has released three projects and this Christmas project is her fourth. Fans of Sherry Anne requested this project and then made it possible with a Go Fund Me account. Sherry Anne is possibly one of the busiest ladies I know; on top of singing, she is a Chiropractor, Motivational speaker and a Zumba Instructor. She also writes a monthly feature for SGN Scoops.

Sherry wrote an original tune, "You Came," which is the prettiest song on the project. I'm so glad He came for without Him we would have no hope. Also on the project is "Labor of Love," one of the new songs that has been recorded by a number of artists over the past few years. Sherry's version is right up there with the versions by the Isaacs and Randy Travis.

Sherry also has another new mainline CD, *A Closer Walk*, which features her very first Top 80 song on the Singing News charts "To Be Forgiven." To get copies of these CD's go to <http://www.sherryanne.com/> and also visit Sherry Anne on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Sherry-Anne-1451536335152307/?fref=ts>

Strongest Songs: "You Came," "Labor Of Love," "Sweet Little Jesus Boy."

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## Word Association with:

# *KC Armstrong and Aaron Swain*

By Justin McLeod

The PromisedLand Quartet is a fast up-and-comer in the industry. The *lower half* of the quartet is anchored by bass singer KC Armstrong and newly-minted baritone Aaron Swain. Armstrong, a member of the US Army and multi-talented performer, and Swain, a former member of the Southern Gospel media, and I had some fun with a game of Word Association. Enjoy!



### **KC Armstrong**

**Word:** *The American Flag*

**Answer:** Star Spangled Banner

**Word:** *Navy*

**Answer:** Army!

**Word:** *Tenor Singer*

**Answer:** Never

**Word:** *George Younce*

**Answer:** Stud

**Word:** *NQC*

**Answer:** Almost Heaven

**Word:** *Football*

**Answer:** Marching Band

**Word:** *Cheeseburgers*

**Answer:** Fries

*Word: Snow Snorkeling*

**Answer:** Winchester, VA



*Word: John Smoltz*

**Answer:** Braves

*Word: John Wayne*

**Answer:** Closet Bass Singer

*Aaron Swain:*

*Word: Virginia Tech*

**Answer:** YUCK!!! GO HOOS!!!

*Word: NQC*

**Answer:** Louisville



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**Word:** *Quartet Singin'*

**Answer:** Gold City

**Word:** *Political debates*

**Answer:** Popcorn

**Word:** *Marvel*

**Answer:** Captain America

**Word:** *Olympic Curling*

**Answer:** Penguins

**Word:** *Ice Cream*

**Answer:** Peanut butter

**Word:** *Snow Snorkeling*

**Answer:** Crazy bass singers

**Word:** *Modern Worship Choruses*

**Answer:** Dude with a "soul patch" and a guitar

**Word:** *Duck Dynasty*

**Answer:** Beard envy



By Lorraine Walker

### Creekside Update

November is getting closer and with it, the Creekside Gospel Music Convention! We hope you've already made your plans to join us, but if not, do it today! Tickets are free but must be reserved. It all happens in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, on October 31st through November 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center. Join us and hear great artists like Joseph Habedank, Jim Shelton, Lindsay Huggins, Alliance Quartet, Sharps Quartet, Jordan's River, Kelly Coberly, Jason Runnels and more!



### VIP Bracelet

Last year we started something new for our most devoted fans and we are continuing this year. We want you to be a VIP! For only \$25, a VIP bracelet will be your entry into the preferred seating at each event plus other

special gifts and select backstage happenings. Purchase your VIP bracelet today from Vonda Easley at 256-310-7892 or by email at [vonda@sngnscoops.com](mailto:vonda@sngnscoops.com).

### Honors Night

One of the special events during the Convention will be the Creekside Honors on Monday, October 31st, in the evening. Each year, we honor someone special, someone who has made the Gospel Music World just a little nicer! From Lou Hildreth to Little Willie Wynn, each year has been a wonderful celebration of music and stories. Be sure to join us this October and stay tuned to this column to find out who is the Honored Guest this year.





### **Exhibit Hall**

If you like to hang out with your favorite artists, talking to them and getting to know them in a more personal way, Creekside is your place to be. The Exhibit Hall is filled with artist booths and the singers are waiting to chat with you. The Hall will be open every day and is part of your free admission to Creekside.

### **Other Events**

Other special events at the Convention include daytime showcases, afternoon jam sessions, midnight prayer and much more. Keep watching for more exciting announcements. Don't miss four days of great Gospel mu-



sic, fellowship and fun. Tickets must be reserved here: <https://www.facebook.com/Creeksidegospelmusicconvention>. Contact Salina Clay for hotel reservations at [hotels@sgnscoops.com](mailto:hotels@sgnscoops.com) or call her at 256-239-7716.



### **The 2016 Diamond Awards**

The Diamond Awards will be handed out during the Convention on Tuesday night, November 1st, 2016, in a gala program hosted by Dr. Jerry and Jan Goff. The Diamond Award nominations are still continuing on the SGN Scoops website, so drop by to click on the link and name your favorites. The Diamond Awards nominations close in March 2016.

The Diamond Awards are completely voter-driven, starting with nominations, from which the Top Ten lists are posted, allowing voters to select their three favorites in each category. That will bring us to the Top Five lists, allowing voters to select their top choices to bring us one winner of the 2016 Diamond Award in each category. Make sure your voice is heard and vote today!



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For more information, latest news and artists scheduled to appear, visit the Creekside page on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/Creeksidegospelmusicconvention> .

*Fall Tree Photo Courtesy of Wolfgang Staudt*

<http://www.sgnscoops.com/the-2016-diamond-award-nominations-2/>

**Final Notes**

Creekside Gospel Music Convention would like to hear from you! Tell us what you want to see and hear in November. Creekside also needs your help. If you would like to volunteer through various promotional activities throughout the year, or with onsite tasks during the convention, please email Rob at [rob@sgnscoops.com](mailto:rob@sgnscoops.com).



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# International Country Gospel Music Association 2016 Convention and Awards Show

By Dan Duncan

When The International Country Gospel Music Association (I.C.G.M.A.) gathers for their 2016 Convention and Awards Show in the Heart of The Ozarks August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, you can believe it will be a major celebration. The occasion is the organization's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Expectations are for one of the greatest conventions ever!

The West Plains Civic Center in West Plains, Missouri is literally packed to the walls each night of the Convention. This annual gathering brings together many of the finest singers, songwriters, musicians, producers, promoters, publishers and broadcasters in the industry. Days are filled with talented artists performing on musical Showcases. Concerts each evening are performed before an enthusiastic audience of Country Gospel music fans.

Each year the event lives up to its reputation of *Three Days and Nights of Heaven on Earth*. And while the talent lineup is simply amazing, we all understand the reason the event is so blessed is because we know who the featured guest of the event really is! We know that it's

not about us, it's all about HIM! Jesus!

This 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration has provided the inspiration to hold the first-ever **I.C.G.M.A. Homecoming**. Invitations are being sent to the members and legends of years past. The lineup will include all the favorites of today's I.C.G.M.A., and the powerful artists of I.C.G.M.A.'s future. The theme of this year's convention is: I.C.G.M.A... YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW.

One evening is designated as Hall Of Fame Night and will feature members of the prestigious **I.C.G.M.A. Hall Of Fame**. Saturday evening is the highlight of the Convention, with the honoring of excellence in 28 categories at the **Gold Cross Awards Show**.

Membership of the I.C.G.M.A. is made up of artists from all across America, as well as several foreign countries. Tentative plans are in the making for artists from Australia, Canada, and Africa to attend. I.C.G.M.A. is experi-



encing remarkable growth each year in membership.

Country Gospel/Christian Country music artists interested in joining will find opportunities to network with songwriters, producers, publishers, promoters, and with others artists in the industry who share their faith through their music. Many will be reunited with old friends, while establishing new relationships that prove to be time treasures for years to come.

*For additional information about the International Country Gospel Music Association, its history, membership information, or this year's convention, you may visit our website at [www.icgma.org](http://www.icgma.org), or contact: I.C.G.M.A.,*



*Dan Duncan, President, P.O. Box 1570, West Plains, Missouri 65775. Or phone 417-372-1129*

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THE DOMINION AGENCY

Butler music group

Hello to all our SGN Scoops readers. Lil' Jan and I are excited to have been asked to host the Diamond Awards in Pigeon Forge, TN on Tuesday, Nov. 3rd. It's going to be a great evening of musical excitement as the winners are announced. Make your plans to be at this event in the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains in Pigeon Forge. Don't miss out on seeing all the lovely 'Fall Colors' in The Smokies.

Also, we are thrilled with our new television show, *ENJOYING LIFE WITH DR. JERRY AND LIL' JAN*. Jeff Stice orchestrated our musical theme complete with trumpets, piccolos and tubas. It's absolutely great! Paul Heil of The Gospel Greats radio program is our announcer. The show airs in the 8th largest television market in America - Atlanta, Georgia. It's currently airing in 6 other cities and can be seen streaming nationwide every Saturday afternoon at 4pm Eastern on [www.watc.tv](http://www.watc.tv). Tune in each week for a time of fun and conversation with our friends.

We are looking forward to our annual winter schedule and stay in The Sunshine State of Florida which includes a wonderful Christian Cruise, February. 15-19, 2016. Our friends at Templeton Tours lease the entire ship. The bars and casinos are all closed, and it is turned into *THE GOOD OLD GOSPEL SHIP* with singing and preaching by more than 20 nationally known groups and speakers. It is a great opportunity to enjoy some good Gospel Music, Christian Fellowship and make new friends. We'd love to send you a brochure. Contact us at [drjerrygoff@aol.com](mailto:drjerrygoff@aol.com).

God Bless You All,  
Dr. Jerry & Lil' Jan



## Dr. Jerry & Lil' Jan Goff

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- ★ Hosts of 2015 Diamond Awards  
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- ★ Stars of an exciting television show,  
"ENJOYING LIFE WITH DR. JERRY & LIL' JAN"  
on Atlanta's TV57 during the popular  
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# ROGER'S ROUNDUP

By Roger Barkley Jr.

## Little David

We remember the story in the Bible about a little boy who slew a giant with one stone. We remember preachers using this story in way or another, whether the obvious truth of “little is much when God is in it,” or “no matter how big your problem is our God is bigger.” Even when the earthly king gave his armor to little David, David knew that the so-called protective clothing was more of a hindrance than help. He knew that if the maker of that armor did not make it for him specifically, it would not be an advantage.

Many times we see things that seem to be a protection, safeguard, or comfort for someone else. We grasp on to that object, item, or even scripture without consulting the Maker first. If we would check with Him, we might find that it was a different protection that we need for our personal situation to enable us to endure our trial. It would give us the strength we need to do the job we

were called to do.

When David started out on the field of battle, he picked up five smooth stones. Not because he thought he might miss. David was a sure shot. He had lots of practice guarding the flocks. He knew that if he killed Goliath that there were four more brothers that may be coming after him as well. He did not need the armor, he did not need what was not made for him, he needed what God told him to use.

After the knockout blow, he followed up by cutting the head off of the snake of the hired gun. He took the head off of the one defiling God's name.

This young man, on his way to bring lunch to his brothers, full of faith, equipped with the right gear, with God on his side, finished the job he was called to do.

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# The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

I always wondered why Valentine's Day was in February. There is a cold wind, often snow and ice, depending on where you are, and generally dreary days. In the middle of all of this is a holiday which isn't a holiday, flowers, birds, and a little naked baby with a bow and arrow. I guess it is supposed to make you think of spring.

The good thing about Valentine's Day is that it gives us another chance to talk about love and the real Source of unconditional love, Jesus Christ. However, if you have read David Staton's article, you will wonder at my choice of words in that last sentence. If you haven't read it, perhaps you should go back and have another look!

I hope you have enjoyed this addition of SGN Scoops as much as I have enjoyed putting it together. You will notice there is a mix of new and seasoned artists, and we hope that each of our readers has found something they enjoy and can relate to.

One of today's top quartets graces our cover. Legacy Five is well into their 16th year and I congratulate the *two Scotts* on their hard work and commitment to excellence. I remember hearing Scott Fowler early in his tenure with the Cathedrals. I

admit I still think of Roger Bennett as part of the group and he will always be remembered. The debut concert of Legacy Five was incredible and the group has continued on that path ever since.

Some of the newer artists here I have only communicated with by email or on Facebook. Shellem Cline recently achieved his first number one song here on the SGN Scoops' Top 100 chart. This along with a new baby has brought some rejoicing into that home! Kelly Coberly, Trevor Conkle and Lineage of David are also newcomers who might find their way onto the cover of a publication one day.

Thank you for reading all of our offerings this month. I do hope you have found something to uplift your spirit and encourage your heart. In this month of hearts and flowers, bows and babies, be sure to tell someone you love them. Also, be sure to thank the Maker of the Universe for laying down His life for you, because of love. And tell Him that you love Him too.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Rob Patz is the President and CEO of Coastal Media Group. Rob has an 18 year history in radio hosting the nationally syndicated radio show, "The Southern Styles Show" since its beginning in 1993. Rob is

also the owner of the internet's #1 Southern Gospel station, [SGMRadio.com](http://SGMRadio.com). In 2009, Rob Patz acquired [SGNScoops.com](http://SGNScoops.com), including the all- digital Scoops Magazine and the Diamond Awards. Rob has taken part in several Christian television projects working in front of the camera and also has helped create several syndicated television programs as well. Rob does voice work for various outlets including fortune 500 companies as well as emceeing concerts and special events. Email Rob at [rob@sgnscoops.com](mailto:rob@sgnscoops.com).



Christian Health & Fitness Expert Laurette Willis is an author with Harvest House Publishers, and the Director of PraiseMoves Fitness Ministry with DVDs, a training program and PraiseMoves

Instructors on four continents (<http://PraiseMoves.com>), on Facebook <http://on.fb.me/PraiseMoves>. Laurette invites readers to get started on the road to better health and fitness for spirit, soul and body. For a free, easy- to- follow 21 day program visit: <http://ChristianFitnessKit.com>



Stephanie Kelley is a public speaker and owner of Queeno-Q, a blog featuring coupon match-ups, freebies, samples and information on frugal living. She is married, has three children and lives in Washing-

ton State. [Queenoq.blogspot.com](http://Queenoq.blogspot.com)



Canadian-born Lorraine Walker has a love for Jesus Christ, music and writing. The combination of these passions has produced artist features and monthly columns for Southern

Gospel publications including SGM Radio website and SGN Scoops Digital magazine. Lorraine desires that the power of the written word will glorify her Lord and bring readers closer to the love, peace and majesty of the Almighty. Email Lorraine at [lorraine@sgnscoops.com](mailto:lorraine@sgnscoops.com)



Jennifer Campbell is a singer, songwriter, musician, and middle school English teacher from McAlpin, Florida. Along with her passion for teaching, she has an even greater passion for ministering to others, sharing her testimony of how

she was born lifeless and how Jesus raised her up to live for Him. Jennifer is a member of the Florida Worship Choir and Orchestra and has performed with them at Brooklyn Tabernacle, Carnegie Hall, Central Park, and Times Square. She serves as a group leader for Women of Faith, designs websites, and writes an inspirational blog at <http://jennifer-campbell.net/blog.htm> and a food and travel blog at <http://jennifersjourneys.net> Learn more about Jennifer at <http://jennifercampbell.net> and [www.christwillreturn.org](http://www.christwillreturn.org).



Joan Walker grew up with music in the house and first heard Southern Gospel in her early teens. With almost a quirky (some may say 'weird') need to make sure words are spelled correctly and the apostrophes are in the right

place, she enjoys proofreading the articles for the SGN Scoops magazine each month...and looks beyond the letters and commas to the wonderful words each writer has written. Joan counts it as a blessing in her life to be part of SGN Scoops!

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Dusty Wells is a man of many talents and multiple skills, from his speaking engagements across the country, to traveling and encouraging various artists in the Christian music genres. Dusty has a passion that is evident from the moment you meet him.

Dusty is a man who remains passionate and secure in the calling and destiny upon his life. He has come to realize the importance of finding purpose and clear direction for not only his life, but also the lives of those he comes in contact with, no matter what stage of life they may be in. Growing up in a very dysfunctional home, surrounded by all types of abuse, Dusty had every excuse to be a failure in life. He grew up on welfare, having to steal his daily necessities of life at times, being surrounded by drugs, alcohol and pornography. He was raised by a mother who was married multiple times, living in a housing project on the wrong side of town. But in the midst of what seemed to be complete devastation, God had different plans of success for Dusty. At the age of 14, a precious couple took time out of their own lives to invest in Dusty...thus leading Him to the Lord. His life is a testimony of God's relentless love and deliverance, and is one of the most triumphant stories told in modern Christianity. Dusty is confident in the fact that if God can do it for him, He can do it for anyone, no matter the situation.

Dusty and his wife of 33 years have four children, and two grandbabies with one more on the way. They make their home in Nashville, Tn.



Justin McLeod is the founder of the Justin's World of Softball website, a site that he has built into one of the premier news outlets in the sport. Justin is a longtime Gospel music fan and enjoys researching the history of the genre, attending concerts, and reviewing recordings whenever possible. The son of a Southern Baptist pastor, he also works for a law firm as a legal secretary and is active in his local church. Justin is a native of Memphis and now resides in Northeast Louisiana.



Pete Schwager is a web developer and graphic designer with a passion for Christ. He was born in Santa Rosa, California and moved to Oregon where he spent most of his life. He now lives in the quiet town of Ringgold, Georgia and enjoys living in the country with his family.

You can find him online at <http://peteschwager.com>



Staci Schwager helps with marketing and communication with her husband's web design company, Cre8able Media. Together they make a great team! Staci being the "talkative" one, loves being able to communicate one on one with clients and organizing

ideas. While Pete on the other hand is diving into the design and coding aspects to make the real masterpiece! Most of Staci's days are filled with preparing homeschool lessons for her kids, couponing, gardening, tending to her chicken flock and spending as much time on the beautiful, country land God has blessed them with.



My name is Tina Wakefield and I am currently Music Minister for Amazing Grace Worship Center in Alabaster, Al. I have led worship for over 18 years as well as teach adults how to live everyday life in Victory as a Christian. I enjoy playing and singing Gospel Music whenever and

wherever I am invited. I currently have three Cd s available on my website at [www.tinawakefield.com](http://www.tinawakefield.com) and just released my first music video with Godsey & Associates called, "The Choice" available on YouTube. I write a lot of the music we sing at church and also record my original songs. My family is very ministry oriented with Pastors, Teachers, Musicians, and Singers. My heart's desire is to spread the gospel of Christ through any and all open doors that I receive.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



During my childhood days my parents took me to the Atlanta City Auditorium for concerts hosted by Warren Roberts. That was the beginning of my love for Southern Gospel music. After 35 years I retired from USPS, during which time I got married. My wife and I often went to The Joyful Noise for dinner and concerts. Every known name in Gospel Music sang there at one time or another. After I retired, we decided to start promoting concerts. Our goal was not only to promote our concerts, but also to promote any Gospel concerts in our area and attend as many as we possibly could. I came to a crossroads in December 2013 when my wife graduated to heaven, not knowing what to do. After much prayer God led me to continue promoting concerts. Have promoted around 100 concerts and can't tell you how many I attended. I still enjoy going to concerts and writing a little about the groups.



Erin Stevens is a uniquely talented shutterbug, singer, guitar player, writer, blogger, and social networker. She is the owner/operator of Photos For Keeps By Erin. Along with running her own business, she is the official photographer for Abraham Productions (API). You will find her behind the lens at all API events, along with working behind the scenes on their

social media. She also travels full-time on the road with her family's gospel group, The Stevens Family. Photography is her passion and singing for Jesus is her calling. For several years, you have known her as our very own "Younger Perspective" writer. Check out her photography website [www.photosforkeepsbyerin.com](http://www.photosforkeepsbyerin.com) and her ministry website [www.stevensfamilymusic.com](http://www.stevensfamilymusic.com).



Sherry Anne Lints, a Doctor of Chiropractic, singer, speaker, actress, writer and fitness trainer, was born with a bilateral hearing and speech impairment. She appeared in the films, Clancy and The Perfect Gift and was a special guest on 100 Huntley Street, in Ontario, Canada. She is a contributing author for the book, Modern-Day Miracles and

released her second CD, Keep on Prayin', July 2012 and has opened for many of the Gaither Homecoming Artists. Additionally, Sherry Anne helps lead worship and drama at her church. For more information, visit: [www.SherryAnne.com](http://www.SherryAnne.com).



Vonda Easley is the owner of Hope's Journey Christian Ministries and the voice of "The Strictly Southern Show" at WPIL 91.7 in Heflin, Alabama on Fridays



Vivian is the marketing manager at KKGM in Dallas/Fort Worth Texas, as well as hosting a program on Sundays where she features national, regional as well as local artists. She also brings news of upcoming concert events in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and surrounding area. Vivian has promoted various artists in this area for over 10

years beginning with Phil Cross and Poet Voices and later Sharron Kay King and Jerry Bennett to name a few. She has spent the past several years promoting Southern Gospel, Inspirational Country Gospel and Bluegrass in this area in order to preserve this part of our heritage.



Hello, I'm Randall Hamm, Gospel Program Director of WFLQ French Lick Indiana, host of the Sunday Morning Gospel Show for the past 20 years on WFLQ French Lick Indiana and Singing News Top 10 Small Market DJ for the past three years. I now add something new to my resume! Record Reviewer, ok... CD Reviewer. I'm Old School, having

started in the days of LP's, 45's and Reel to Reel along with cassettes as the main form of music played. If you'd like to listen to my program, you can visit <https://www.facebook.com/TheSundayMorningGospelShow> and listen to archived programs, plus I post various Southern Gospel news updates, uplifting music and Gospel-related items. If you're in the six-county area around French Lick Indiana, in the heart of Southern Indiana, tune in every Sunday 6:00am-12:00pm and listen to the Gospel Greats with Paul Heil, 6:00am to 8:00am and the Sunday Morning Gospel Show with Randall Hamm 8:00am to 12:00pm.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



After graduating from Middle Tennessee State University with a Mass Communication degree, Craig Harris has been in the journalism field for more than 15 years, working daily as both a photographer and writer at one of the largest non-daily publications in the state of Tennessee. He has experience in feature writing, news writing, action photography, portrait photography, web-site maintenance and layout. Craig has been a part of numerous awards, both collective and individual honors in the journalism field. He has had articles published in numerous newspapers and magazines on a variety of subjects, most notably in the world of sports.

Craig's Southern Gospel interest dates back for approximately the same time span, having closely followed the industry since the later portion of the 1990s. He also performed for seven years with a local trio prior to joining the SGN Scoops staff.



David's distinctive sound and his ability to blend perfectly with a variety of vocalists has made him a valuable commodity on live events as well as in the studio. His compassionate and gentle spirit makes him more than an artist, it makes him a great friend!

David began singing at age 6 with family. In 1990, he filled in for the Speer Family and later that year he became the lead vocalist for The Trailblazers. In 2002, Staton filled the lead position with Priority. While with Priority, the group was the resident gospel group at the Silver Dollar City theme park in Branson, MO and they performed for over one million people in one year. After the group disbanded in 1995, David continued to write for artists in many different genres of music while occasionally performing solo. It was during this time that his song, "Every Knee Shall Bow", recorded by Dottie Peoples, was nominated for a Grammy Award. His song, "Together We Can" was adopted as the national theme song to bring awareness to violence in schools. The music video (Together We Can) that featured many Atlanta based artists was shown at the 1999 Grammy Awards show, which helped launch the careers of artists like R&B's Jagged Edge, India Arie, and 4.0. In 2004, David partnered with Mike LeFevre to form The LeFevre Quartet. During the seven years that he was the lead vocalist, the group had many hit songs and won many awards. After leaving the LeFevre

Quartet in 2011, Staton began working on a solo project and also began singing with Palmetto State Quartet. The group appeared on television and toured with country music superstar, Wynonna Judd while Staton was there.

Through the years, artists like Gold City, Jeff & Sheri Easter, Kingsmen, Singing Americans, Dixie Melody Boys, Imperials, Dottie Peoples, Ball Brothers, LeFevre Quartet, Palmetto State Quartet, Priority, Trailblazers, The Greens, Ivan Parker, Brian Free and many more have recorded David's music. From 2005 to 2013, Staton was the Executive Vice President for Song Garden Music Group in Nashville, TN. In recent years, the National Quartet Convention has asked David to be a part of an industry advisory panel to help artists who need assistance and training. Not only has David made a mark as an artist, he is passing on his talent and knowledge to new artists, influencing and shaping the future of Gospel music.



Kelly Nelon Clark is the daughter of Gospel Music icon, the late Rex Nelon. As part of her father's group, The Nelons, she blazed a musical trail bringing a fresh new sound to the traditional Gospel quartet style. That sound and style influenced a generation of Gospel music performers and can be heard today in the styling of

groups like the Martins, Point of Grace, The Crabb Family and more.

As The Nelons broke new ground, the Gospel Music industry repeatedly recognized their excellence. The group won four GMA Dove awards as well as multiple awards from readers of Singing News Magazine. Kelly was named female vocalist of the year on four occasions and received favorite alto vocalist award 3 times. At one time, Kelly was the most awarded artists in the history of the Singing News Fan Awards. The music industry at large also recognized The Nelons with 3 Grammy nominations.

Today, Kelly currently performs throughout the United States, Canada and Europe with her husband and two daughters as The Nelons. The group is featured in hundreds of churches and concerts each year. The Nelons have been part of Gaither Homecoming concerts sharing their music with thousands of Gospel Music fans in sold-out arenas across the country. For more information, visit <http://www.kellynelon.com/>.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Marcie Gray was born and raised in sunny California, yet always dreamed of moving to Tennessee. She had planned to move to the south as a young adult and sing with a gospel group, after being inspired to do so by her Great Uncle, Alphus LeFevre. Though it took longer than she had expected, in 2011, her dream of moving

east finally came true when her husband, Don, retired from the CHP. They packed up their two youngest daughters, three dogs and two horses and headed east. What a blessing to finally be where the tea is sweet, the Southern Gospel music is plentiful and there's a Cracker Barrel on every corner!

Spend ten minutes with Marcie and you'll learn that she is rarely lacking for something to say. Her passion for Southern Gospel music, combined with her instinct to be behind the camera, makes journalism a very enjoyable outlet for that "Type A" personality she has been affectionately labeled with by her family and friends.

Marcie is a worship leader, vocalist and songwriter. She has directed choirs of all ages and given voice lessons for many years. Her solo CD, "Carry Me Home" was released in September of 2014.

Having family in ministry has given Marcie a desire to support those who are on the road sharing the gospel through song. Visit her website at [www.graydoveministries.com](http://www.graydoveministries.com) to learn more!



Lynn Mills is a talented writer who has a passion for music, specifically Gospel music. Lynn authors the site Lynn's Chronicles where she shares her experiences attending various concert events and what people can expect should they want to attend. Also featured are CD & DVD Reviews, Devotionals,

Photos, Video and News tidbits. Keep up with Lynn online at <http://lynnschronicles.com> or on facebook @ <http://facebook.com/lynns.chronicles>



Hi, my name is Dean Adkins and I am honored to be a part of the SGN Scoops family. Perhaps some background information would be beneficial. I am sometimes called "Professor" because I was a Biology professor at Marshall University for 31 years and I retired in 2004. I grew up listening to gospel music (or as it is now termed Southern Gospel Music) and many of

my relatives (Adkins, Toney, Booth families) are gospel singers/musicians. I collect records, primarily LPs, and SGM related items. Over the years I have studied the history of this genre. I would like to use these articles to describe events and the mind-set of the 1950s and 60s – sometimes called the Golden Age of Gospel Music.



Alpha Source Media Group is lead by Candi Combs and was born out of a strong desire to support the ministers who share the gospel on the highways and byways of life. Combs says, "These artists and their families spend their days selflessly bringing the life-changing message of Jesus to crowds large and small. We want to do all we can to

support them!" In 2015, Candi will have a law degree from Liberty University and will provide a full range of legal counsel. This component will bring the highest level of support to those who also desire legal representation.

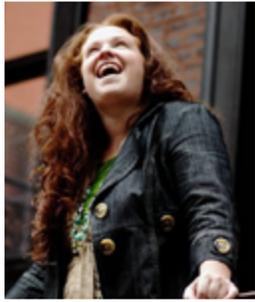


Bethany Cook is a 26-year-old from the great state of North Carolina. In her early years, Bethany grew up on the road as the daughter of an evangelist. In her teen years, the family came off the road and made their home in Burlington, NC where her father is now a pastor. Being an avid Southern Gospel fan from an early age has enabled Bethany to

meet many different artists and make many friends along the way. With a history of devotional writing for family and friends, she looks forward to sharing her writing and allowing her readers to see a little more into the lives of Southern Gospel Music artists. Bethany is a Medical Assistant for a large Cardiology Practice in North Carolina.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Sheri began singing while traveling with her abundantly talented family, led by her father John LaFontaine, a minister for over 48 years. In 1994 with Grammy nominated singer Jeff Easter producing, she recorded her first solo project, *Takin' My Place*.

Shortly thereafter, Sheri received a call from the top promoter in south-

ern gospel, Frank Arnold and was asked to join his group, The Arnolds on the road. After several years of traveling Sheri felt the Lord leading her to focus on her solo career and songwriting. In 2004 she signed a songwriting contract with one of the industry's top recording labels, Daywind Music. Her songs have been recorded by Kim Hopper, Karen Peck, Sue Dodge, Brian Free & Assurance, Misty Freeman, Three Bridges, The Whisnants, The Browns and many more.



Paige Givens is a Christ follower, wife, mother of two boys and kindergarten teacher to 18 five-year-olds. She is a writer, reader, singer, studier, and teacher of words. Paige lives in Hayden, Alabama with her husband of 10 years, Chris Givens, and their sons Parker and Peyton.

Paige loves to blog about faith,

writing, music, and teaching. Her goal is to serve the Lord by inspiring others to be who He has called them to be. You can listen to her music and read her devotionals at [www.paigegivens.com](http://www.paigegivens.com).



Jaquita Lindsey holds the alto position for the Southern Gospel group 11th Hour. The group was originally based out of Monroe, LA but recently relocated to Hendersonville, TN. She comes from the small town of Camden, AR. She is also a licensed cosmetologist. In her spare time, she enjoys being crafty and spending time with

family and friends. She's been singing since the age of eight, but realizes that it's much more than just singing. "Anyone can show off their talent. I'd rather hear someone that shows that they are anointed!" For more information on Jaquita, visit [11thhourgospelgroup.com](http://11thhourgospelgroup.com)



Matt Baker resides in Lenoir, NC with his wife, Ashley, and children, Bella and Bennett. A gospel music lover, Matt spent time on the road full-time with Promise of Murfreesboro, TN, before moving into church ministry as the music minister at Ambassador Baptist Church in Hudson, NC.



Justin Gilmore, 22, a resident of San Diego, California, graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University with a B.A. in History in June of 2014. Passionate about Southern Gospel music and its history, he decided to venture into the blog world in January starting Southern Gospel Spotlight in order to share his

love of this great style of music.

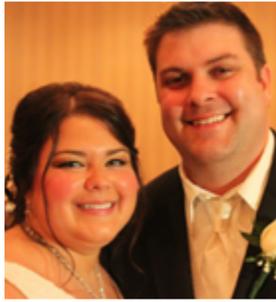


Roger Barkley Jr. is an award-winning Christian artist and musical evangelist. With multiple charting songs reaching to the top 10, his goals remain the same: to win souls for Christ, use Gospel Music of any kind to reach the world with the Good News, seeing lives changed and being an encouragement to the

saints. When asked about his ministry, Roger said, "I can remember the first time singing with my dad playing the guitar and standing beside my mom when I was four years old. I have always loved all types of music." His vision is to lead as many people to Christ through preaching, singing, sharing testimony, comedy, drama and technology as possible. Having been labeled a Christian Entertainer, he believes it is possible to minister in an entertaining way, and in over 35 years of ministry has found that he can utilize all different types of music to let people know the love of Jesus Christ. Currently he is Artist-In-Residence with his wife, Dianna, and daughter, Chelsea, at Leestown Gospel Church in Frankfort, KY, and Redemption Road Community Church in Stamping Ground, KY where he leads worship when not spreading the Gospel across America.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Brian Fuson is from the great state of Michigan, and although he is a Northerner, he certainly knows his Gospel music. He's been promoting concerts since he was 15-years-old and has worked with a diverse group of artists. He has been blogging about Southern Gospel music for the last few years on his site called Fuson's Findings. And

most recently, Brian has started singing with his wife Crysta and her parents, The Sammons Family. All of this information and more can be found on his website, [brianfusonmusic.com](http://brianfusonmusic.com).



Timmy Williamson is a 24-year-old singer and actor from Virginia Beach, Virginia. He graduated from Liberty University in 2014 with degrees in Worship and Theatre. Over the past several years, he has been given the privilege of singing in many churches and events as well as performing in professional theatre productions. He has been enjoyed

by audiences at NQC's Artist Showcases, Gospel Explosion at First Baptist Church of Dallas, and in the Virginia Beach Gospel Music Festival. Timmy currently lives in Lynchburg, Virginia where he is pursuing a full time career traveling and singing. He would love to come and share his music with your church or special event! For more information, please visit his website, [www.timmywilliamson.com](http://www.timmywilliamson.com).



Selena Day is from Atlanta GA. During her twenties she worked in the field of fashion, as both a make-up artist and model. Selena became a Christian in her early 20's and then quickly met her husband, Chuck Day, who is a songwriter and recording artist. Selena and Chuck have

been in the ministry for 26 years raising three daughters and homeschooling them while they traveled together as a family. During this time God taught her how crucial inter-generational ministry is for the furthering of God's kingdom. Selena travels the world speaking at conferences with the emphasis on empowering a multi-generation of women to rise up and become everything that God has called them to. Encouraging the next generation of the church to break the walls of limitations in their mind and rise to their full potential. Selena and her husband are life coaches for The World Race, which is an extreme missions trip for adults 21 through 35. They travel every two months somewhere around the world to mentor these missionaries. She and Chuck have been pastoring a home-church for 14 years where they have experienced God moving in community and seeing the body of Christ in action through each other.