

JUNE 2020

GEN SOOPS

MAGAZINE

KAREN PECK

Goode



ALSO FEATURING:

Ernie Haase, Bama Blu-Grace and Pat Barker

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OUR MISSION

SGNScoops exists to promote the gospel by unveiling what is intriguing and real about gospel music. With integrity, we aspire to 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



So here we are

Over the last couple of weeks that is the statement that I've heard from so many people: So, here we are. What does the future hold? How will our music, our industry, the world around us, recover? There are many that have their opinion as to what we will see over the next few months as far as music in general, church, and the general population. I believe that God is getting ready to restore everything that we have lost over the last few months. I believe there's going to be an outpouring of excitement for church, for concerts, and for events. I believe we as a people for so long have taken for granted the opportunity to be able to go to church, and I truly believe this time of a pandemic circling our country has awoken people's desire to return to church and to return to something most of us took for granted.

Many people are worried about the future. They are worried they will in some way be infected by this horrible COVID-19.

Over the last three months, certain scriptures have come clearly to my mind. In fact, as I was sitting on an airplane, flying home from Atlanta to Seattle, I opened up My Bible app and Isaiah 41 came up. Suddenly the words, "Fear not, for I am with you," shot through me like a sword. I realize there is a lot in our world to be fearful of, but when we realize that we have a God who is the same yesterday, today, and forever; that none of this came as a surprise to him, that he wasn't shocked by this but he knew the outcome from the beginning.

So, as we began to return to a normalcy, I truly believe that we as humans need to have - not a new normal - but normal back to what it should be, back to what we truly need as a world, back to the basics of the Bible and faith in God.

Let me tell you this: Fear not, for God is with you. Go boldly into this next phase. Know that God is with you, that he is there to protect you, that he is already in your tomorrows, and he already knows your plans.

So, if you are a promoter this is like a new beginning. promote harder than ever. If you're a singer, may this be a time that you invest more in the ministry that God is called you to. If you're someone like me who works in the industry, may we find new ways to cultivate the opportunities that come out of a terrible three months of being at home.

I'm seriously thinking about getting shirts that say "Fear not." But right now, let me encourage you to come and be a part of Creekside 2020 in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. I believe that this year is going to be life-changing. I believe

God is going to use it as an opportunity and a conduit, to send out a revival throughout this country. Join me October 25 - 29, 2020.

Until next time, this is the Publisher's Point.



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Ernie Haase: A Beautiful Life

By Jimmy Reno



April 2020 marked 30 years for Ernie Haase in the Southern gospel industry and his debut performance with the SGMA Hall of Fame quartet, The Cathedrals, at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center in Nashville.

That night he also met the Gaithers. Haase recalls, “Gloria took my hand before I went on stage and prayed for me asking God to give me his peace. I was a nervous 25-year-old kid, and that one act stabilized me that night and has stayed with me all these years later.”

One of the lessons Haase learned from the Gaithers is that it’s more about relationships than making careers. That has served him well in his own group, Signature Sound.

April also saw the release of “Something Beautiful: Our Favorite Songs of Bill and Gloria Gaither by Ernie Haase and Signature Sound.” Haase, Gaither and producer Wayne Haun, went through over 700 songs in the Gaither catalogue. The Gaithers have collectively garnered eight GRAMMY Awards and 40 Gospel Music Association (GMA) DOVE Awards, including the title Songwriter of the Year.

“We had musical goals based on sounds we already had in mind,” says Haase, regarding the new compilation. The selection of songs was done by an overall creative process, each tune being considered as the band began playing various songs from the catalogue, so that the sound and flow of the music together played a part in which songs were chosen.

Haase noted that this new album came out at a time when the world needed the hope of a loving God and the encouragement to keep their focus on Jesus.

“Releasing an album during a pandemic is not what you would typically do,” he states. The group collectively agrees, however, that the messages in these songs made the release a very timely one.

The album kicks things off with the classic hymn “He Touched Me.” Haase says he fell in love with the narrative from this well known Gaither tune years ago.

Bill Gaither joins the group in a recitation on “It’s Beginning To Rain.” This Americana style tune features smooth vocals on the lead part by baritone Dustin Doyle.



“Then Came The Morning,” is also included on the album. Haase states, “At the core of our Christian faith is the promise that life wins. Death and hell are defeated.” Haase is featured on this tune and does a fantastic job on the vocals.

“Our hope comes in the resurrection,” says the tenor. “One day we will be on the other side of all of this and people will be able to hope again more easily.” A timely word during a bleak season.

“Something Beautiful” is the title classic in this collection. Haase is a big fan of jazz music and this tune is infused with a jazz arrangement and vocal harmonies.



Lead singer, Devin McGlamery, shines on the easy listening “Feeling At Home.” The message in this song really encourages the listener to relax and just enjoy knowing we are at home in his presence and residing with Jesus offers peace and contentment.

Bass singer, Paul Harkey, is featured on “I Believe, Help Thou My Unbelief.” Harkey does a great job singing with the faith and emotion this tune requires to portray its timely message.

It would be impossible to release a Gaither collection without the ageless anthem, “Because He Lives.” This





song basically describes the very core of our faith. Because he lives, we can face tomorrow and all fear is gone. There's no more timely message than that.

This album features all the members well, providing a great vocal balance and a sweet variety of musical styles, all well within the wheelhouse of Signature Sound.

Haase reflects on past albums and says, "I don't typically listen to our music much after the albums are recorded unless it's to brush up on something, but I've found myself listening to this one for the message in these songs." Working directly with the Gaithers on these songs fulfills a life-long dream for Haase.

The weeks of social distancing and isolation brought on by the Covid-19 virus has taken its toll on everyone.



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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.



Haase says that what he misses the most right now is being connected with others and gathering together with God's people. This disconnect can increase people's feelings of depression, anxiety, and despair.

That's why this release from Ernie Haase and Signature Sound is so very important right now.

"This album contains songs of hope!" exclaims Haase. "That's what people need right now!"

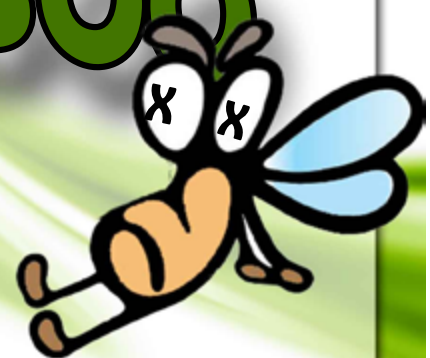
That hope springs eternal in what can definitely be called - despite current circumstances - a beautiful life.



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DJ SPOTLIGHT

Roger Harris



By Vonda Armstrong

The DJ Spotlight today is on Roger Harris, D.J. for WPIL FM in Heflin, Alabama. Roger is the host of a weekly show called New Music Monday. Without any ado, let us get to know Roger Harris!

Vonda: Can you tell us how to listen to your show and the times of airplay?

Roger: The show New Music Monday is a live broadcast on Monday at 2:00pm CST. It will feature new music and special guests from time to time. If any readers would like to make a suggestion they can contact WPIL.

Vonda: Who are your favorite artists?

Roger: I guess the favorite of my favorite artists would have to be the Queen of Bluegrass, Rhonda Vincent. She could sing "I'm a Little Teacup," and I would drop everything and just listen. What a voice! But there are also Dailey and Vincent, Alison Krauss and Ricky Skaggs.



I have been a Bluegrass Gospel fan since the first time I heard Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs sing Bill Monroe's "Working on a Building." This must have been back in the 60's when they had a TV show. There is something about that banjo and mandolin that makes your knee start jumping as soon as you hear it warming up. Where I'm from in east Alabama it's big Bluegrass country. So I guess you can tell that this is my favorite genre of music.

Vonda: If you could attend any event in the world, where would you go?

Roger: I would go to Jerusalem around 2000 years ago to witness the greatest event in the history of mankind: The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Didn't even have to think about that one.

Vonda: Will you tell us about your family?

Roger: I could talk about my family all day. I have been married to my wife for 52 years and every day of it has been happy. I have two sons, two wonderful daughters-in-law, eight wonderful grandkids and each of them blesses my heart every day. I am a most fortunate man in that both my sons are college graduates. Three grandchildren have also completed college.

Fans of Roger Harris and New Music Monday can contact WPIL through the mail, phone and fax numbers on their website wpilfm.com. Those who wish to listen through the web can click on wpilfm.streamon.fm.

Do you have a favorite DJ that you would like to know more about? Please contact the DJ Spotlight through Vonda Easley at vonda@sgnscoops.com.



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Karen Peck Gooch

Proclaiming His Name

By Jennifer Campbell



In June 1980, Karen Peck Gooch began her professional gospel music career. Since the moment she first stepped onto the stage, Karen has placed her focus on the purpose of ministry: to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Psalm 105:1 (NIV) says, “Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.” Karen Peck and New River devote their lives to this mission. Whether ministering in word or song, Karen pours out her heart as she proclaims His name.

As a young girl, Karen watched Vestal Goodman sing her heart out at an all-night gospel sing in Atlanta, Georgia.

“I remember being so little that I stood in the chair and rested my arms on the back of the chair in amazement while watching Vestal Goodman sing,” reminisces Karen. “I was mesmerized. It moved me to tears. Little did I know that God was placing the desire in my heart to sing for Him.”

Karen is a wonderful example of the scripture that says,

“Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart” (Ps. 37:4 NIV). God rewarded her zeal for the Lord, giving her the opportunity to fulfill her life calling by singing for the Lord. Having begun her gospel music career with Alphus LeFevre and the LeFevres, Karen then joined the Rex Nelon Singers as their soprano in 1981. Following this, along with her husband Rickey and her sister Susan, Karen formed the group Karen Peck and New River.

Karen says, “It is an honor traveling with my sister, Susan Peck Jackson. Susan and I are best friends and we have been so blessed to sing alongside each other since our childhood. When we started New River in January 1991, it was a dream come true for us to sing together professionally.”

New River has been featured on the Gaither Homecoming Video series, and they have received a plethora of awards and accolades, including five Grammy nominations and seven Dove Awards. They have had the blessing of traveling and ministering around the world, in the U.S., Canada, Central America, Europe, and Israel. Karen even had the opportunity to exercise her acting



skills in the hit film, “Joyful Noise,” along with Dolly Parton and Queen Latifah. She had a role in a second film, “Redeemed,” in 2014. Still, Karen says the highlight of her career was being inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame. She says, “I’m still overwhelmingly grateful and honored. Honestly I think I’m still in shock over it.”

Although this month marks her fortieth year traveling professionally, Karen has kept her focus on what is most important. Putting the Lord first, she ensures her family is always her second priority. Karen cherishes the time she is able to spend with her family, both on and off the road. She shares, “I love traveling with my family. Especially now, I don’t take it for granted. We have a very good working relationship. However, during the pandemic, we took walks together, shared many meals, had home church every Sunday, and took communion on a few occasions. They are my heart.”

Karen’s family has always been a significant part of her life, considering the fact she names her mother, Sue Peck Music, and her mother-in-law, Ruby Gooch, as the greatest influences on her life. These two godly women have helped shape Karen into the wife and mother she

is today.

On May 5, 1989, Karen and Rickey Gooch were married. When asked about her relationship with Rickey, Karen said, “He is my soul mate. He is an amazing Dad and truly is the rock of our family.”

A few years ago, Rickey received a diagnosis of squamous carcinoma. Following a difficult battle with cancer, he celebrated a normal PET scan in 2015. This past month, his annual test results were good, except for radiation damage in the nerves of his arm. Karen attributes his continued health to God answering the prayers of many saints around the world.

“We have drawn such strength from the prayers of good people praying for Rickey’s health,” says this grateful wife. “The Lord has been so faithful through it all.”

Karen and Rickey are very proud of their son and daughter, Matthew and Kari, both of whom are graduates of Liberty University. Matthew is the guitarist for New River, and Kari sings with the group.

“Matthew and Kari are my greatest accomplishments in life,” says Karen. “I treasure them. When Matthew married Preslee Mortenson, she was the perfect fit for him. I absolutely adore her.”

Along with millions of people around the world, Karen and her family have been staying home and staying safe during this coronavirus pandemic. For Karen, the length of time they have been home, due to cancelled or postponed concerts, is unprecedented for her.

“I never thought we would be home this long,” Karen reflects. “June 2020 marks my fortieth year traveling professionally. I’ve never been home four consecutive weeks in over forty years, until now. The pandemic has allowed me to refocus on the things that are truly important in life. My faith and family are my biggest blessings. The Lord has definitely drawn me closer to Him. More than ever, I want to tell people about Jesus.”

Although they have been staying home more than usual, their ministry has not stopped. They have continued to share the message of Christ through song via their Facebook live concerts. Karen shares, “We felt like we needed to stay in touch with our audiences and let them know that Jesus loved them. We have developed wonderful new ideas to reach people on social media.”




Along with the ministry aspect of these online interactions, which have allowed them to reach hundreds of new people, they have had a few entertaining online events as well. Karen explains, “On a few occasions, we had a cookout, birthday dinner, and a porch outing. We decided to have a Mexican food cookout. Right before the cookout began, I mean five minutes before starting time, we discovered that I had burned the rice and the avocados were so hard that Susan couldn’t get them out of the shells. Funny thing is people are still talking about it! Everyone seemed to love watching us in a different setting other than just being on stage.”

No stranger to Facebook live, Karen has been sharing online porch devotionals for several years. She says, “I love doing the online porch devotions. One of my favorite devotions was when I was reading a scripture and a big gush of wind started blowing the pages. Everyone commented on how it was the Holy Spirit blowing by. A sweet moment.”

Just as she shares her heart in her online devotions, Karen offers some words of encouragement to anyone who is struggling with the effects of this pandemic: “I’ve been saying that if the Lord allows it to happen, then He will allow a way for us to get through it. He is

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not surprised or taken aback by this pandemic. He is drawing us to Him.”



Karen shared Matthew 11:28, which has been a comfort to her over the last few weeks. This scripture says, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matt. 11:28 NKJV). Karen adds, “He will continue to lead us and guide us during these uncertain times. We won’t always be here. Eventually we will get past it, but in the meantime, we can learn to trust the Lord more than ever and rest in Him like never before. Together we will keep persevering. God’s got it!”

Like many other families, Karen and her family have experienced interruptions to their normal way of life, most recently the announcement to postpone their annual Homecoming Sing until next year. This special Father’s Day weekend event is something they always look forward to, but Karen is certain that next year will be the best ever. She notes, “We were sad to postpone our Homecoming this year but we felt like it was the best decision. The artists agreed to come next year June 10-12, 2021, so I feel like it will be our best one. I say that every year!”

Karen Peck and New River will celebrate their thirtieth anniversary next year, but 2020 is also a special year for the group. The year 2020 marks the twentieth anniversary of New River recording the song, “Four Days Late.” Karen hopes the group can plan a special celebration for this significant milestone later this year. The gospel message in this song is fitting for these uncertain

times. For anyone wondering where God is in all of this, remember, “When He’s four days late, He’s still on time!” God will help you through this pandemic in His perfect timing.

The newest project by Karen Peck and New River is titled, “Lift His Name.” The majority of the songs on this project were inspired by their trips to the Holy Land of Israel. Whether they are staying at home or traveling abroad, Karen and her family will continue to lift up the name above all names, Jesus Christ, everywhere they go. Vestal Goodman used to sing a song that says, “I was born to serve the Lord.” Karen Peck Gooch was also born for this very purpose: to proclaim the name of Jesus Christ to all nations!

For more information on Karen Peck and New River, visit www.karenpeckandnewriver.com.

Greg Sullivan Ministries

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#10 Bluegrass

#34 Christian
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Gilmore on Gospel

Daryl Mosley

By Justin Gilmore



Daryl Mosley

“The Secrets of Life”

Label: Pinecastle Records

Producers: Daryl Mosley, Danny Roberts

Release Date: March 23, 2020, Available Now

Song List:

1. A Few Years Ago
2. The Secret of Life
3. In A Country Town
4. Hands In Wood
5. It Never Gets Old
6. Do What the Good Book Says
7. A Piece At A Time
8. All The Way Home
9. The Deal
10. I'd Write You
11. Heartache's Moving In

Bluegrass fans will recognize the smooth voice of singer-songwriter Daryl Mosley. Mosley is a true poet who writes about the experiences of life and faith, reminding listeners of the important things. He came to prominence as the lead singer on the celebrated bluegrass group, New Tradition, during the 1990's. He later joined the legendary Osborne Brothers and went on to

form The Farm Hands.

Now in 2020, Mosley releases his debut solo project entitled “The Secrets Of Life.” This exciting new recording features 11 picturesque songs written by Mosley.

The CD opens with the reflective “A Few Years Ago,” which is a “salute to youth and ignorance and hopefully growing older and wiser,” Mosley explains. The title track serves as a tribute to Mosley’s local barber who taught him to slow down and cherish the simple things.

“In A Country Town” is a fun song about Mosley’s Mayberry-esque hometown firmly rooted in tradition yet moving into the future.



Mosley's smooth country vocals shine on the tender hearted "Hands In Wood," which is an old New Tradition favorite. This classic cut tells of the Master Builder who was crucified with his hands in wood.

"It Never Gets Old," is a beautifully written song about a timeless love. It simply says, "I'll never grow tired of the little things you do."

"Do What The Good Book Says," is an exciting quartet style song that encourages listeners to follow God's teachings. Another New Tradition classic, "A Piece At A Time," is an up-tempo tune that tells of a farmer who loses everything except his faith. "All The Way Home," is a reflective song that is dedicated to Mosley's late father. The song powerfully states, "keep me inside and you'll be alright."



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"The Deal," is a haunting song that reimagines the classic "deal with the Devil" legend, with a current world twist. This poignant song reminds us to be wary of the agendas out there and to focus on Christ.

"I'd Write You" is a mid-tempo tune that encourages listeners to express their deepest emotions through creativity. This powerful recording closes with "Heartache's Movin' In," a tried and true bluegrass tune that Mosley co-wrote with producer Danny Roberts.

Final Thoughts

Daryl Mosley delivers a stellar album featuring great vocals, powerful songs, and top notch musicianship and production quality. I highly recommend adding this CD to your music library as soon as possible. 4 out of 5 stars.



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A 'Story to Tell: Bernadette Negus



By Kristen Stanton

There is something incredibly powerful about a song lyric. It can encourage you and inspire you. It can make you question your decisions or provide answers to your questions. It has a unique way of provoking gut-wrenching emotions that nothing else can do, because it is birthed from experience.

Behind those powerful songs we hear on the radio or the stage is a songwriter – a songwriter who may have walked through a fire or found joy somewhere in the journey. God has gifted these songwriters with stories that tell of his faithfulness, his love, his power, his grace.

Bernadette Negus is one such up-and-coming songwriter who emerged on the Southern gospel scene in 2016, after co-writing two of three grand prize winners in a national songwriters search. Inspired by industry icons such as Belinda Lee Smith, Sue Smith, and Dave Clark, she has worked on countless co-writes which, in the end, have resulted in life-changing songs like “When

the Answer is No” co-written with Melanie Watson and cut by the Talleys.

When the answer is no
He'll be with you through it all
When the answer is no
Even if you fall
Every storm you have to face
Will be covered by his grace
Mercy still flows
When the answer is no.

(Performed by the Talleys, album “Finest Hour”, Daywind, 2018).

Chances are, you've heard the Talleys sing this song. And chances are, as they sang it, situations in your own life may have flitted through your mind. You may have wondered, “why doesn't God answer my prayers?” Maybe you sat and wondered how many times you completely missed the answer that was right in front of you, because it wasn't the one you were expect-



ing. Maybe it brought you peace in the realization that God really did hear you. That is what a powerful song can do. Bernadette recounts the inspiration behind that song.

“I received a phone call from my mom with the shocking news... cancer. I immediately went to my Father in prayer. We were in full-time ministry, we left good paying jobs, we were living our entire lives for him and I knew how easy it would be for him to heal her.”

She recalls how she sat down at the piano and just started worshipping, pleading with God as we often do when we face things that seem hopeless, for those test results to be good. “I knew beyond the shadow of doubt that he could do it.”

In the middle of it all, God spoke to her. “I heard God’s voice clearly speak into my heart: ‘But what if I don’t do it that way?’ I stopped dead in my tracks. I rationalized that I must have heard him wrong and continued on with my pleas,” she recalls.

Years later, that recollection, coupled with the story of Jesus crying out to the Father in the Garden of Gethsemane to let the cup pass from him and God sending angels to strengthen Jesus for the journey ahead instead,

the song “When the Answer is No” was born.

Negus explains, “We all have to walk through dark valleys, but God is always with us and he always answers our every prayer, even when the answer is no.”

Some of the other songs she’s written included on her list of favorites are “This is the House,” co-written with Karen Gillespie and cut by the Wilmington Celebration Choir. She met the choir at the Lifeway Worship Life Conference in Gatlinburg, Tenn., while they were singing backup to Lauren Talley as she performed “When the Answer is No” in June of 2018.

God opened the door when the director, Joey Gore, introduced himself after they finished performing the song. “They had already chosen all of their songs for their new album and were just about ready to go into the studio, but Joey said he’d still be willing to listen to anything I had, so I sent him ‘This is the House’ which ended up being the title cut of their album.”

Rounding out her list of favorites are “Love, Pure Love,” co-written with Eva Wilson and Lee Black and cut by Legacy Five, and “I Believe in You,” co-written with Matthew Lawson and cut by the 3 Heath Brothers.

For Bernadette, it's not just the songs themselves that have been life-changing – but rather it has been the journey to becoming a songwriter.

Married to a pastor, she has always been in ministry. One of her areas of ministry was directing a kids choir which did an Easter musical. She reminisced how her boss had an idea for a story line if she could find some Jewish sounding music to go along with it. After multiple attempts at finding the right music, each of which was met with a resounding no, Bernadette became frustrated. One day she sat down at the piano and started playing around. Not only did a Jewish-sounding song emerge, but an entire Easter musical, musicals for the next five years, and a passion to write. “It was crazy really, because I had never even considered writing before that time.”

As her ministry in the church changed, so did her writing ministry. When she no longer needed to write musicals, she did not quit writing; she began writing Southern gospel music. In addition to writing, Bernadette and her husband Tim also support Southern gospel music by hosting the Nite Lite Gospel House, which is a series of concerts held every other Friday from March to December at the church they help pastor, formerly located in Bath, New York, and now located in Avoca, New York.

For most songwriters, inspiration can come from many sources – their own lives, lives of others around them, stories in the Bible, situations in the news, nature. The possibilities are endless. The story of the church move is what Bernadette describes as “living in one of God’s miracles!” A source of inspiration for a new song? Maybe. They had prayed and saved for a building for several years, and just when they thought they found the right one, they made an offer – but it was turned down. They were so sure that it was the building God had for them.

Maybe this was just another example of “When the Answer is No.”

Several months later, they found out that the church still had not sold and was going to auction. They showed up at the auction, ended up paying less than their original offer, and it came fully furnished with pews, an organ, a piano, hymnals, Bibles, books, and beautiful stained glass windows. God guided the steps and answered the prayers of a small church in a big way.



In much the same way, God has guided the steps of a small town songwriter with a big heart and answered her prayers, while planting God-sized dreams.

“The Lord has orchestrated my every step on this journey and brought the right people into my life at just the right time, opening doors that only he could open. It truly has been amazing!”

So what's next for this songwriter? “I’m always working on something,” Negus explains. “Most of my songs start with an idea that the Lord tucks deep inside my soul. Something that creates that ‘aha’ moment and I know it is something I am supposed to chase. I write it down in my little idea book to mull over later.”

Whether writing a complete lyric, both lyrics and melody simultaneously, or co-writing, the most inspiration comes from spending time with the Lord, feeling his presence, and hearing his voice.

Her advice to aspiring songwriters is something we should all take to heart, a little piece of wisdom for us all.

“Follow the Lord every step of the way. Every story and every journey is different. Don’t compare yours to someone else’s. Pray for the Lord to lead and guide your every step, to open the doors he has for you and to close the ones that aren’t yours. This is not an easy journey.”

No. Life is not an easy journey. But just as songwriter Bernadette Negus paints the picture for us in her songs, God paints the picture in our hearts. We all have struggles. We all have a journey. And although they may be vastly different, we all have a faithful Father to guide us when we reach the fork in the road.

Yes, every journey is different. But we all have a story to tell.



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POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	CAN I GET A WITNESS	THE SOUND/NEW DAY RECORDS
2	I GOT THE GRACE, HE GETS THE GLORY	THE OLD PATHS/CROSSROADS
3	I BELIEVE THE BOOK	LEGACY FIVE/DAYWIND
4	I REMEMBER THE FISH	GREATER VISION/DAYWIND
5	THERE IS A GOD	HYSSONGS/CHAPEL VALLEY
6	I SEE REVIVAL	CRABB FAMILY/DAYWIND
7	GRACE BECAME AMAZING	GORDON MOTE/NEW HAVEN/PROVIDENT/SONY
8	THE GOD I SERVE	KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER/DAYWIND
9	YES	TRIUMPHANT/STOWTOWN/SONY
10	GET ME THERE	TALLEYS/CROSSROADS
11	WALKING THROUGH FIRE	ERNIE HAASE & SIGNATURE SOUND/STOWTOWN
12	HOW ABOUT YOU	WHISNANTS/UIA
13	GO DOWN AGAIN	WISECARVERS/CROSSROADS
14	IT NEVER GETS OLD	PERRYS/STOWTOWN
15	AWESOME POWER OF PRAYER	COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY/STOWTOWN
16	TABLE OF THE KING	TIM LIVINGSTON/INDEPENDENT
17	A SONG TO REMIND YOU	STEELES/STOWTOWN
18	LOVE LIKE I'M LEAVIN	GAITHER VOCAL BAND/GAITHER MUSIC
19	KING OF KINGS	KINGSMEN/CROSSROADS
20	LEARNING TO DANCE IN THE RAIN	JEFF & SHERI EASTER/GAITHER MUSIC
21	GLORIOUS GOD	LAUREN TALLEY/CROSSROADS
22	FOREVER SETTLED	INSPIRATIONS/CROSSROADS
23	GOD HAS PROVIDED HIMSELF A LAMB	MARK TRAMMELL QUARTET/CRIMSON ROAD
24	I SANG MYSELF HAPPY	OLD TIME PREACHERS QT/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
25	THOSE SAME HANDS	GOLD CITY/SONY
26	FOR YOUR GLORY	BATTLE CRY/INDEPENDENT
27	WHEN I TURN TO YOU	JASON CRABB/DAYWIND
28	AMAZING AMOUNTS OF AMAZING GRACE	DOWN EAST BOYS/CROSSROADS
29	I'LL NEVER GET OVER THE BLOOD THAT I'M UNDER	KINGDOM HEIRS/CROSSROADS
30	I WANT TO LIVE FOR JESUS	MYLON HAYES FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
31	JUST AS BLESSED	JOSH & ASHLEY FRANKS/INDEPENDENT
32	WHEN GOD SAYS WAIT	BROWDERS/DREAM BIG MUSIC
33	WITHOUT JESUS	BRIAN FREE & ASSURANCE/DAYWIND
34	BETWEEN THE PRAYER AND THE ANSWER	LEFEVRE QUARTET/NEW DAY RECORDS
35	IF THIS ALTAR COULD TALK	WILLIAMSONS/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
36	WE ALL NEED A SAVIOR	MCKAMEYS/CROSSROADS
37	HOUSE OF GOD	TAYLORS/STOWTOWN
38	CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE SOUND	JUSTIFIED QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
39	IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY	MARK BISHOP/CROSSROADS
40	LOVE DON'T	11TH HOUR/CROSSROADS
41	FOLLOW ME TO THE CROSS	JIM & MELISSA BRADY/DAYWIND
42	ANGELS SING MY VICTORY SONG	SUNDAY DRIVE/CROSSROADS
43	PEACE LIKE A RIVER	MASTER'S VOICE/CROSSROADS
44	AFTER THE STORM	ERWINS/STOWTOWN
45	RIVER OF GRACE	ZANE AND DONNA KING/JOURNEY RECORDS
46	WATER WALKER	KRAMERS/STOWTOWN
47	WE ARE NOT ASHAMED	HOPE'S JOURNEY/INDEPENDENT
48	HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO TELL	PHILLIPS FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
49	33	WILBURN & WILBURN/DAYWIND
50	GOD IS SHAKING OUR LAND	SWEETWATER REVIVAL/INDEPENDENT

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DIAMOND



AWARDS

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
51	THE HEALER HASN'T LOST HIS TOUCH	TRIBUTE QUARTET/DAYWIND
52	I'M SAVED	HOPPERS/HOPPER MUSIC GROUP
53	GOD AT HIS BEST	MICHAEL COMBS/INDEPENDENT
54	IF GOD PULLED BACK THE CURTAIN	NELONS/DAYWIND
55	I'LL HAVE A NEW SONG	IVAN PARKER/UIA
56	BEHOLD THE LAMB	BOWLING FAMILY/DAYWIND
57	THIS GRACE	JOSEPH HABEDANK/DAYWIND
58	I LEAN ON YOU LORD	DIPLOMATS/INDEPENDENT
59	SEEKING FOR ME	MERCY'S WELL/INDEPENDENT
60	HEAVEN	SOUL'D OUT QUARTET/CROSSROADS
61	NOTHING AT ALL	HIGH ROAD/NEW DAY RECORDS
62	REASON FOR THE RAIN	JAY STONE SINGERS/CROSSROADS
63	HAPPY GLAD DAY	HEART 2 HEART/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
64	BUILD ONE FOR ME	ED MEADOWS/INDEPENDENT
65	THAT LITTLE CROWDED ROOM	TIM MENZIES/NEW DAY RECORDS
66	DIDN'T HE PROMISE	LORE FAMILY/CROSSROADS
67	MORE THAN ENOUGH	BIBLETONES/INDEPENDENT
68	SINGING MY SONG	ISELL FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
69	RIDING THE WIND	JACKSON HEIGHTS/MAINSTREET
70	LET IT BE THE CROSS	CAROLINA BOYS QUARTET/CROSSROADS
71	SATAN HATES SUNDAYS	FAMILY LEGACY/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
72	HALLELUJAH FOR THE CROSS	RIVER'S EDGE/INDEPENDENT
73	TROUBLED SEA	HAZEL PARKER STANLEY/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
74	I WILL GLORY IN THE STORY	AUSTIN & ETHAN WHISNANT/UIA
75	A NEW LOOK	BLACKWOOD BROTHERS QUARTET/DAYWIND
76	DEAR YESTERDAY	MICHAEL BOOTH/DAYWIND
77	HOW BIG IS GOD MEDLEY	GUARDIANS/STOWTOWN
78	SOMEBODY'S PRAYING FOR ME	BLEDSES/INDEPENDENT
79	LITTLE WOODEN CHURCH ON THE HILL	DENNIS JOLLY/INDEPENDENT
80	I CAN'T QUIT	ADAM'S FAMILY/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
81	JESUS PROVED HIS LOVE FOR ME	CHRONICLE/INDEPENDENT
82	IN JESUS NAME WE PRAY	PORT CITY QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
83	DREAM SMALL	3 HEATH BROTHERS/CROSSROADS
84	I'LL SAY THANKS	JOHN WHISNANT/INDEPENDENT
85	NOTHING BUT	THREE BRIDGES/CROSSROADS
86	LORD SEND ME A MOUNTAIN	PORTER FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
87	COUNTLESS	ENDLESS HIGHWAY/CROSSROADS
88	OLD FASHIONED WAY	JOYAIRES/INDEPENDENT
89	NEVER BE THE SAME	PURPOSE/CHAPEL VALLEY
90	MARCH ON	BLAKE & JENNA BOLERJACK/INDEPENDENT
91	LET'S CARRY ON	NEW GROUND/INDEPENDENT
92	BROKEN CHINA	MICHAEL ROBERTS/INDEPENDENT
93	CLIMB	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
94	IT AIN'T OVER WHEN IT'S OVER	GRIFFITH FAMILY/NEW DAY RECORDS
95	A GREATER HEALING	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
96	WHAT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD	SUNDAY DRIVE/CROSSROADS
97	GUILTY	REIGN DOWN/INDEPENDENT
98	HEAVEN IS MINE	WOODALLS/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
99	FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE	THE JOURNEYS/CHAPEL VALLEY
100	CALVARY'S TOUCH	BARRY ROWLAND & DELIVERANCE/CROSSROADS

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1	WHICH THIEF ARE YOU	BAMA BLU-GRACE/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
2	PLACE NO WREATH	BALSAM RANGE/CROSSROADS
3	NEAR MY LORD	FIELDS OF GRACE/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
4	THAT'S WHAT MERCY DOES	EAGLE'S WINGS/INDEPENDENT
5	I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT MY LORD	JOE MULLINS & RADIO RAMBLERS/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
6	FOR A MOMENT OF GRACE	HEAVEN'S MOUNTAIN BAND/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
7	THE BACK OF THE CHURCH	JERRY SALLEY/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
8	TELL THE WORLD THAT JESUS SAVES	CHIGGER HILL BOYS & TERRI/INDEPENDENT
9	IF YOU WANT TO	JOURNEY HOME/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
10	BEGINNING AGAIN	GREG SULLIVAN/INDEPENDENT

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	THANK YOU LORD FOR THIS DAY	CHRIS GOLDEN/INDEPENDENT
2	THAT LITTLE CROWDED ROOM	TIM MENZIES/NEW DAY RECORDS
3	PATIENTLY WAITING	STEVE BRIDGMON/INDEPENDENT
4	REGARDLESS	LISA DAGGS/SERENITY RECORDS
5	MY LAST DAY HERE	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
6	A DAY	CAROL BARHAM/MAC RECORDS
7	RIDING THE WIND	JACKSON HEIGHTS/CENTER STAGE MUSIC GROUP
8	PRAISE THE LORD	CARROLL ROBERSON/CRM RECORDS
9	BE THE WITNESS	CHOSEN/INDEPENDENT
10	MOVING ON	JORDAN FAMILY BAND/CROSSROADS
11	HE IS THERE	JIM SHELDON/ZENITH RECORDS
12	GLASS HALF FULL	SHELLEM CLINE/TIRE SWING RECORDS
13	NEAR YOU	MICHAEL LEE & RHONDA VINCENT/RED HEN
14	BLIND MAN IN THE BLEACHERS	AARON WILBURN/INDEPENDENT
15	I'VE COME TOO FAR	TAMMY NORRIS/INDEPENDENT
16	CLIMB	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
17	WHEN I COME TO YOU LORD	HUNTER MAY/INDEPENDENT
18	MOMENTS	WADE PHILLIPS/INDEPENDENT
19	THE LITTLE WOODEN CHURCH ON THE HILL	DENNIS JOLLY/INDEPENDENT
20	PREACHER'S DAUGHTER	PARDONED/MANSION
21	HOLY GHOST REACTION	KEVIN & KIM ABNEY/INDEPENDENT
22	ONLY THE BEGINNING	BEV MCCANN/INDEPENDENT
23	TOO FAST	MISTY FREEMAN/DAYWIND RECORDS
24	I TALK TO GOD	MARY BURKE/INDEPENDENT
25	I AM NOT AFRAID	DONNA ULISSE/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
26	BRIGHT NEW MORNING	MARTY RAYBON/INDEPENDENT
27	NO WORRIES	SINGING BYRDS/INDEPENDENT
28	WHEN I RISE AGAIN	APPOINTED2/INDEPENDENT
29	TOP OF THE CROSS	SHELLEM CLINE/TIRE SWING RECORDS
30	THAT'S HEAVEN FOR ME	BRUCE HAYNES/DIRKWORKS RECORDS
31	I WON'T TURN AROUND	CARTER FAMILY BAND/INDEPENDENT
32	A GREATER HEALING	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
33	MY LORD IS TAKING GOOD CARE OF ME	DETTY SISTERS/INDEPENDENT
34	BEGINNING AGAIN	GREG SULLIVAN/INDEPENDENT
35	FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE	JOURNEYS/CHAPEL VALLEY
36	FIT FOR A KING	GENE WATSON/INDEPENDENT
37	I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY	MARY JAMES/INDEPENDENT
38	SUPERMAN	GREG MCDUGAL/INDEPENDENT
39	ONE DROP OF BLOOD	EADES FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
40	BROKEN CHINA	MICHAEL ROBERTS/INDEPENDENT


POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
1	HOW BIG IS GOD	GUARDIANS
2	FEAR NOT	TRIBUTE
3	JOY IS NOT CANCELLED	COLLINGSWORTH
4	I SURRENDER	RILEY H. CLARK
5	LEAVIN	THE LITTLES
6	BETTER OFF THERE	BROWNS
7	TILL THE END	FREEMANS
8	WE NEED A SAVIOR	CAMI SHROCK
9	FOUNDATION	STEVE HESS & SOUTHERN SALVATION
10	THERE'S A HILL LONE & GRAY	CHUCKWAGON GANG
11	HERE I AM LORD	4 CALVART QT.
12	IT'S ALWAYS TOO SOON	DEBRA PERRY & JAIDYN'S CALL
13	BLESSED ASSURANCE	WALKERS
14	THANK GOD I'M FREE	THE DETTY SISTERS
15	I KNOW HIM BETTER NOW	JIM & MELISSA BRADY
16	TROUBLED SEA	HAZEL PARKER STANLEY
17	WHEN I LEAVE IT IN YOUR HANDS	BILLY HUDDLESTON
18	YOU'RE STILL YOU	VILLINES TRIO
19	NEW KINGDOM RISING	TARANDA GREEN
20	LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS	TONJA ROSE


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YOUTH IN GOSPEL

Levi Mills

By Lyndsey Chandler

I am pleased to introduce this month's featured artist, Levi Mills. He sings and travels with his family, "The Sound." Levi traveled part-time with his family from 2011-2016. In 2017, his dad, his brother, and he began making music full-time. He is 22 years old and is from Romeo, Michigan. He has a younger brother named Jacob who sings and plays acoustic guitar for the group. He also has a younger sister named Emily who is currently away at college studying sign language interpreting.

Levi is the lead singer for the group. He says they don't typically arrange parts like a traditional gospel music trio. Their vocal arrangements are very inspired by bands like the Eagles and Rascal Flatts. Levi says that gives them a lot of freedom as far as harmonies go, but also means he is the featured voice on most all of their songs.

"Having a consistent lead voice is really a core element of our overall sound," says Levi. "The same can be said of Jacob's acoustic guitar work during our shows. He and my dad can both wear out a Martin. Jacob does sing one song in particular though, on our 'Make it Count' album, called 'It Was Grace.' That happens to be one of my favorite tracks on the record."

Levi was two years old the first time he was recorded singing.

"I was with my dad, who had a home studio set up in our basement at the time. I used to put on his headphones, which were obviously far too big for me, and just sing into the microphone. That first recording ended up on our answering machine (I'm pretty sure it's certified aluminum, but that's beside the point). I sang on a few recordings after that, but the first time I sang for an audience, I was seven. It was during our church's anniversary celebration. The Booth Brothers were there that day. After that, I'd sing here and there at church and on some projects my dad worked on. I was 14 when we started traveling part time, but by then I was quite used to singing both in and out of the studio. I still thorough-

ly enjoy studio work."

Levi plays drums, enjoys baseball, and he is a big fan of the North Carolina Tar Heels.

"For the first time in a very long time, they (Tar Heels) didn't make the NCAA Tournament in March. Which means that I wasn't too upset about March Madness being canceled this year," he says.

His favorite fast food is Chick-Fil-A. His order includes an eight count #5 meal with sweet tea and plenty of Chick-Fil-A sauce. Chick-Fil-A seems to be the most popular favorite among the youth in gospel and I can't say I blame them.

Funniest thing that's ever happened while on stage consists of dropping his microphone into the front row. "It was a wonderful experience," he says.



Israel is definitely a place Levi would like to go to in the near future. He is a big fan of history, so Israel is definitely a must!



Levi has an associates degree in marketing, so he feels if he were not singing, he would probably be working with other artists on branding and content creation. He says that music is his world and he would still somehow find a way to get involved in music if he wasn't already.

The Sound started in Houston, Texas, in 1984, as a Southern gospel quartet. It went through several incarnations and, at any given time, contained some very notable figures in gospel music. Scott Fowler, Jeff Chapman, Rick Strickland, Pat Hoffmaster, Frank Seamans, Mike Presnell, and others, are all former members of The Sound.

"My dad, Rob Mills, sang the lead part for The Sound when they transitioned from a quartet to a trio in 1990. He was there for two years before retiring from traveling. The Sound stayed active as a trio for about 10 years after that; even dabbling in contemporary gospel music for a while. Eventually, the group retired. When my dad, Jacob, and I started making music together in 2017, we needed a name. We thought it was unfortunate that The Sound, a group with such a legacy in gospel music, was inactive. My dad, being such good friends with the former owner of the group, was able to secure the name and we officially brought it out of retirement. We've been making music under that moniker ever since."

The gospel is the number one motivation for Levi to keep singing. He says other musicians and singers really inspire him. Music is what he loves. He has never looked at it as a career that he needs motivation to keep pursuing. It really is a passion of his.

Levi has a lot of musical inspirations in different genres of

music but, his biggest inspiration in Southern gospel is Micheal English. He says Micheal might just be his biggest vocal inspiration period. The well-known vocalist has inspired Levi more than any other singer ever.

"Everything about the way he delivers a song just fascinates me. Larnelle Harris is another vocal influence of mine in the gospel music world. As far as my singing is concerned, I've learned a lot from listening to guys like that," says Levi.

The young singer has a few words for his peers. "First of all, if you don't know Jesus, you're missing out! He's the way, the truth, and the life. There's nothing more important than your relationship with Him. Second of all, enjoy your life right now. It's a special time. Don't be so focused on growing up that you miss out on experiencing what's in front of you right here, right now."

Special thank you to Levi for doing this interview. For more information about The Sound, go to thesound.org.





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resident artists at the **Ark Encounter** release their **new single** **"Foundation"** from their newly released project "Three Beating Hearts."



Les Butler and Friends: Bama Blu-Grace



By Les Butler

I am excited to shine the spotlight on Bama Blu-Grace this month. They are genuine; they love the Lord. They are talented. You can look in any magazine chart and see their name toward the top, almost every month. They are a hoot!

I am reminded of Prov. 17:22, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.” Here’s Bama Blu-Grace. Enjoy!

Les Butler: Please introduce each member; name, vocal part, instruments played, etc.

Bama Blu-Grace (BBG): Our group consists of Ron Burrow – Dobro – Lead and Harmony Vocals; Christie Burrow – Guitar – Harmony Vocals; Ronald Hale – Banjo/Guitar – Lead and Harmony Vocals; Jennifer Hale – Fiddle – Lead and Harmony Vocals; Ivy Hale – Uke Bass – Lead and Harmony Vocals; Abigail Burrow – Mandolin – Harmony Vocals.

Butler: Please give us your group history.

BBG: We are celebrating our 20th anniversary this year. God softly asked us if we would be willing to give up our normal family activities on the weekends, go sing

for him, and spread his word to others. We accepted the call, even though we knew very little about singing and playing instruments. We trusted him, that he would guide us and use us in the way that would bring glory to him.

It’s not about recognition or fame; it’s about being obedient. We are no different than those who change the words on the church signs, teach Sunday school class, print bulletins, or open the church doors. We are just willing to do a small part in spreading hope, encouragement, and shine a light in a world that seems to be growing dim.

Butler: Do you have a funny road story you could share with us?

BBG: We were booked in Grapeland, Texas, at Salmon Lake Park for their Bluegrass Gospel festival. We did a little research before going, and realized that within the park, they had a small lake that you could swim in. So with traveling from Alabama to Texas with four kids; they would not stop asking about swimming in the lake. Once we arrived and put the bus in park, we realized



that the lake could be seen from the stage.

As Ron B. was beginning to exit the bus, he heard one more scream from the back, “Can we go swim?” He turned to everyone in the group, and made this announcement, “No one is going into the water today.” As we walked towards the stage to become more acclimated to our environment, we passed over the lake which had three algae-covered concrete steps leading down into the water. Curious as to how cold it was, Ron B. decided to stick his feet into the water. Within seconds, we heard the slapping and popping sounds of his Crocs on the slick algae-covered steps, as we watched him disappear under the water. Little did we know that the majority of the crowd witnessed this as our kids were

screaming, “I thought you said no one was to go into the lake today?”

Butler: Please give us a brief testimony/vision of the group.

BBG: Our main goal as a group is for people to see us walking the same godly walk on a normal day through the week as they see us singing on stage on a Sunday, whether at work, school, or even the grocery store. We want God’s light to shine through us the same every day as it does when we are singing, and we hope to make an impact on others inside and outside of the church. So if God tells us tomorrow that our job is done, and we find that we have made an impact only on just one person in helping them come to know Christ, we can all say that it has been worth it.

Butler: Can each of you state some of your favorite things?

BBG: For the Hale family – Ivy and Ronald both agree that their most favorite thing is Star Wars. Ronald also says that his favorite thing is not corn. Jennifer enjoys watching Hallmark movies during Christmas time. And I mean, who doesn’t?

For the Burrow family – Abigail is an animal/farm lover. Her favorite thing to do is spend time outside. Christie loves working in the garden and painting. Ron’s most favorite thing is the “Fourth Quarter.” This

includes the months of October, November, and December. He always looks forward to this time of year.

Butler: Will each of you name a singer or musician that you feel has impacted the way you sing or play?

BBG: Jennifer says that the singer/musician that has inspired her the most is Allison Krauss. The two people that have made an impact on Ronald are Reagan and Mike Riddle. Ivy states that Laura Story, the author of "Blessings," has influenced her singing career the most. Abigail and Christie both agree that the Isaacs have impacted their singing/music career. Abigail has been singing their songs at the top of her lungs in the back seat of the car since she was a little girl. Russell Moore with IIIrd Tyme Out has been Ron's biggest role model. He says that even though he can't sing like him, he could listen to him sing all day.

Butler: Tell us about your latest CD.

BBG: Well again, we have had the awesome opportunity to work with Les Butler. Words cannot describe what he has done for us along this journey. He has exposed us to amazing musicians, and most importantly, the anointed song writers, that have given us the opportunity to record what we think are some of the best songs

ever written. "Blessings" is probably the most important project we have ever been a part of in our 20-year career. Each and every song has such an inspirational message that has impacted us as well as those who have listened.

Butler: Can you please give us your contact information?

BBG: Ronald Hale – 2843 County Road 946 – Logan, AL 35098. Email address: ronandjennifer@bamablu-grace.com

Website: bamablu-grace.com

We are also on FaceBook at Bama Blu-Grace.



THE GUARDIANS — SINCE 1988 —

Favorite Songwriter
John Darin Rowsey



Favorite Bass Singer
Pat Barker

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PASTOR OF THE MONTH

MISSIONARY EVANGELIST RICK RAMSEY

By Bill Dykes

Rick Ramsey was born on April 27, 1954 in Lexington, Virginia, and raised in Marlbrook Baptist Church in Raphine, Va. He was saved in the summer of 1975, and called to preach in 1976. Rev. Ramsey was ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1980 and graduated from Tennessee Temple University in 1984.

Rev. Ramsey pastored at Faith Bible Church, Hedgesville, W.V. from 1984-1985 and at Marlbrook Baptist Church, from 1988-1996. He entered evangelism ministry until beginning a pastorate at Calvary Independent Brethren Church from 1998-2019.

Ramsey is the author of a daily Facebook devotion that will soon be in publication. For this feature, he speaks in his own words about his latest post, the International Director of Dino Pedrone Ministries:

I have been involved in missions through the years. I started the first Faith Promise Missions Program at Marlbrook Baptist Church in 1990, where I led in the enlarging of missions ministry.

I ministered in Missions throughout the years; in 1992 - Romania; in 1993 - Israel; in 1994 - Mexico; and in Arizona & New Mexico during 1995.

My wife Suzy and I have been married for 46 years, and we have four sons and nine grandchildren. We live in my childhood home in Fairfield, Va.

After leading Church ministries and supporting missions as a pastor for more than 35 years, God led me to leave the pastorate in 2019 to begin a “Barnabas Ministry” of encouragement and evangelism. I have a passion for preaching the gospel and encouraging God’s work. I thought that would involve only revival, Bible conferences, and personal evangelism, yet God has expanded it to an international ministry.

Two weeks after I left the church, Dino Pedrone asked me to consider becoming the International Director of Dino Pedrone Ministries, which supports missions ministries around the world, specifically in the country of Myanmar. Adoniram Judson took the gospel to Myanmar (Burma) in the early 1800’s, and God has opened



the door for us to be further involved in mission work in that wonderful country of some 54 million people. In February of this year, my wife and I made our first trip there to preach, teach and evaluate how we could help them further the gospel cause. We had barely stepped out of the airport and took a one mile ride to our hotel in Yangon, Myanmar, when I discovered my wallet with over \$1900 including money designated for our missions projects was gone. It had either been stolen or lost, we are not sure.

We did all the due diligence to find it, to no avail. We were able to convince the hotel to credit us lodging for the night and contacted family and church at home for some resources the next day. There was no thought of

not continuing our trip; albeit, there was much prayer through the night as to how we might go forward. Satan was working but God is on the throne and we pressed on.

The next day we flew to Kalemyo where our work was scheduled. We spent two weeks of preaching, teaching, visiting village churches, planning and evaluating ministries; all this as while we passed under the cloud of the corona virus and trusted God for funds. When our ministry time was finished, God had replaced all the funds that were lost plus approximately \$500. Once we returned home, we were instructed to spend two weeks in quarantine, waiting for symptoms of that dreaded disease. We had many adjustments to the difference in time and jetlag but with no disease and in good health. Although we returned home weary and worn from the trip, we had a burden for the people and ministry there, and now are seeking how we may be able to help them on an ongoing basis.

I am a preacher first. That is what God called me to do all those years ago. However I am seeking to “preach” and serve him wherever he may lead. The Barnabas ministry he put on my heart when I left my church knows no borders. I want to do that in my home church and in the work of God around the world. I am praying that God will open the doors of ministry for me and allow me to raise funds and help support the mission field of Myanmar.

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Mile Markers on a Journey Jay Parrack



By Andrew Ishee

Johnny Parrack, Jay Parrack's dad, started singing professionally with a Southern gospel group in 1971, six weeks after Jay was born. He (Johnny) wanted a singing career, and he moved to Asheville, N.C., where he worked as a mechanic before joining the Kingsmen quartet. They recorded an album on Johnny's first weekend with the group that launched them into full-time gospel music touring. Of course, they went on to become a household name among gospel music fans.

But after a few years of singing tenor for the Kingsmen, Johnny decided to leave the road to be at home more while Jay was growing up. During Jay's growing-up years, Johnny became a pastor and Jay learned to love gospel music.

Mark Twain famously said, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." That is how this story goes. We're going to learn not so much about how Jay became the tenor for Gold City in the late 90s, but how he became the tenor for the Mike LeFevere Quartet today.

To bring you up to the recent past, Jay was Gold City's

award winning tenor for 10 years (1994-2004). He left the group to be at home more while his children grew up. Now, people sometimes scoff when a singer says that. But it is true. For the past 15 years, Jay worked as a minister of music (or worship pastor). I've actually performed a concert for the large, wonderful, dynamic church in Anniston, Alabama, called Hillcrest Baptist Church, where Jay served some of his recent career.

But now Jay's youngest child is about to graduate high school, and the timing was right for Jay to return to his first love, gospel music.

I asked Jay today what was it like for him to come back? Jay said, "It's different now."

When he said that, I thought he was about to tell me about things that have changed about the industry in the last two decades, or radio stations, or nuances of the overall style of Southern gospel music – but he was in a different ball park altogether.

Jay said, "I'm the old guy now. Before I was always the



youngest – younger than Mark Trammell, Tim Riley, Doug Riley, Jonathan Wilburn. But now, I’m the old guy. Jordan LeFevere, Will Lane, and Bryan Elliot didn’t grow up hearing Brian, Ivan and Mike (Mike Lefevere’s version of Gold City). They grew up hearing me sing with the group. So they want to hear all my old stories! So now it’s different. I still fall back on a lot of what I learned back then, and what worked back then still works today. But what used to be important isn’t what’s important anymore.”

Expounding on his words, Jay described to me what he found out was now important. He said that part of what he’d learned during his years with Gold City was how to sing well. And he said that it was harder now to make it sound good.

Jay said, “Back then we were athletes. You remember we used to beat you guys in basketball.” We’d (the Kingsmen and Gold City) play after some concerts – he probably doesn’t remember that I was on the bench – not just the piano bench.

“So now I have to fall back on the fundamentals of singing, and I have to work harder now than I did the first time,” says Jay.

Concerning the second part of his statement, this is where Jay got pretty tender: “...what used to be important isn’t important anymore.”

“I used to strive for man’s applause,” admits the tenor. He explained that having the recognition and approval

of fans is a necessity. To be a professional singer, you have to appeal to an audience. It is the final result of any successful musical presentation – someone must want to listen.

But Jay says now: That’s not the primary drive he has to have when he leaves the house to sing.

In the old days, the crowd was more important to him because he could measure his success by growing crowds. But now that’s not his focus. Jay isn’t building a career now, but enjoying one that is in a more mature season.

Then he said that this time, the message of the songs is more important. And I asked why.

Jay said, “All that was before I got saved. Now it’s all together different since I got saved in 2009.”

Gold City was and is an upstanding and real group. I can personally attest that Jay and all those guys believed what they sang about back then, and the current group is no exception. But it turns out that Jay had not fully experienced the forgiveness and grace of Christ that he sang about in the late 90s.

In his testimony, I see how God went to extraordinary measures to reach Jay Parrack. Some people get saved after listening to a Gospel group, but Jay was sent by God to sing in one, in part, so he, Jay Parrack, would one day be saved! Jay became a fully surrendered believer while he was serving a church as Minister of Music in 2009. And now the music is much sweeter.





I'm so happy for Jay and his return to the world of Gospel music. He is not only one of the greatest singers in our music, but he is one of the wisest. He has wisdom

that comes with age and experience, and some great stories. He's now going to be a part of some brand new stories, and I can't wait to hear them!

Jay said, "I've always loved Gospel music, and it has loved me back. I love how it works, how it's built, it's history. I love four part harmony. I just love everything about it. I've always loved it, and it's always loved me back."

Ed MEADOWS

"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" "And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!'"
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A LEGACY OF LOW NOTES

Spotlight on Guardian's Bass Singer Pat Barker



By Justin Gilmore

Southern gospel music has a rich history of incredible bass singers. George Younce, Rex Nelon, J.D. Sumner, and Big Chief, just to name a few, have held down the smooth low end of the harmonies in stellar fashion. Carrying on this tradition, the bass singers of today like Pat Barker help anchor the incredible harmonies of their respective quartets.

Barker is no stranger to the Southern gospel music scene as he has lent his talents and smooth bass voice to several groups including the Diplomats, the Dixie Echoes, Mark Trammell Quartet, and now, the Guardians. In addition to smooth vocals, Barker also brings his side-splitting sense of humor to concerts, events, and interviews.

Classic Southern gospel quartet music has always been a part of Barker's life. "When I was 13, my dad took me to see The Masters V. It was a life changing moment for the direction I was going, musically. From that point, I was hooked," Barker recalls.

The accomplished bass singer cites several artists as inspiration for his unique vocal style. "My musical influences include George Younce, Rusty Goodman, Frank Sinatra, Barbra Streisand to name a few," Barker explains. His father was also a talented bass singer from whom he took inspiration.

Barker's own unique sound has now become a staple of Southern gospel music.

As a young man, he began his musical adventure singing with a group at church. From there, Barker eventually joined The Diplomats based in Carrollton, Va.

Barker served with the group for a few years before joining the legendary Dixie Echoes in 2007.

In 2010, Barker joined Mark Trammell, one of his musical heroes, to turn Trammell's trio into a quartet. His smooth bass voice and incredible range expanded the repertoire and the audience of the Mark Trammell Quartet. He served with the group for four years before starting a solo career. During this time, he also served as bass singer for the Cathedral Family Reunion and the 2nd Half Quartet (with Gerald Wolfe, Chris Allman, and Mark Trammell).





In March of 2018, Pat made another trio a quartet when he joined the Guardians. Featuring the voices of Dean Hickman, John Darin Rowsey, and newest member, Scott Mullins, this enjoyable group of men has developed a wide following. The Guardians were formed in 1988, and since that time, the group has had several top songs,

including, “Present in the Presence of the King.” With the addition of Barker’s rich bass voice, the group has found a new energy and cutting-edge vocal dynamic.

This refreshing sound can be heard on the Guardian’s latest project, “Songs Of A Lifetime,” a collection of timeless classics. “The latest project is a favorites CD. We sat on the bus one weekend and made a list of some of our favorite songs, new and old. It has been a real blast singing these favorites,” Barker explains.

The group’s current single is one that has become a signature song for the bass singer. Barker states, “Our latest release is the ‘How Big Is God Medley.’ John Darin Rowsey and Wayne Haun teamed up to assemble three gospel

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A promotional photograph for the Troy Burns Family. It features three people: a woman on the left in a white patterned top, a man in the center foreground wearing glasses and a dark suit, and another man on the right in a dark suit. They are standing in front of a wall made of wooden pallets. Two large stage spotlights are visible, one on the left and one on the right, illuminating the scene.

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songs that span the generations with a timeless message, we serve a big God!"

Barker and the Guardians have been blessed with a successful career. However, Barker is not in it for the accolades. He prays that every concert and CD will touch people's lives. "Hope. If they can leave hopeful that God is on their side, we feel like the evening has been a success," Barker states.

Focused on the message, the group not only shares great music, they also make sure to share their own stories of how God has blessed them. "I am allowed, every night, to share my testimony of salvation and redemption," Barker explains. "It helps make it personal for those in attendance. You'll also hear a lot of scripture throughout the evening."

Barker and the rest of the group show no signs of slowing down in 2020, despite current conditions. "The Guardians have a lot of fun when we sing. We love what we do, and that comes across every night. People will leave refreshed, and excited about what God has for them," Barker says, looking forward to the time when Southern gospel concerts will once again fill the calendar.

In this time of uncertainty, Barker remains positive and continues to thank God for his many blessings. Christ has truly blessed him and impacted his life through this music. "There isn't a way it hasn't impacted my life,"

Barker explains. "From the people I've met, the lives I've seen changed, the places I've traveled. None of it would have been possible if it wasn't for gospel music."

Barker keeps true to his personal mission statement: "Reach the lost, encourage the saint." With this in mind, Barker remains dedicated to sharing the Gospel through song for years to come.



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The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

Thank you for flipping the pages to the very end this month and catching the Editor's Last Word. It's June and I hope you have time to read all the great stories we are presenting. SGNScoops is blessed with some of the best writers in gospel music and as you take in every feature, I'm sure you will agree.

Karen Peck Gooch is our lovely cover girl this month, a lady who is beautiful on the inside as well. Jennifer Campbell allows her own sweet heart to shine through in this feature. I trust you learned something new about Karen. I remember hearing her with the Nelons in the '80s. What I remember the most about that concert was Kelly Nelon singing "Ain't No Grave," and Karen wearing an orange dress that was just stunning. Yes, orange. It was the 80s!

As we sail into summertime, I pray that COVID-19 is stopped in its tracks and we can all come out of hibernation. It has been a time of increased stress for most people, I'm sure. What is ahead is unknown and that can cause anxiety and fear.

I read this in the Bible the other day: "So David went to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, 'As waters break out, the Lord has broken out against my enemies before me.'" 2 Samuel 5:20 (NIVUK)

I began to think about my enemies, including such things as health and finances. For each of us, these enemies may look different. However, I believe that, just as David knew the Lord went before him in battle, the Lord is commanding his angel army for our deliverance today. His armies have "broken out" against our enemies, and will continue to do so. The image I see in my mind is of a dam that is bursting, the water gushing through and covering everything in its path.

Take a moment to see that the Lord is bursting through the defences of your enemies and washing them away. In scripture, water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Allow His Spirit to wash away your stress, doubts and fear. Because fear, as we know, is a liar.

Isn't it exciting that the Holy One has charged His angels concerning us to defeat our enemies? We are not idle during this battle, however as we are given armor to wear, like the shield of faith and the helmet of salvation. So today, put on your armor, my friends, because there is going to be a fight. And, as the late Roger Bennett sang, "I read the back of the book and we win!"

If you are missing your helmet of salvation today, or have any comments or concerns, please email me at lorraine@sgnscoops.com.

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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.



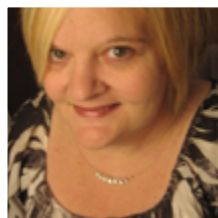
Stephanie Kelley is a public speaker and owner of Queen-O-Q, a blog featuring coupon match-ups, freebies, samples and information on frugal living. She is married, has three children and lives in Washington State. Queenoq.blogspot.com



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.



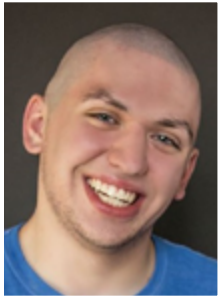
Joan Walker grew up with music in the house and first heard Southern Gospel in her early teens. With almost a quirky (some may say 'weird') need to make sure words are spelled correctly and the apostrophes are in the right place, she enjoys proofreading the articles for the SGN Scoops magazine each month...and 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

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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.



Vonda Armstrong 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 execu

tives 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.



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.



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

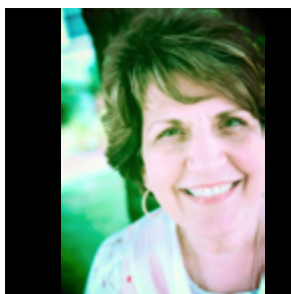
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Robert York- During my childhood days my parents took me to the Atlanta City Auditorium for concerts hosted by Warren Roberts. That was the beginning of my love for Southern Gospel music. After 35 years I retired from USPS, during which time I got 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.



Dixie Phillips is a Dove Award winning songwriter. Her songs have been recorded by The Talleys, Gordon Mote, The Williamsons, Doug Anderson, Susan Whisnant, The Erwins, Jay Stone Singers, Master Promise, Three Bridges, Endless Highway, 3 Heath Brothers, Fortress, and many other gospel artists.

Dixie is also an Christian Editing Services Editor and Writer. She is an award winning children's author and ghostwriter. She has been published by Abingdon Press, Standard Publishing, Eldridge Publishing, Gospel Music Publishing House, and Guardian Angel Publishing.



Les Butler has been actively involved in Southern Gospel Music for 40 years as a musician, producer, manager, former publisher of the Singing News, and as a nationally syndicated radio host. Butler started Butler Music Group in 1978, and purchased Family Music Group in 2003. He is a past March of Dimes AIR award, as well as winner of the

Paul Heil Broadcasting Award in 2011. Butler's syndicated radio show, Les Butler and Friends, is heard across America and abroad. Butler's playing and production credits include Palmetto State Quartet, Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers,

Fairfield Four, Steeles, Dunaways, Crabb Family, Easter Brothers, Marksmen Quartet, Earl Scruggs, Bowling Family, Jimmy Fortune, Marty Raybon, Larry Gatlin and many more. Butler's publishing companies are Hurry-Up Publishing/BMI and Hush Jean/ASCAP.



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. Derek and Jana travel and sing gospel music, having recently released their debut album, "Blessed."

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.



Jimmy Reno began singing at the age of four with his family group. He has sung for The Mystery Men quartet, Florida Boys and Mark209. Off the road, he spends time with my wife, Christa, with whom he celebrates 25 years of marriage with this year. Jimmy

also enjoys spending time with his three kids and one granddaughter.

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



Kristen Stanton is a dynamic singer, speaker, and writer. From discussions on Facebook, to live concerts on any stage, Kristen's main focus is to share her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. She says: "I was saved when I was four years old. I've been in church my whole life. I went to a Christian college. I don't have the experiences of walking away from God and how He brought me back.

But I do have the experience of how God continuously reveals Himself to me... of how He answers prayer. I want people to understand who God is so that they can be more of a reflection of Him. My goal is to help others see God in a way that meets every need in their life."

Following a trio of No. 1 songs from her debut project, "Destiny by Design," Kristen recently released her second

solo project, "Love As Jesus Loves" and is currently writing songs for her new album. Kristen is also an Attorney-at-Law, serving clients in Northwest Ohio.



During his 40 plus year career, Bill has developed expertise in commercial banking, retail banking, sales and marketing, media, and financial consulting. After years of being bi-vocational, he was able to merge his professional expertise and his passion for ministry. Since 2010, Bill has been helping

churches and ministries with areas of operation. This includes financing (construction, permanent financing, re-financing). In addition, many organizations need help understanding how to market their ministries and how important it is to promote their ministries properly through media and social networking.

Over the past 40 years, Bill has become an accomplished gospel singer, having performed on 32 albums and produced over 200 albums for other performers. His extensive professional credits include singing with renowned gospel music groups including The Cathedrals, The Goffs, The Senators, and The Rhythm Masters, which performed four songs that reached No. 1 in the gospel music charts. In addition, Bill has received nominations for three Dove Awards and a Gospel Music News Award. He is also known for writing and performing the Gold Record winning song, "No Greater Love." Bill also performed in events led by Jerry Falwell, Pat

Robinson, Rex Humbard, Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, Dr. Paul Conn, and most recently, he performed with Governor Mike Huckabee.

Bill studied finance at the University of Cincinnati and vocal performance at the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. He also attended seminary at Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and he holds a Doctor of Divinity Degree at Heritage Baptist University in Indianapolis. Currently Bill serves on the Board of Trustees for Davis College in Binghamton, N. Y.



John Herndon is a Kentucky native who was raised listening to gospel music. As a child, the Sunday morning routine always included the Gospel Singing Jubilee and his summers were filled with all-day-singings-and-dinner-on-the-ground listening to local groups just about every Sunday. He remembers seeing The Prophets at his county fair when he was seven years

old and eventually, he became a huge fan of The Oak Ridge Boys, The Imperials and J.D. Sumner and the Stamps. John spent 20 years in the located ministry and during this time, he began writing local sports for The Anderson News in Lawrenceburg, Ky. For the last 16 years, he has been the full-time sports editor of that paper. John has won over 100 awards from the Kentucky Press Association, the Society of Professional Journalists and Landmark Community Newspapers.

He loves listening to gospel music or playing one of his guitars.

John lives in Lawrenceburg with his wife, Stephanie, and 17-year-old daughter. He has three grown children and four grandchildren.

Contributors

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Jantina Baksteen
I live all the way overseas in the Netherlands. I'm married and I have three adult children. I grew up in a Christian home and knew in my early years that I wanted to belong to Him. I surrendered my life to Christ was baptized one day before I turned 11 years old.

Somehow, the seed of loving gospel music was planted by the style of music my parents played at home. Around 2006/2007, I was listening to Gaither homecoming music that I found on the internet. The song, "Oh, What A Savior," by Ernie Haase hit me with the so-called Southern gospel bug.

From there, I've been reading /studying all I can find. I found the digital SGNscoops Magazine.

As I was spending so much time reading and listening about this industry, I started praying for God to please give me a job in the Southern gospel industry. Sometimes, I commented to Lorraine Walker on her posts. How could she know the longing of my heart?

But last year she asked me if I wanted to do something for SGNscoops: the Wacky Wednesday posts online. Now I do the "Beyond the Song" article that really has my heart as I am reaching out to artists, asking about a current song and having a sneak peak behind the scenes.



My name is Lyndsey Chandler. I sing with my family, the Chandlers. I have wanted to get something started to promote the youth in Southern gospel for a long time. I want to say a huge thank you to SGNscoops magazine for allowing me the opportunity

to do this. I will be sharing exclusive interviews in an effort to showcase the abilities, talents and dedication of young artists in Southern Gospel music. I will be offering these monthly interviews to better acquaint you with young voices that are growing louder in our industry.

The Chandlers travel in a ministry of singing and preaching

conducting concerts, revivals, camp meetings and conferences. Their travels have taken them all over the United States, Canada, Serbia, Poland, Slovakia, and The Philippines. The group consists of Tim, Lana, and their two daughters, Tiffany, and Lyndsey. Their ministry website is www.thehandlersmusic.com.



Cheryl Smith describes herself as a "passionate disciple and follower of Jesus Christ." She says: "I am married to the sweetest, most patient man for over 30 years...Mama to one miracle son God sent to us after 12.5 years of infertility...Home-

school Teacher who learns way more than I ever teach. I love to spend time with my husband and son in the mountains, sing and play Bluegrass music, and write. I am so thankful for your visit and hope you will visit my blogs: homes-pundevotions.com/ and biblicalminimalism.com/ It is my goal to encourage you in your walk with Jesus and to inspire you to let go of this world for the sake of a higher call. It is His call that I hope you hear. So compelling, so intense, so far above anything this world has to offer. It is the call His disciples heard as they went about a normal, ordinary day, fishing. It is a call they could not refuse. A call that caused them to drop everything they had and walk away from life as they knew it, without a backward glance. Can you hear it? Are you listening?"



Andrew Ishee grew up playing gospel music in church and with local Christian groups. At age eight he asked his dad to show him some chords on the piano. That night Andrew prayed that God would bless him with the ability to play. Since that evening, he has played piano by ear.

Andrew began playing professionally at age 16 with the Dixie Echoes, a Southern gospel group from Pensacola, Florida. He then moved to Asheville, North Carolina to join the Kingsmen Quartet. Since then Andrew has worked with many of the top Gospel recording companies and artists producing and playing piano on countless recordings. And today the Andrew Ishee solo music tour has spanned the length and width of the United States. Andrew says: "There are two great things about what I get to do: Music and People. And I love them both."