

SGN

JANUARY 2018

SCOOPS

MAGAZINE



JORDAN *Family Band*

ALSO FEATURING:
CHRIS TAYLOR OF THE TAYLORS,
BELLS, BOOTS AND BBQ,
AND GOSPEL ARTISTS' NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



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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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Have a SCOOP to share? For news consideration, email us at news@sgnscoops.com

PUBLISHER'S POINT

by Rob Patz

It is a brand new year. Are you excited about what God has for you in 2018? We have a slogan right now at WPIL (91.7 FM, Heflin, Ala., www.wpilfm.com) that is, a brand new year and a brand new you. I started that with the idea to encourage people to experience new things.

I truly believe that 2018 is going to be an amazing year filled with exciting opportunities. I believe that about every year, and as I look back at 2017, I think we should always take an inventory of where we've been. There have been many great things that have happened in 2017, and there have been some trials. I am thankful though that God has allowed me to be a part of some fantastic events and to minister to people around the country.

The year of 2017 saw changes, but then again, if you think about it, in every year there are changes. If we stay the same we are not moving forward. In the Bible, it says that we should run the race, and my feeling about that is that God doesn't want us to be stable. He doesn't want us to be happy in the location we are in today.

I had the opportunity to talk with a pastor, and we were sharing our visions for this coming year. I said that God always put big visions in my head. Now, that doesn't mean that those visions always come to fruition that year. Sometimes, those visions take years to accomplish. But it says we have to run the race, and life is not a sprint ... it's a marathon. That means like a marathon runner, we watch for landmarks to know where we are. Like when runners get to the 13-mile mark, they know they are halfway there.

I truly believe God puts it in our hearts each year to grow in new and exciting ways that He wants us to run. He wants us to continue to make an impact for the kingdom, because if we stand still, we are not fulfilling the great commission.

So many people say, "I don't know how I'm going to get to my goal." I had a very wise friend who was an older pastor tell me that the best way to get to your goal is start walking. If you don't start moving, nothing will ever happen. If you don't start exercising your faith, you won't reach your goal. As much as we talked about running earlier, we talk the same about exercising our faith.



So, as I sit here at the beginning of a brand new year, I want to encourage you to do three things for me. This year, I want you to read your Bible more. I want you to pray more, and I want you to begin to exercise your faith.

So many of us talk about exercise as one of our New Year's resolutions. May I encourage you this year to make one of your resolutions – that you will keep – to exercise your faith. Start to dream. Start to believe that God has bigger, greater things for you ahead. Then, start to run your race. If the Lord allows, I want to be with you at the end of this year, to cheer you on as you cross the finish line of another year.

As you start the new year off, make plans to join us in Oxford, Ala., from March 1-3 for Southern Gospel Weekend. Find more information about this great event in this edition.

That's the Publisher's Point.



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Charlie Griffin

Cast The First Stone

is climbing the Charts! Word on the street is:



Jango.com reviews:


- "Great song and content!" SweetLove2
- "Enjoying this song!" FrankieWayne50
- "Cool! Yea, I'm a teen who likes Southern Gospel!" Berrillinaothy
- "Loved the whole song. Something I needed this morning" ChristineDiana
- "We were pleasantly surprised to hear your gospel song on Jango in the middle of the Andy Williams radio spot. Keep praising, Charlie! What a blessing!" PastorPatty
- "Fire! This is pure class on a Merle Haggard original! NashvilleCountryBoy97"

"This is truly a song for today! Charlie does it right!" Dianne Massey
Local Southern Gospel Concerts, Rock Hill, SC

"Charlie's vocals, the production, the message, this song has it all! It is Great!" David Crump, Pastor-Hillside Baptist, Bluegrass Gospel Tunes TV, Hickory, NC

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A Look Through The Lens of Craig Harris:

Sixth Annual Bells, Boots and Barbeque

Photographs by Craig Harris



On Dec. 5, 2018, the Sixth Annual Bells, Boots and Barbeque was held at the Depot Square in Gallatin, Tenn. The evening consisted of a silent auction, followed by dinner and a concert. Proceeds from the dinner and music event benefited the Veranda, the flagship program of Veranda Ministries.

An outreach supported by Impact Fellowship Church in Gallatin, The Veranda is a respite activity program that helps meet the needs of senior adults and their families who are affected by Alzheimer's Disease, dementia and other issues of the aging process. Activities are provided a few hours a day, three days a week at the church to allow families much-needed respite time to take care of other family needs.

Hosts were gospel songwriter Kirk Talley and Josh Singletary of Tribute Quartet.

Artists appearing were the Tribute Quartet, the Talleys, Jeff Stice, High Road, Allegiance, pianist Sandra Payton, songwriter Kenna West, Anthony Facello, Dusty Wells, Katie Musson and Mary Anne Oglesby-Sutherly.



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Day To Day

Celebrating the Hard Seasons

By Selena Day

The past few years have been some hard seasons for me, so when I heard the Lord whisper to me to celebrate the hard seasons, I said, “yeah, right ... you celebrate. I just want to sit here and feel miserable.”

Then very kindly, He whispered again, “Trust me. I do hear you, and I will answer prayers.”

“Really? I’ve been holding on to one promise for a long time, praying and believing that you will bring it to fruition. I have tried to give it up. I specifically on two different occasions put a fleece out concerning letting it go, and both times you answered me with a resounding, ‘Yes, I am going to do it.’ So, I’m having a hard time trusting right now.”

I am instantly reminded of the father in Mark 9, who asked Jesus if He could heal his son, and Jesus replied, in verses 23-24: “What do you mean, ‘If I can?’ Jesus asked. ‘Anything is possible if a person believes.’ The father instantly cried out, ‘I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!’”

Again, I heard Papa God whisper to me, “Celebrate the hard seasons.”

So, I decided to look up in the dictionary what the word celebrate meant.

Celebrate: to acknowledge with a social gathering or enjoyable activity, to honor or praise publicly. (<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/celebrate>, Dec. 20, 2017.)

“Okay, okay. So, you’re not asking me to be happy about it,

just to honor or acknowledge the hard seasons I have been through?”

I don’t know about you, but sometimes God doesn’t give me a full dialogue. He just keeps repeating what He wants me to hear. So, once again, He whispered, “Beloved, celebrate the hard seasons.”

So, here I am talking about the past few years and celebrating these hard seasons.

Truthfully, 2017 was a good year for our family, probably one of the best I’ve had in a long time, but it was also a hard year. As I am writing this, I am still struggling with certain things in my life – the loss of loved ones, the high and lows that life can bring, the uncertainty in which living a lifestyle of ministry brings, all the while still praying and believing for the breakthrough.

God has been so faithful to me this past year. He has proven Himself over and over, so I also feel guilty for questioning Him.

Recently, I was sharing with a friend that one of the hardest parts of getting older for me is losing the excitement or joy of newness. I mean, in my lifetime, I have seen fashion trends come and go not just once or twice, but several times. The battles our society seems to be fighting are the same battles I remember being fought when I was a child and we don’t seem to have learned any lessons. Because of this, I find at times I become a little hopeless. But, in that moment, I make a choice. Life is all about perspective. So, as I hear my Savior’s whisper, I must change my perspective to focus on Him.

Today, I celebrate that in my hopeless moments, God steps in to become my Hope. Scripture says that it is “Christ in me, the hope of glory.” (Colossians 1:27)

I love what Paul says in Romans 12:3 (MSG) ... “I’m speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in



relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it’s important that you not misinterpret yourself as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to

you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what He does for us, not by what we are and what we do for Him.”

God is the most giving entity in the universe, giving to us everything that we need, in every moment of our lives. In the hard seasons, when I want to question God and my faith is low, it is so comforting that it really isn’t about me. I can trust Him to carry my unbelief and my uncertainty for the future. He has promised that He will bring His promises to pass.

I do not know what 2018 holds. I am believing that it is the year for breakthrough in regard to my prayers. But, more than anything, I am so thankful that I have a Savior that carries me, my burdens and my struggles, and that He never gives up on me. He is always there to keep whispering to me as He tells me, “Beloved, I will fight the battle for you. And you? You just keep your mouths shut!” (Exodus 14:14 MSG)

I pray that you take a moment to celebrate the hard seasons in your own life and to know that God’s plan for your life is good.

Happy New Year.

Selena Day is a motivational speaker and is available to speak at your conference or event. She can be contacted at selenaday@me.com www.queenliving.org or at www.facebook.com/queenismsbyselenaday. Photographs courtesy of Selena Day.

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The Jordan Family Band

Skyrockets in Southern Gospel



By Sarah Murray

In today's society, social media can be used in a variety of ways. However, in the state of Georgia, you will find a humble and bold family that is using it to encourage, uplift, praise, and ultimately to see souls saved.

The Jordan Family Band is a family group with a country gospel feel. The group consists of Josh and Randa Jordan and their sons – Hutch (age 17), Alex (12), Grant (10), and a friend of the family who is like an adopted son to them, Keenan Atkinson (20).

The family got a unique start in 2009. Randa says that they aren't a family group who raised their family to sing and travel, but for them, it just happened.

"It just wasn't something I saw for my family," Randa confesses. "Josh and I grew up singing in church and even started a small group with my brother. We had dreams to build the group and go full-time, but we ended up building families."

However, we all know that what's in God's plan will al-

ways find a way. Randa recalls a time where her oldest son Hutch just picked up the guitar and began to play. He had never a lesson. He just played.

One of the main inspirations for the Jordan Family Band was Josh Jordan's dad, Dr. Fain Jordan. He was a patriarch in their community and a true man of faith. He tragically passed away at the age of 64.

JORDAN FAMILY BAND



"It was so sudden for us, and for everyone," Randa recalls. "We had never dealt with such a sudden loss, and it was such a rare feeling for our family."

After the death of Josh's father, the family found itself coping through music ... together,



around the piano.

“Josh and I never pounded this into the kids, but we watched them be inspired by music,” Randa shares.

Their middle son, Alex, began singing the song “Dealing with Gold,” and both Josh and Randa were amazed to hear what a voice their son had. They quickly realized as their sons sang what harmony they had together and knew they truly had a gift of song.

People quickly started asking them to sing at church, and their music journey had begun. God had truly intervened through a family heartbreak. At this time, someone gifted the family a conversion van, and wherever God sent them, they went. Singing just became something the family loved, and they began doing what God called them to do to bring Him glory.

Randa recalls using a social media forum called “Socialcam,” which was similar to Facebook at that time. She recorded herself singing a song for sheer fun and posted it. A few likes from viewers turned into a viral video.

At this time Randa was truly going through some dark times. However, she just kept singing and posting her videos. Her videos gradually went to around 100,000 views. It was at this time that Randa realized she had a ton of viewers listening to her sing, but while her voice was resounding through a social media connection, her

heart just wasn’t where it needed to be. In her alone time with God, Randa let God speak to her and shake her. With the help of her Savior, Randa got her heart where it needed to be.

In October of 2016, the Jordan Family was gearing up to go to a football game when the opportunity arose to go live on Facebook. They sang the song made famous by Karen Peck and New River, “Everybody’s Going Through Something.” The video reached three million views in just a couple of days.

But aside from the views, aside from who the viewers were, this moment was where Randa realized how God could use her family through a tool like social media. As tears were streaming down her face, she began to pray that God would use this as a ministry and that God would send the family people to minister to. God began answering their prayer through that one song. It began what would be known as their Wednesday night ritual of going live on Facebook to sing and minister.

You can now find the Jordan Family Band almost every Wednesday night on their group page. It’s strictly organic, not rehearsed, and 100-percent real each time.

One amazing thing about this family is its authenticity. They are truly as real as they come. Just like any family, they face trials, hardships, arguments, and basic hiccups in life. Before every live feed, they made an agreement to leave whatever happened in their day behind them and pray together, all before hitting the “Go Live” button on Facebook.



The Jordan family is an ultimate example of using social media to change the world for the cause of Christ, one live feed at a time. Randa alone has achieved 60,000 followers on her own personal page. Anyone can be a Christian, but it takes boldness and being real to show the world your heart and be the example God

calls us to be.

“I realized that with so many people following me, I had to refrain from being negative, because of who I could effect,” says Randa. “I just can’t afford to lose the lost or hurting people.”



The Jordan Family Band has a main goal of just wanting to help people. Of course, they want the convenience of a bus, easier travel, and better accommodations for their ministry, but Randa has a different perspective.

“We would rather travel and sleep in a pickup truck to and from our scheduled singings, than to put our efforts into just having a bus to travel in,” Randa points out. “Our job is to sing, and that’s what we are going to do.”

The Jordan Family Band has received many accolades, such as charting among the top 30 in the SGNScoops charts. The group has most recently received a nomination for a Dove Award for New Artist of the Year and has recently signed with the Crossroads label. The family’s song, “My God is Faithful,” resounds as it serves as the ministry motto.

The hearts of the Jordan family are wide open, and by watching their news feed, you can hear their hearts and join their worship for the one true King. One of the most rewarding facts about their unique ministry is the people they have reached and the response from their audience.

Many times the messages they have received have said, “I was going to commit suicide tonight, but I saw your live video on my news feed and listened and decided not to,” or “I was about to abort my unborn child and

heard you singing on Facebook and decided to stop what I was doing.”

These are real people, real issues and real messages. This is a real ministry that has accepted the call to serve God’s people, and it’s working.

“People are finding hope in our live feeds,” Randa says. “I even received a message one night that said, ‘I didn’t shoot myself like I had planned tonight, because I heard your live feed.’ God is answering our prayer by sending the people we asked him to send.”

If you watch the live feed for even 60 seconds, you will see a multitude of prayer requests flood the comments section, including people who believe they can call out to a family who will help pray for them.

“God has led us down this road, and we don’t even know where we are going,” Randa explains. “We are just on the road for the ride. God is getting 100 percent of the glory of what we are doing. Our hearts are set on what God wants, and that’s it.”

The Jordan Family Band just wants to further the kingdom of Christ, and the family wants the world to know that, “God is faithful through everything. It’s all about him. He answers prayer, and He’s the end all, cure all.”



What are others saying about the Jordan Family Band?

Darren Lore of The Lore Family: “Having a family ministry is filled with blessings and challenges. The family is together all the time. Yet, that doesn’t mean it’s always easy to get everyone together to practice and hone their musical skills, but the Jordan Family Band (JFB) is growing as a Christian family ministry. And they are skyrocketing in Southern/country gospel. Their

family harmonies, songwriting and music abilities continue to show professional growth, and they have become fan favorites on social media. The JFB has wisely used social media to introduce their down-to-earth family. JFB is a mixed family group that is filled with potential. It is exciting to see Josh and Randa minister alongside Hutch, Alex and Grant. It's inspirational to others to see families serving God together. The JFB is an artist to watch closely. Truly, God is showering this anointed family with favor, and I believe that He will continue to elevate them nationally."

Mickey Bell, Radio Show Host: "The songwriting of Josh Jordan is going to change this industry as he will soon become one of the most recognized and most rewarded. His lyrics are pure and pertain to everyday life."

Matthew Browder of the Browders: "The Jordan Family has what it takes. They have the heart for God and people. They have the anointing to accomplish the calling on their life. They have the talent. They have a signature sound. When you hear them, they are unmistakably the Jordan Family Band."

David Kiser of Heart 2 Heart: "The Jordan Family Band has quickly come on the scene as a fan favorite. They carry great talent as vocalist and musicians. They have the heart and vision to do great things for God."

Rob Patz of SGN Scoops: "I love the energy and joy that the Jordan Family Band brings to the stage, but the best part is, I know the family lives what they sing and use everything in their power to bring the gospel to a lost world."



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

1. Greater Vision – Still
2. Canton Junction - God's Got A Better Plan
3. The Hyssongs - I Tell Them Jesus
4. Jason Crabb - Mysterious Ways
5. The Steeles - Prodigals
6. Karen Peck and New River - Hope For All Nations
7. Gold City - I Will Stand
8. The Kingdom Heirs - The Last Big Thing
9. The Kingsmen - Hear The Word Of The Lord
10. Ernie Haase and Signature Sound - Give Me Jesus
11. C. T. and Becky Townsend - My God Delivered me
12. The Lore Family - Joyous News
13. Susan Whisnant - I Prayed Through It
14. HighRoad - Somewhere I'm Going
15. The Collingsworth Family - You're About To Climb
16. The Perrys - Moses and Elijah
17. The Mylon Hayes Family - Coming of The Lord
18. The Wisecarvers - Plain And Simple
19. The Guardians - Present in The Presence of The King
20. The Wilbanks - When I Speak Your Name
21. Triumphant Quartet - Chainbreaker
22. The Tribute Quartet - God Of The Storms
23. The East Ridge Boys - I Know That Man
24. The Talleys - This Thing Called Grace
25. The Second Half Quartet - During The Rapture
26. Brian Free and Assurance - He Can Take It

27. New Ground - Make It
28. The Dunaways - Reassure Me
29. The Inspirations - The One In The Water
30. Soul'd Out Quartet - Holy Spirit Come
31. Mark Bishop - The Other Room
32. Chronicle - Where Did The Wind Go
33. Exodus - God of Always and Never
34. The Sneed Family - I've Never Seen A Promise
35. Sunday Drive - 11:59
36. Caleb's Crossing - I Promise You
37. Children Of The Promise - Heaven Takes Care Of It All
38. The Stephens - He Said
39. Mark Lowry - What's Not To Love
40. The Down East Boys - Somebody Left The Door Wide Open
41. The Isaacs - If That's What It Takes
42. The Jim Brady Trio - God Is With Me
43. Dean - Talk the Talk, Walk the Walk
44. The Millers - Take A Moment and Live
45. Misty Freeman - A Day In The Life of Jesus
46. Battle Cry - I'm Amazed
47. The Bibletones - Lord Lead me Home
48. Day Three - Might Go Home Today
49. The Hoskins Family - Don't Wanna Lose That Feeling
50. The Greenes - Send A Little Rain
51. MARK209 - I Can Call Jesus



52. The Bates Family - You Are
53. Sisters - A Day Will Come
54. Josh and Ashley Franks - While My Tears Are Falling
55. The Browns - Aim Higher
56. The Anchormen - I'm Gonna Run
57. The New Dove Brothers - No Back Door To Heaven
58. The Goulds - Where Are The Voices
59. Steve Ladd - All Things Are Possible With God
60. The Littles - Whole Lot of Heaven In The House
61. Shellem Cline - Getting In the Word of God
62. ReJeana Leeth and New Grace - Thank God For My Christian Home
63. Tribute Quartet - When The Prodigal Comes Home
64. The Bowling Family - I Believe He's Alive
65. Abby Paskvan - Anchor To The Power Of The Cross
66. The Journeys - Have Faith
67. Matt Felts - Trust Me With The Trial
68. Zane and Donna King - Hallelujah and Amen
69. The Walkers - Holy Spirit Flow Through Me
70. The Pine Ridge Boys - Sail On Over
71. John Whisnant - Had It Not Been
72. Master's Voice - Where My Savior Is
73. Bridget Taylor - One More Valley
74. The Lear Family - Too Far From Home
75. Tim Lovelace - Living In A Coffee World
76. New Legacy Project - God Of The Empty Grave
77. Keith Barkley and Family Tradition - Hiding In The Blood
78. Ivan Parker - Walk My Way
79. The Jay Stone Singers - I Won't Turn Back
80. Channing Eleton - Bring To Me Isaac
81. Three Bridges - Jesus Saves
82. The Dysart Family - Jesus Loves You
83. The McKameys - Living For Eternity
84. Won Life - Holy Rain Come Down

85. Rambo McGuire - Precious Jesus
86. Chris Hester - Miracle In Reach
87. Sweetwater Revival - God Makes No Mistakes
88. The Promised Land Quartet - I Love That Music
89. The Coffmans - Know So
90. The Chandlers - He Does
91. Allegiance - Heaven Is Real
92. The Bollingers - Mercy Found Room For Me
93. The Georgians Quartet - I'm Glad That I Know
94. The Ascension Quartet - Salvation Is Found On A Cross
95. Steve Ladd - Since I Laid My Burdens Down
96. The Beelers - Take Me To Him
97. Jason Runnels - The Drive
98. The Ferguson Family - Living For The Call
99. Adam Crabb - Sometimes God Allows
100. The Blythe Family - Restoration

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Introducing Bob and Joyce Spamer of Spencerport, NY. They have a mission to bring Southern Gospel Music back to the Rochester, NY area and are asking that you pray God's blessings on what they are doing. It has been a real struggle they say, as there has not been anyone in the area to promote Southern Gospel for years and with God's help and your Prayers they believe this will be a success. Do you know someone in area? Tell them about SGNY and join us in prayer for Bob, Joyce and Southern Gospel NY.



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Randall Reviews It - January 2018

by Randall Hamm

Friends,

Happy New Year. I hope the last year was as kind to you as it was to me. I listened to and played a lot of new music last year and discovered some new artists as well. Some groups I do believe will have their best CDs of their career released this year.

I hope that you'll discover some new music and new artists that may become your favorites this year as I bring them to you in reviews. Without further adieu, let's get 2018 underway with projects from the Mark Dubbeld Family, Royal Heirs and the Porter Family.

And, as always, get a copy of these releases wherever you get good gospel music.

Randall

Please send your latest releases for review to Randall Hamm, c/o Q-100 WFLQ-FM, P.O. Box 100, French Lick, IN 47432.



Mark Dubbeld Family

"Joy"

Producer: Gus Gaches/Jeremy Peace

Label: Song Garden/Garden Crown

Who Is on the Lord's Side (Ray Smith SESAC); Keep on Believing Medley (Irving Berlin-Frank C. Huston-George A. Young); The Cross Won Its Victory (Janene A. Dubbeld-Dixie Phillips BMI); This Joy Is Mine (Janene A. Dubbeld BMI); Precious Jesus (Glenda Clay BMI); There's a Way Back (Janene A. Dubbeld BMI); When You're Broken (Janene A. Dubbeld BMI); Joy Comes in the Morning (Larry Hinson BMI); God's Makin' a Way (Dixie Phillips-Bernadette Nagus-Melanie Watson BMI); The Snake's in Trouble (Janene A. Dubbeld BMI) He's Coming Again (Linda Stalls ASCAP)

The Mark Dubbeld Family is back with a new album and a new label home, Song Garden Music Group. The group is signed to the Garden Crown label. It's a new label, new CD and the best album the family has recorded. The family – consisting of mom and dad, Mark and

Janene, and children, Elena, Channing and Britton – has brought new life to some old classics, some great new songs, and new Janene Dubbeld songs. The CD kicks off with a great rendition of “Who Is on the Lord’s Side,” asking whose side you are on. Some of the favorite songs include “When You’re Broken” and “Precious Jesus,” both of which feature daughter Elena. “Broken” is a beautiful ballad written by Janene, while “Precious Jesus” will have you shouting hallelujah all through the song. I told Mark a few years ago that his sound would be right to sing material from the Happy Goodmans and the Hinsons. When I talked to Mark at the National Quartet Convention, he said, ‘you’ll like this new CD’ and reminded me of what I had said. He said songs for them to record included suggestions of Happy Goodmans and Hinson material.

Among the songs covered is “He’s Coming Again” by the Happy Goodmans and “Joy Comes In The Morning” by the Hinsons. They take these classics, make them their own and will bring the house down in concert when sung. I’m hoping the family will record more of those groups’ material or songs similar to those in the future. One of the most interesting and intriguing songs is “The Snake’s in Trouble.” It is a song that was written based on a sermon that Janene heard from Dr. Roy Lauter. It’s also one of my favorites on the CD. This family has come a long way since I first met them in 2010. Overall, this is one CD that DJs need to program and play and that gospel lovers need to grab. Visit the Mark Dubbeld Family web site to get a copy of “Joy” at www.mjdubbeld.com/merch or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MarkDubbeldFamily.

Strongest Songs: “Precious Jesus,” “When You’re Broken,” “Joy Comes in the Morning”



Royal Heirs
“Renewed”
Label: Independent

Songs: He’ll Do It Again (Rebecca Peck); There’s a Testimony (Christine Degazio ASCAP); I’ll Never Sail Alone (Daryl Williams); Look for Me at Jesus Feet (Squire Parsons BMI); Even so Come (Chuck Day-Greg Day BMI); Still (Jim Brady-Tony Wood-Barry Weeks BMI); Acapella Hymn Medley (PD); Seed of the Righteous (Daryl Williams ASCAP); Wonderful Day (Duane Grimes); Pray Through Me (Jim E Davis-Rick Simpson BMI); He’s Been so Good to Me; Bless Your Holy Name Again (Ben Storie-Daryl Williams BM)

The Royal Heirs, based out of Flint, Mich., have released a new CD entitled “Renewed.” The group is comprised of lead singer Shem Koutz, baritone Brian Fuson, tenor Jonathan Norris, keyboardist/vocalist Fred Udell. The CD is comprised of familiar gospel classics and newer material from such songwriters as Jim Brady, Daryl Williams and Ben Storie.

The Royal Heirs are a part-time group, singing three out of four weekends a month. The group takes one weekend off each month to be with their families at their home congregation, to keep them fresh and their spirits renewed.

Before listening to the project, the one thing I admired was the album cover. It was a nod to all those worn out LPs of long ago, with the worn ring. Being a LP collector, that scored points with me. What’s on the CD is what I love – hearing a regional group that I may not see, hearing a fresh new sound, and introducing them to my listeners, who may fall in love with them as well.

You will not be disappointed if you get a copy of this CD. From a Texas-two-step version of “He’s Been Good to Me,” to the “Acapella Hymn Medley,” there’s something for everyone to enjoy. I especially loved their version of “Look for Me at Jesus Feet.” In my opinion, you can never listen to this song enough and not get blessed.

I love hearing and giving regional groups airplay on my program every Sunday morning. If you are a DJ, you’ll love the sound of the Royal Heirs. And if you are within the region of Flint, Mich., attend a concert and listen to the Royal Heirs or book them for your church. Visit the Royal Heirs at www.facebook.com/RoyalheirsMI or to get a copy of their latest project, “Renewed,” visit www.theroyalheirs.wordpress.com.

Strongest Songs: “Acapella Hymn Medley,” “Look for Me,” “He’s Been Good to Me”



The Porter Family
"What I Believe"

Producer: Shane Roark
 Label: Sanctuary

Songs: Great Is thy Faithfulness (Thomas Chisholm); Why Should I Worry (Charlotte Baker-Eric Baker BMI); There Is a Remedy (Annie McRae BMI); What I Believe (David Williford BMI); What's Wrong with Living Right (Bill Adams-Tony Rast); Above the Storm (Jonathan Davis); Jesus Fan (Mike Payne BMI); Holy Spirit (Bryan Torwalt-Katie Torwalt BMI); Didn't I Walk on the Water (Linda Gibson BMI); God Told Me to Walk a Little Farther (Ruby Cook-Denzil Cook BMI); When I Lay my Isaac Down (Billy Fields BMI); Walk on Water (Vicky Lynn McGehee-Bobby Pinson-Trent Tomlinson BMI)

The latest offering by the Porter Family is "What I Believe." I have never heard a better album by the Porters than this. The Porters consist of Shawn (son) and Will and Betty Porter (father and mother). They have crafted a dandy of a CD.

This project features a song that has been cut by a number of artists, "Didn't I Walk on the Water," and I love their version. Shawn has the most soulful voice in this industry, and with his mom and dad, he delivers an absolutely powerful version of this song.

Their latest single "When I Lay my Isaac Down," written by Billy Fields, is starting to climb the national charts. Then the Porters dig back into the Southern gospel catalog, to bring one of the big songs of the Paynes back. "Jesus Fan" is delivered with conviction and would be a great single to release. There was nothing like the sound of the Paynes, and the Porters do this song justice. Add a sound reminiscent of the Hinsons, and you have a CD that will get plenty of play in your home.

DJs looking for a CD to feature in your new spotlight, feature this family, the Porters. You and your listeners will not be disappointed.

Visit the Porters at www.facebook.com/The-Porter-Family-116899302448 and to get a copy of this CD visit www.porterfamilymusic.com/store.

Strongest Songs: "Didn't I Walk on the Water," "When I Lay my Isaac Down," "Jesus Fan"

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Gospel Music New Year's Resolutions

By Justin Gilmore

Well, 2018 is here, and many people are sure to set goals for themselves for this new year. Here are some of your favorite Southern gospel artists' New Year's resolutions.



Josh Feemster of Legacy Five: "Commit myself more to studying God's Word, especially the Torah and how it correlates with the New Testament."



Lily Isaacs of the Isaacs: "To be more patient and not let stress overtake my life. God has it all under control."



would have liked to."

Rachel Sancricca of Master's Promise: "To set aside more time for writing music. This year, I have been so involved in other aspects of our ministry, I haven't written as much as I

Hannah Sancricca of Master's Promise: "I think something I would really like to commit to this year is the mindset of loving all and pleasing One, holding God's expectations first and foremost over all others."



Doug Anderson of Cana's Voice: "To make my New Year's resolution last more

than two weeks."

Jaquita Lindsey of 11th Hour: "To stop liking cookies so much."



Bob Sellers of the Kingsmen: "Find a way to have more family time."



Randy Crawford of the Kingsmen: "Get in shape."



Duane Allen of the Oak Ridge Boys: "At this point in my life, I have not taken the time to think about it. However, I look at every day, every week

and every new year as an opportunity to do something special for someone. Last night, I watched as a young black boy, who could not see, touched William Lee Golden's beard. The look on his face sent chills up and down my body. Touching people in some good way is something that I want to do every day. When I see people being touched or affected by our music, or our persona, it touches me too. So, I pray for good health to get to continue to do what I love to do until God says, 'It is enough,' over 100 dates (this year)."



Jerry Pilgrim of Master's Voice: "I honestly can say I have not made New Year's resolutions in many years. So, I suppose if I had to make one, it would

be to have more fun in 2018. I have a goal to scare all the other guys on the bus (I mean, really scare each one) and get it all on video for our scare-cam."



Thomas Nalley of Gold City: "To be a better steward of what God blesses me with this year."



Josh Allen of the Allen Family: "To eat 2,000 oz. of steak before next Dec. 31 ... just kidding. To read and summarize every chapter of the Bible in chronological order."



Jeff Chapman of the Kingdom Heirs: "To lose weight and be more health conscious and be more a Christ-like person to my family and friends and gospel music fans."

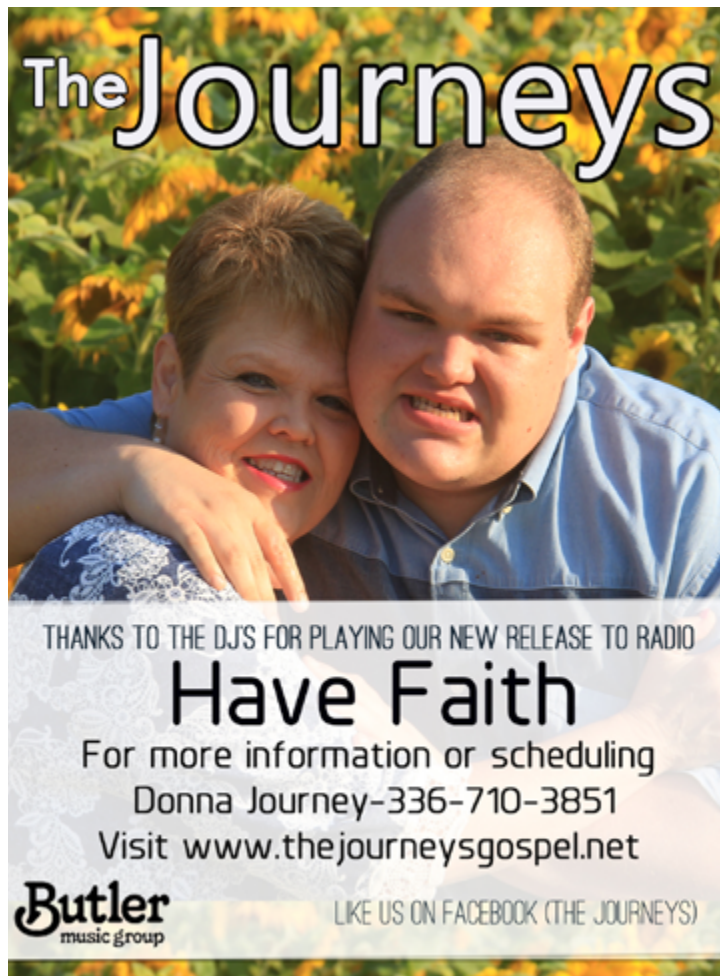


Darin Hebert of the Williamsons: "My New Year's resolution is to slow down a little and enjoy life more. Hope you have a Merry Christmas and a great new year."



Troy Peach of the Perrys: "I'm over my fat season. I'm ready to be smaller again. Need to make better eating choices and get to the gym more."

What are your New Year's resolutions for 2018? We hope they include listening to gospel music. Thanks for reading, and make plans today to support your favorite gospel music artist.



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YOUNGER PERSPECTIVE

Chris Taylor of the Taylors

BY ERIN STEVENS

A word from Erin Stevens...

Welcome back Scoopers. We're ringing in the new year in Younger Perspective style. I thought we'd kick January off on the right foot with someone you all have come to know and love. Chris Taylor of the Taylors is up first. There are aspects of his musical childhood, love story, and miraculous healing that you do not want to miss. Let's get right to it...

Erin Stevens: As many know, you grew up in a ministry home, influenced by your family's love of music. Describe for us some your earliest memories of harmonizing with your siblings. And at what point did you feel this was a calling on your life?

Chris Taylor: I was involved in church choir ever since I was old enough to speak. My mother, being the music minister at our church, began working with us on harmonizing around age 13. I remember vividly standing around the out-of-tune church piano, in our small rural church for what seemed like hours. At that point, we were each fairly good at singing the melody, but mom wanted to teach us all the parts. So, we listened as she played out each note on the piano so we could hear it exactly how it should be sung. We're all pretty fast learners, and since it was fun to hear the parts together, we quickly learned how to harmonize. So, we formed the Taylors as a four-part quartet when I was 15, and in 2008, I realized this was what God called us to do.

Stevens: Is there a particular Taylors concert from 2017 that stands out as having a lasting impact upon you?

Taylor: There have been so many. But there was one that was pretty special just a few weeks ago. We have been praying for a family member to get in right relationship with the Lord for over two years. He decided to attend our local concert and cried during the entire service. He told us after that he re-dedicated his life to the Lord that night.

Stevens: In your years of travel, what is a humorous bus mishap or breakdown that you will soon never forget?

Taylor: Oh boy. I will never forget a Sunday morning in Asheboro, N.C. I was fairly new to driving a bus. The church had a steep drive and a low dip at the bottom of the driveway. I knew if we were going to attempt this we would possibly bottom out, so I'd have to give it some speed and hope for the best. I hit the accelerator and up we went, until we got about halfway up and got stuck ... and I mean really stuck. I was so embarrassed as the rear end was sticking out in the road for several hours for everyone driving by to see.

Stevens: Many people will remember the illness you went through. Please share with the readers how your trust in Christ helped you through those days of uncertainty.



Taylor: About three years ago, I contracted a severe viral infection. In fact, it was so severe that I thought I was dying. I don't mean to exaggerate, and I hate going to the doctor for anything ... but it was bad. I wouldn't even wish it on my enemies. I prayed so much for God to heal me or to at least send me to the right doctor who could figure out what was wrong with me. It went from bad to worse, and I was hospitalized for fluid around my heart, lungs and enlarged spleen. I even had a heart murmur. I remember lying in the ER (emergency room) waiting to get a room and thinking, 'I'm too young to die.' I began pleading with God, but nothing changed until I remembered what Job did in his suffering. I prayed, "God, if you choose to heal me, I'll serve you. And if you choose to not heal me, I'll serve you anyway." And that's when the healing process began. Within days, I was stronger and feeling better than I had in months and was home by the end of the week. I don't think I would have had that happen without trusting Christ as the sovereign one. I still suffered from other issues for about a year after that, but I thank God that He healed me. I'm now stronger than I was before.



Stevens: How did you and Amanda meet? What is your love story from back in the day?

Taylor: We performed a concert at her church. I saw her in the crowd, and I knew she was the one. We talked for a few months and were engaged soon after. Best decision of my Christian life was to convince her to be my bride. She's my sweetheart and the only woman I've ever kissed. I wouldn't trade a single minute with her.

Stevens: Through your eyes, what has it been like becoming a daddy and balancing family and your life on the road?

Taylor: I never realized how amazing parenthood is. Emma Rose is my buddy. It's certainly a challenge to balance home life and road life, but, honestly, I spend more time with her at home than I would in another career choice. Because, when I'm home, I can spend the weekdays with her. Being away makes me appreciate and miss my girls. As they say, absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Stevens: It's no secret that your family's travels outside the United States have been well documented on social media. What is a country you most enjoy returning to and why?

Taylor: I love all of our overseas travels. I think I enjoy Sweden and Norway most since they don't get a lot of groups over. They treat us so well when we are there.

Stevens: What is a Chris Taylor quirk that not many folks would guess?

Taylor: Definitely talking to myself. Most times, I will not even realize that I'm doing it until Amanda asks me who I'm talking to.

Stevens: What are some exciting things fans can be anticipating from the Taylors in 2018?



Taylor: A brand new album ... stay tuned.

Stevens: Although, as Christians, we don't put much stock in New Year's resolutions, could you share some thoughts and a scripture passage that offer hope and encouragement as our readers embark upon 2018?

Taylor: Through trial and experience, I've learned that God won't bring you to something without bringing you through it. It may hurt, but He's doing something through it to make you better. Don't get discouraged when you face trials, for they produce perseverance. James 1:2-4 ... "Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Closing thoughts from Erin Stevens...

May we run the race with a steadfast assurance in our Lord Jesus Christ as we face a new year. I know a fresh set of 12 months can bring excitement, but for some, it brings fear and uncertainty. My friends, do you know who is holding your tomorrows right in the palm of His hand? The Lord promises to walk alongside you in the days to come. Lean upon His Word and stand upon His promises.

And that's my take on it.

Until next month, Scoops fans.

Connect with Erin on Twitter at @photosforkeeps and on Instagram at @photos_for_keeps.

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SOUTHERN GOSPEL WEEKEND

2018 Update

By Lorraine Walker

Southern Gospel Weekend 2018

Southern Gospel Weekend 2018 is almost here. The event runs from March 1-3 in Oxford, Ala., at the Oxford Civic Center.

SGW admission is free but tickets must be reserved. Call event coordinators Rob Patz at 360-933-0741 or Vonda Easley at 256-310-7892 for tickets, or visit facebook.com/southernngospelweekend for more information.

Southern Gospel Weekend will begin with the presentation of "Faith, Family and Freedom" on Thursday night March 1 to honor Oxford's heroes. All veterans, military and first responders are specially invited. Events begin at 5 p.m.

Some of the artists appearing at SGW 2018 include



the Williamsons, Day Three, Pat Barker, Ava Kasich, Hope's Journey, ClearVision Quartet, Mark209, Annette Bingaman, Chronicle, Kelly Cline, David Gresham, the Connells, Appointed Quartet, Harley Madden, and Darlene Battles.

Other weekend activities include a large exhibit hall, daytime showcases with Ava Kasich and Vonda Easley of Hope's Journey, midnight prayer time, and a Saturday artist breakfast. Many solo and group artists will be performing during the three-day festival, which will be emceed by the bass singer of the Second Half Quartet, Pat Barker.

Barker will also be offering classes to assist gospel music artists. From vocal coaching to stage presence, Barker will touch on everything the artist needs to present Christ, in the SGW version of the Pat Barker University.





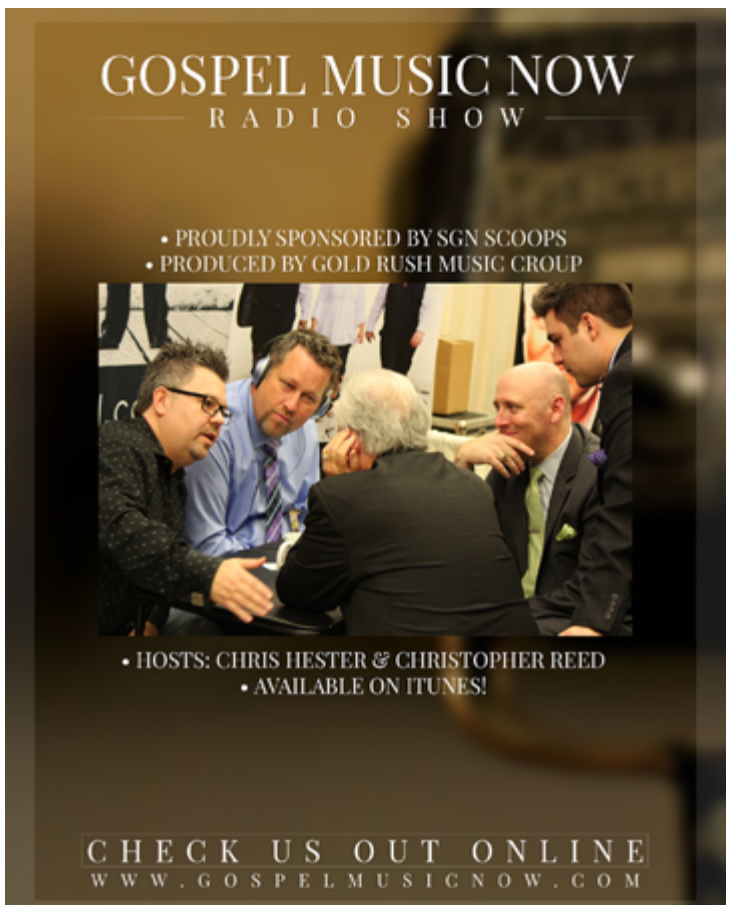
Get Your VIP Ticket

SGW will be providing a VIP seating section again this year. 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 VIP pass holders will also receive a special gift at the event, a package worth more than \$60. Anyone interested in purchasing a VIP pass should contact Patz or Easley.



Contact Information

Call Easley for more information or if you are an artist that would like to participate. Vendor booths are also available. For more information on Southern Gospel Weekend, visit facebook.com/southerngospelweekend/. Southern Gospel Weekend is presented by WPIL Radio and Coastal Media Group LLC.



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TO THE END



LINDA FOSTER



THE WALKERS

A Look Through The Lens of Craig Harris:

Photographs by Craig Harris



11th Hour

On Dec. 10, 11th Hour performed during both morning services at Center Point Baptist Church in Hendersonville, Tenn. 11th Hour is comprised of Grant Gibson, Amber Eppinette and Jaquita Lindsey.



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DJ SPOTLIGHT

Ron Foster



By Vonda Easley

It's a cold winter morning at WZZK in Birmingham, Ala., and Ron Foster enters, ready to do his Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee. Being a DJ is one occupation where dedication is very important.

Recently, I got to talk to Foster. Check out our conversation.



Vonda Easley: What's been going on with Ron Foster?

Ron Foster: Vonda, I'm proud to say that this past summer marked my 20th year of playing gospel music on the radio. Fifteen of those years have been on Alabama's largest country station – 104.7 WZZK in Birmingham. Plus, our contract has recently been renewed, so the Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee on that 100,000 watt powerhouse will continue for many years to come.

Easley: Tell us about your family and about your son, Austin. What's going on with his music?

Foster: My lovely wife, Kim, and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary in June. Kim is a paralegal and



works at a law firm in our hometown of Columbiana, Ala. Our son, Austin, is now 23 – Kim and I are empty-nesters – and is a graduate of Samford University

with a bachelor's degree in vocal performance. Austin not only still sings gospel occasionally, but he also sings classical music. Plus, he does a lot of the production work for the Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee.

Easley: What is your favorite Southern gospel song that is playing on the radio now?

Foster: A song I'm loving that's currently out now is "Prodigals" from the Steeles. I think the song is more progressive than past songs from the Steeles, and my audience loves it.

Easley: What is your favorite gospel convention and why?

Foster: At the National Quartet Convention every year, I'm like a kid in a candy store. I always have the best time. Some of the most exciting conventions were the years I was nominated as one of the top five favorite DJs. Although I was never the winner of that coveted award, simply having my name announced from the main stage as a nominee was always a huge honor.



Easley: If you were promoting a concert right now, what would your lineup be?

Foster: Most everyone knows that I was a concert promoter for 12 years. During those years, I brought in the McKameys, New Ground, and the Primitives each year to Jasper, Ala. I loved promoting but had to give it up because the Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee needed more of my time and attention. However, if I were

still promoting, I would continue bringing those three groups back to Jasper. The crowds loved them.



Thanks so much to Foster for coming into the DJ Spotlight this month. Be sure to listen to him every Sunday on 104.7 WZZK in Birmingham or online at www.wzzk.com for his Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee.



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Where, oh Where, is the Singing Tonight?

By Charlie Griffin

It is a nippy December Thursday night in Charlotte, N. C. The fireplace is crackling. My favorite music is playing softly, and I sit at my computer working with more windows open than I care to admit. Certain things can take you back in time and cause you to just chuckle. Such is the case with this memory in that it spurred this article.

I am returning calls to book some concerts and speaking engagements for 2018. As I look at this datebook, my mind wanders back to a crisp, frosty Friday night in December at the Hallelujah Supper Club. Gathered around the dinner table was J. D. Sumner, Jack Toney, Ed Hill, Charlie Burke, Richard Coltrane and a few others. The conversation turned to the Christmas holidays and New Year's Eve concerts as they chowed down on some great HSC comfort food.

In a bit, Burke leaned over in his subtle manner and asked J.D. how his bookings were coming for the new year. J.D. had just changed his group's name to back to the Stamps from the Masters Five. J.D. replied as only he can, "Bookings, we all want bookings, and there ain't never enough of them. Besides, when are you gon-

na book me on some of your stuff?" There was a belly laugh from everyone around the table, and the conversation went on and on ... a good memory for sure.

At the first of any new year, the fact is, it is cold, and the inclement weather can be the norm on the east coast and in the Mid-Atlantic states. That is why there are more concerts down south, especially in South Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and in all of Florida. Many groups head west to California, riding the I-10 and I-20 corridors. Those long, gospel-singing trips are highlights for many artists, but really, the West Coast crowds love it even more.

Many churches in America are releasing their schedules with the artists they have booked for their monthly, quarterly, or fifth-Sunday concerts. It is a smorgasbord of local, regional and full-time artists. Concert halls in rural America are doing the same. You just need to check their web site or Facebook pages to see who's coming to sing.

The gospel music cruises also swing into motion from January through March, featuring Christian fellowship,



comedy, preaching, and great Southern gospel music every day. The week is yours to relax and enjoy vacationing in a Christian atmosphere on a gospel singing cruise.

There are some promoters who really never cease. They are working on concerts year round. These include Bill Bailey Promotions, Paul Belcher Promotions, Abraham Promotions, Carolinas Song Festival, Carolina Gospel Association Concerts, Gaither Productions, among a host of other promotions.

Many of your favorite artists are planning their homecoming gospel concerts. The Whisnants homecoming is March 2-3 in Morganton, N. C.



The Pine Ridge Boys are hosting Triumphant on April 21. Other homecomings in the works include Gold City, Mark Trammell, Jeff and Sheri Easter, Karen Peck and New River, and the list goes on and on as each artist is planning for a bigger and better concert than last year.

Calvary's Way Gospel Music Promotions Association is starting their 2018 talent search season in Hickory, N.C., looking for new and aspiring talent, while many other concert promoters, record companies and music



publishers are putting the finishing touches on their searches. You can get all the upcoming information at www.SGN-Scoops.com.

The same weekend, a bit farther south, it's the South-

ern Gospel Music Weekend in Oxford, Ala., with more than 30 performing groups from March 1-3. Nightly events begin at 5 p.m., but there are also daytime showcases, Pat Barker University, midnight prayer, lots of fun and gospel music.



Here is quick look at some first quarter concerts coming your way.

Carolina Gospel Association 2018 Concert Series

R.S. Central High School Auditorium, Rutherfordton, N.C., 7 p.m. nightly.

Jan. 18: The LeFevre Quartet, Southern Sound Quartet, and the Carolina Quartet.

Feb. 8: The Kingdom Heirs and the Carolina Quartet.

March 15: The Hoppers, Golden Valley Crusaders, and the Carolina Quartet.

Tickets: Single concert tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Seating is non-reserved, first come, first served. Come early to enjoy a spaghetti supper, a fundraising effort for the Rutherford Housing Partner-



ship. The suggested donation is \$7 per plate. For more information, visit www.rutherfordhousingpartnership.com.

\$15 or \$20 at the door.

For advance tickets, call 256-459-4769 or visit jonathanwilburn.com.

Bill Bailey and Josh Franks present Monroe Sings the Gospel

Jan. 12-13, Ouachita Parish High School, Monroe, La.
Artists appearing: Friday at 7 p.m. – The Hoppers, Isaacs, Karen Peck and New River, 11th Hour.

Saturday at 5 p.m. – The Collingsworth Family, Gold City, Perrys, Josh and Ashley Franks.

No tickets are required. A \$15 donation per person will be requested at the door for each night's concert. A love offering will be received each night for FCC Ministries. Doors open one hour early each night, and all seating is general admission. For more information, call 941-756-6942 or visit www.billbaileyconcerts.com.



Jonathan Wilburn presents Winter Sing 2018

Jan. 20 at the Church at Wills Creek, Gadsden, Ala. at 7 p.m.

Artists appearing include the McKameys, Inspirations and Jonathan Wilburn.

Tickets for the artist circle are \$25. Advance tickets are

Bill Bailey's 2018 Winter Gospel Music Convention, America's Largest Winter Sing

Feb. 5-10 at the Bradenton Area Convention Center in Palmetto, Fla.

Artists appearing are: Monday at 1:30 p.m., Tony Gore and the Sound; 7 p.m., the Booth Brothers, Hoppers, Gold City, and the Whisnants.

Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., the Booth Brothers; 7 p.m., the Booth Brothers, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, Jason Crabb, and the Browns.

Wednesday at 1:30 p.m., the Dixie Echoes and the Dixie Melody Boys; 7 p.m., David Phelps, the Collingsworth Family, the Mark Trammell Quartet and the Guardians.

Thursday at 1:30 p.m., the Second Half Quartet; 7 p.m., Ernie Haase and Signature Sound, Legacy Five,



the Martins, Joseph Habedank, and Josh and Ashley Franks.

Friday at 1:30 p.m., the Jim Brady Trio and the LeFevre Quartet; 7 p.m., Greater Vision, Triumphant Quartet, the Perrys, Tribute Quartet, and the Mylon Hayes Family.

Saturday at 1:30 p.m., the Browders and the Hyssongs; 7 p.m., the Kingsmen, the Inspirations, Karen Peck and New River, Brian Free and Assurance, and Jeff and Sheri Easter.

The VIP reserved ticket price is \$145 (which includes a reserved seat to all concerts). General admission is \$20 per night or \$105 for a six-night pass. Children ages 3-11 are \$5 at the door only. Advance tickets are available by mail or phone order. For tickets, call 941-756-6942.

Chapel services are held from Tuesday through Saturday at 10 a.m. Speakers include Mark Trammell, Randy Perry, Chris Allman and the Kramers, and Josh and Ashley Franks. The 1:30 p.m. matinee concerts are free admission events, with love offerings received.

For more information on tickets, hotels, camping, or the 2018 booster club, write to Bill Bailey, P.O. Box 188, Oneco, Fla., 34264. Individuals can also call 941-756-6942 or visit www.billbaileyconcerts.com.

Southern Gospel Music Weekend: A Celebration of Faith, Family and Freedom

March 1-3 at the Oxford Civic Center, Oxford, Ala., at 5 p.m.

Artists appearing include the Pine Ridge Boys, the Williamsons, Mark 209, Eagle Wings, Clear Vision Quartet, Appointed Quartet, Hope's Journey, Ava Kasich, Day Three, David Gresham, Hazel Sain, Kelly Cline and many more. There will be more than 30 performing artists. For more information or to reserve a vendor booth, call 256-310-7892.

On almost any given weekend, Friday through Sunday,

you can find a gospel singing in the South. So listen to your favorite gospel music source, check the info on Gospelgigs.com or search your favorite artist's web site to find out all the comings and goings. You just never know who you will hear close to you this week.

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TOP 40

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY SONGS

2017 December SGNScoops' Christian Country Top 40

1. James Payne - The Flag
2. Kevin Rowe - Heaven Above
3. Christian Davis - Just Show Up
4. Chuck Hancock - Mustard Seed Faith
5. Michael Lee - Ain't That Just Like Jesus
6. Steve Bridgmon - Joyride
7. Chuck Day - I Love You
8. Ava Kasich - The River Runs Red
9. Mike Manuel - The Country Side Of The Cross
10. Chris Golden - Less Of Me
11. Jim Sheldon - Old School
12. The Drummond Family - Just Let Me Fall
13. Lisa Daggs - Love Found Me
14. McKay Project - Taking Me Home
15. Blood Bought - In The Eyes Of Man
16. Peter Christie - On Grace I Stand
17. Shellem Cline - Getting In The Word Of God
18. Jordan's Crossing - He Will Come
19. Sherry Damron - You Ain't Devil Enough
20. Charlie Griffin - Jesus Take A Hold
21. Ronnie Horton - Unclouded Day
22. Cindy Tolkiens Jennings - Let It Shine
23. Jerry Branscomb - Hammer Down
24. Appointed 2 - Up To You And I

25. Caleb's Crossing - Someday
26. The Arenos - Back To My Senses
27. Wyatt Nations - Getting Back To Our Roots
28. Tommy Smith - Let's March On
29. Back Home - Your Son
30. Johnny Rowlett - Where I'm Going
31. Robert Stowell - I'd Die For You
32. Gail Cogburn - I've Got A Bottle
33. White River - Pardon Me
34. Cami Shrock - My God Will Always Be Enough
35. Corey Farlow - If Jesus Sang Country Songs
36. Bev McCann - God's Got A Miracle
37. Amy McAllister - Shoot For The Moon
38. Kolt Barber - Another Day
39. John Penny - When The Thunder Rolls
40. Bradley Walker - Sinners Only

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A Look Through The Lens of Craig Harris:

Together for Christmas

Photographs by Craig Harris



Craig Harris travelled to Greenbrier, Tenn. on Dec. 17, 2018, for a Christmas concert at Calvary Baptist Church.

Together for Christmas featured the LeFevre Quartet and Jonathan Wilburn.



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By Lorraine Walker



It's January, and Creekside is only 10 months away. Be sure to include this great event in your vacation plans for this year.

Contact event coordinator, Rob Patz at 360-933-0741 for more information.

Creekside runs from Oct. 28 through Nov. 2 at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Annual events include the Dr. Jerry Goff Honors on Monday night. This past year, Goff honored Eric Bennett of the Triumphant Quartet.

Other special events include the Sunday night kickoff service, the Red Back Hymnal Choir, artists breakfast, chapel services, Smoky Mountain Gospel Showcase, midnight prayer and more.

During the course of the week, nationally-known speak-

ers will be appearing for chapel time. The 2017 speakers included Eric Bennett, David Ring, Goff, Pat Barker and Matthew Browder. Some of the artists who appeared were Triumphant, Soul'd Out, the Browders, Jerry and Jan Goff, the Nelons, the Williamsons, the Guardians, the Hyssongs, the Chordsmen, Mickey Bell, and more.

The Diamond Awards take place on Tuesday night with many special guests, and the event is hosted by Dr. Jerry and Jan Goff. The nominations for the Diamond Awards begin soon, and fans are encouraged to watch the SGN-Scoops web site (www.sgnscoops.com) for more details. Anyone may nominate all of their favorite artists in each category. The field of nominees will then be narrowed to 10, voted on by fans once more and then narrowed to five. This final list of five will be voted on by fans to find the one winner for each award.

For the real gospel music fan, a \$25 VIP pass is a must. The pass provides the bearer with the best seats, best giveaways and best surprises that Creekside has to offer. To





obtain a \$25 VIP ticket, call Patz.

For more information on Creekside, including ticket information, visit creeksidegospelmusicconvention.com or visit the Facebook page www.facebook.com/Creeksidegospel-musicconvention.

Artists interested in being a part of Creekside 2018 can contact Vonda Easley by e-mailing vonda@sngscoops.com or Patz at rob@sngscoops.com.

guests will highlight some of the best artists in Christian country music. If you enjoy Creekside and you like country-style gospel, you will love Christian Country Expo.

Find out more on Facebook at www.facebook.com/christiancountryexpo. Lodging and ticket reservation information will be forthcoming.

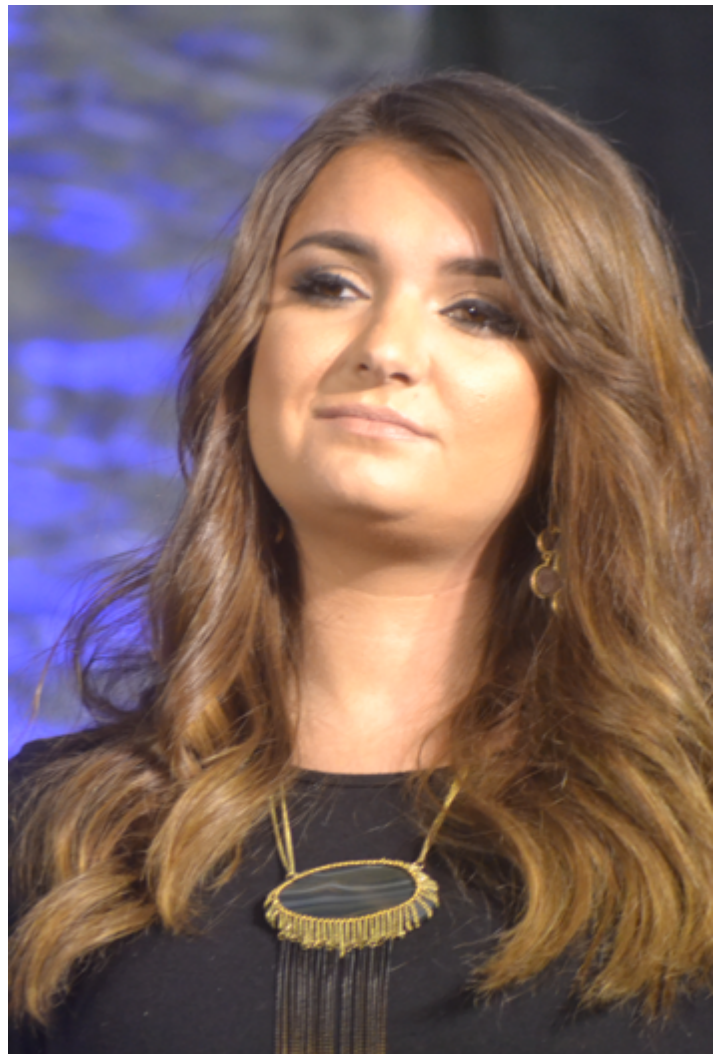
For more information, call Patz or Easley at 256-310-7892.



Coming up ... Christian Country Expo 2018

The Christian Country Expo returns in 2018 to showcase the great talent in Christian country music.

For those who like their Gospel with a twang, Christian Country Expo '18 will be held in Cookeville, Tenn., from May 3-5. Daily showcases and evening concerts with special





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Listen on line with your PC or your mobile device.
Be sure to visit our website at KKGMAM.com to keep up with what is happening with Gospel music and local church events in the DFW area.





The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

Happy New Year. I trust everyone had a good holiday season. For those whose December was a time of sorrow, I understand and pray that this new year will bring encouragement and joy from our Lord.

Here at SGNscoops, we like to highlight an up-and-coming gospel music artist every year on our January cover. The Jordan Family Band is a great new family group that everyone seems to be talking about.

I first became aware of them by catching videos on Facebook by Randa Jordan. It was just her and her piano, and it was so real and heartfelt, as well as being accomplished and skillfully presented, that I kept looking for her when I went online. Then, her family joined her, and I wondered what rock I'd been hiding under that I wasn't aware of the Jordan Family Band until then. Seriously, if you haven't heard them yet, find them on Facebook, and they will touch your heart. Be watching for them to climb the charts in 2018.

It is also nice to hear some New Year's resolutions by gospel artists and to think about our own goal-setting. As we consider the year ahead at SGNscoops, we would like to have your input. Who would you like us to feature? Is there a story or film or book you would like us to cover? Please send me an email with your suggestions at lorraine@sgnscoops.com.

Taking stock of your personal life is also good at any time, not just at the beginning of the year. Most people mention their physical goals, but what about

your spiritual goals? It's a good time to pray about God's direction.

Perhaps He is urging you to reach out to your neighbor this year, to find a missionary to support, or to dare to walk more closely to the light of His glory. I think we as a society are becoming more aware of religious persecution, but what some may not realize is that Christians are persecuted and martyred around the world. The tide against us is growing higher all the time, as is evidenced by daily news reports. The closer you walk with the Lord, the more this tide will grow, but a life with Jesus is worth it all.

If the new year appears to be filled with the same difficulties that you have faced in the past, remember that the Lord knows and wants to help you along the road you have to walk. Remember that He is building character in you. Romans 5:1-5 (NIVUK) "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Trust God to be your source of peace and hope in 2018. Happy New Year.

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. In 2009, Rob Patz acquired 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.



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



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://jennifercampbell.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.



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!



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.

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 review-

ing 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.



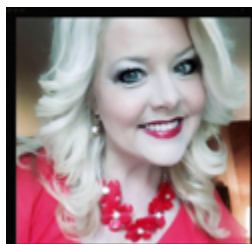
Pete Schwager is a web developer and graphic designer with a passion for Christ. He was born in Santa Rosa, California and moved to Oregon where he spent most of his life. He now lives in the quiet town of Ringgold, Georgia and enjoys living in the country with his family.

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.



Vonda Easley is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Vonda draws on a vast knowledge of Southern Gospel Music for her expertise in the field. In addition to her many personal friendships within the industry she also hosts a weekly radio show which keeps

her in touch with many of Southern Gospel's leading executives and artists. It also allows her a fresh view of new music and the latest happenings inside the industry. Vonda is also a group owner and manager as well! A self starter Vonda has started and managed several "new" events in Southern as well as "Country Gospel" Music. These events are fast becoming trend setters within the industry. She is a graduate of The University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Contributors

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Robert York- 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 and her ministry website www.stevensfamilymusic.com.



Vivian is the marketing manager at KKGW 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.



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.

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



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.O. 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 Greenes, 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/>.



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.

Contributors

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Nathan Kistler was born on the road and was singing at the age of three years old. He has had the opportunity travel with groups like Southern Gospel's beloved trio the Nelons, and most recently for almost two years with America's Favorite family of gospel music The Hoppers. Nathan has had the privilege to be in 49 states and

24 countries singing about the wonderful story of Jesus Christ our Lord. He has also been a part of three crusades on the National Mall in Washington D.C. and while there, he had the privilege of singing in the Pentagon courtyard twice. Through his father's ministry in Washington, Nathan began his work on the Hill as a ministry partner with different Christian organizations like Faith and Action and more. Nathan is a missionary to Washington and continues to work there during the week while singing Gospel music on the weekends around the country and being an artist in residence at the American Mountain Theater in Elkins, West Virginia.



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 intergenerational 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.



Derek Simonis began singing gospel music at an early age, around the piano with his sister,s at home and in church. His mother, an accomplished pianist and music teacher, was his inspiration to sing. Derek was saved at an early age due to the influence of godly, praying parents and a faithful Sunday School teacher.

Derek formerly served as a Youth Pastor and previously sang with Southern Harmony Quartet. For seven years, Derek also served as a Communications Repair Section Leader for the U.S. Army; he was member of the 1/160th SOAR (A) Night Stalkers and served several deployments overseas. Derek is married to his sweetheart, Jana, and they have two boys, Daniel and Avery. The Simonis family resides in Boise, Idaho, and Derek is the baritone vocalist for Liberty Quartet. His life's verse is Romans 12:1 which says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Derek's ultimate desire is to give his all in the service of the Lord.



Logan Smith is a 20-year-old with a lot of miles behind him. At the age of three, he would stand in his room with a pencil as a microphone and one of his dad's handkerchiefs singing his heart out to one of the Happy Goodman's songs, such as "I Wouldn't Take Nothing For My Journey Now." At the age of seven, Logan was asked to

sing at a senior's dinner at his grandparent's church. Logan recorded his first CD, "The Journey Begins," at the age of 10 and his latest release, "Hits Before My Time," at age 19. In October of 2008, Logan was invited to sing with The Gaither Homecoming Tour in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for Gaither Fest. Since that night, he has sung at many different venues with the Homecoming Tour. As of 2017, Logan has toured all across America, Canada, and has headlined two Norwegian tours. Logan is on the road more now than ever spreading the good news and has no plans of slowing down.

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



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.



Fayth Lore is a young woman from southern Ohio with a love for God and people. Although she enjoys chocolate, oldies music and spending time with friends around the bonfire, her passion is ministry. In January of 2014, after pastoring for 20 years, her family decided to follow God's call into music evangelism. In September 2015, they

launched into full-time ministry. The Lore Family travels the country, spreading the Gospel through songs, sermons and seminars. While Fayth loves to sing, she also has a heart for encouraging young women in Christ. She has spoken at various youth/women's events, as well as hosted her own blog for young ladies. To see more about The Lore Family, visit their website at www.thelorefamilyministries.com. To learn more about Fayth's blog, visit www.truepurposegirls.weebly.com.



Debbie Seagraves is a Gospel music soloist, songwriter and speaker from Hull, Ga. She and her husband, Mike have been married for 21 years and have five grown children, including four sons and one daughter that graduated to Heaven in 2009, as well as nine grandchildren. She loves singing, speaking, and writing her own songs. Debbie is

currently working on her third project. All of the songs on this CD will be songs that she has penned. She is an award winning artist, having won Female Vocalist of the Year with Lighthouse Gospel Music Association, and Female Vocalist and Soloist of the year with the GGCBA (Georgia Gospel Country Bluegrass Association) in 2016. She enjoys speaking at Ladies Events, sharing her testimony of how God spared her life from a near fatal motorcycle accident in 2011, how He brought her out of the depths of severe clinical depression, and through the death of her daughter in 2009. Also, Debbie is an avid Georgia Bulldogs fan and loves to fish, read, and spend time with her children and grandchildren. Debbie says: "No one can come as close as I did to dying and have it not change you. I am forever changed, blessed beyond measure, and just so grateful for every day that the Lord allows me to spend with those I love and to serve Him." She considers Micah 7:8 her life verse as she says that verse has carried her through some of the darkest times in her life. If you would like to have Debbie at your church or venue, you can reach her through her website: debbieseagraves-music.com/, on Facebook, or send her an email at: fully-alive1956@att.net.



Jimmy Reno is from Birmingham, Alabama. He began singing in church at four years of age. Jimmy has sung with various groups over the years, until singing professionally for Mark209 and the Florida Boys. Jimmy is married with three children.

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



Sarah Murray sings soprano for the Southern Gospel group Bless'd. The group is from Greenville, Tennessee and has been together for over five years. Sarah was born and raised in Jonesborough, Tennessee, but now resides in Greenville with her husband, Chase. She has a

bachelor's degree in K-6 Education and a Master's degree in Human Resources Development. Her daytime job is being the Human Resources Director for a small company in Greenville, Tennessee. Her passion outside of singing, writing, and crafting, is simply God's people. "I love the Lord and truly believe my mission in life is to reach his people, and that's both on and off the stage, behind my desk, and in my community. I just want people to see Jesus in me! I'm so honored to be a part of Bless'd and love our tight knit family group." For more information on Sarah, visit blessdministries.com



Kaleb Powell can be found in the small town of Greenville, Tennessee. He sings baritone for the Southern Gospel group, Bless'd Ministries. Alongside Southern Gospel Music, Kaleb's passion is playing the piano. He started playing at the young age of 13 and for the majority, is self-taught. His style of piano

playing is inspired by artists such as Kim Collingsworth, Jeff Stice, and Gerald Wolfe. He has been singing and playing for Bless'd Ministries for the last six years.

Kaleb is currently the owner and operator of AKM of Tennessee, Inc., which is an organization that provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities. His life has been surrounded by taking care of others and for living out his passion through music ministry.

"I feel honored that God chose to give me the talent He did in playing the piano. I feel that if I can use this to serve Him more, I will perfect my talent to be used as only a vessel for Him. Being a part of Bless'd and traveling with our group is a lifelong dream of mine that I am forever grateful God saw fit to put together. On and off the stage, I want my talent to be only used for Him and to be a part of seeing souls saved." For more information on Kaleb Powell, visit blessdministries.com.



Charlie Griffin is an avid gospel music fan, soloist, teacher and speaker. He is a staff writer for SGNscoops featuring highlighting Southern Gospel Music history. You can follow Charlie Griffin on Facebook, Twitter or visit him at www.CharlieGriffin.net.