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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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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4	Publisher's Point by Rob Patz
6	New Music Reviews: The Lowe Down by Jeff Lowe
12	The LeFevre Quartet by Justin Gilmore
16	DJ Spotlight by Vonda Armstrong
19	The Gethsemane Quartet by Charlie Griffin
23	SGNScoops Gospel Music Top 100
26	SGNScoops Bluegrass Gospel Top 10
26	SGNScoops Christian Country Top 40
27	SGNScoops New Releases Top 20
29	Endless Highway by Justin McLeod
33	The Sound by Jantina Baksteen
37	Les Butler and Friends with Daryl Mosley
40	The Greesons by Robert York
44	Jackson Heights by Suzanne Mason
46	Creekside Gospel Music Convention Update by Rob Patz and Staci Schwager
50	Contributors

PUBLISHER'S POINT

by Rob Patz



Psalm 37:23 says, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way."

As we watch summer transition into fall and realize that this year is quickly fading, many of us look back at 2020 as the year of what could've been. I know that is the state I was in a few weeks ago. There were so many things planned for this year that I was excited to talk to you about, many of which had to be put on the back burner, but you will begin hearing about them over the next few months as we look forward to what 2021 has in store.

On the day in question, a friend of mine who is a wonderful pastor called me, and I started to talk to him about all the things that could have been in 2020. He stopped me and quickly said, "Be thankful in all things. Rob, 2020 has taught many of us-- including you-- new ways to do things." I agreed with him. We have watched online concerts grow. We have seen our readership grow. We have seen ministries reach people that they may never have reached otherwise.

It's hard not to be anxious, but in reality we have to know that God has his hand on everything. He is getting you ready for something much better than where you are right now.


I believe 2021 is going to be the year of promotions for many of the people who are reading this Publishers Point. I believe 2021 is going to be the year that more people are hungry to hear the gospel.

I know a lot of people think I'm overly optimistic, but I truly believe that God is getting ready to move in a great way in our country and that it will happen in 2021. If you are a pastor, press forward and know that

2021 is going to be your year. If you're a singer, press forward and create new music. Wherever you are and whatever you've been through, be encouraged and get ready for 2021. We believe it's going to be the best year ever, and I want you to be a part of it.

If you have a prayer request, please email me at rob@sgnscoops.com.

Until next time, this is the Publishers Point.



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The Lowe Down

NEW MUSIC REVIEWS

By Jeff Lowe



The McKameys

“LIVE Like No Other”

DVD with Bonus CD

Label: Horizon / Crossroads

Producer: Greg Bentley

Release Date: July 17, 2020/Available Now

Songs on this project:

1. Introduction (Pastor C.T. Townsend)
2. Don't Forget the Family Prayer
3. Living for Eternity
4. I Made It by Grace
5. Getting Used to The Dark
6. Be Brave
7. For the Record
8. Something Worth Saving
9. Trophy of Grace
10. God on The Mountain
11. How Deep Is the Sea
12. Unspoken Request
13. The Shepherd's Point of View
14. Roll That Burden on Me
15. God Is Good
16. From Dust to Glory
17. There Is Jesus

18. Do You Know How It Feels

In the Spring of 2019, after 60 plus years of singing the gospel, The McKameys announced that they would no longer be touring full time. The McKameys recorded this live DVD/CD project at the LeConte Centre in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. McKamey fans are sure to treasure this release which features songs as well as behind the scene interviews. The Southern Gospel industry and fans alike will surely miss this well-loved family group. I know I will!

With 16 number 1 songs, The McKameys were honored by Horizon Records in 1999 for having the most number 1 songs in the history of southern gospel music and the most number 1 songs on the Singing News magazine's chart.

After a well-deserved and grand introduction by Pastor C.T. Townsend, The McKameys kick off with an upbeat bluegrass-styled song written by Emma Jackson that reminds us “Don't Forget the Family Prayer.” We need the family prayer time to shore us up against the devil; our homes need a daddy that reads the scripture and mamas that pray for their children.

The youngest McKamey daughter, Sheryl B. Farris, both wrote and is featured on “Living for Eternity.” She urges us to lay up our treasures in heaven, live apart from this old world, and above all the trials and troubles we face daily.

Connie is featured on the second verse of the Kyla Rowland song, “I Made It by Grace” that simply talks about living daily in victory because of the price that Christ paid on the cross and how someday when we reach our heavenly home it will be because of that grace.

Peg steps up on another song written by Sheryl, “Get-

ting Used to the Dark.” If you are ignoring what’s going on around you instead of praying and doing your part, this one may step on your toes!

“Be Brave” is a slow and thoughtful ballad that Sheryl again both is featured on and wrote. It reminds us that with Christ in us we are safe; we can face the storms. He will fight our battles and give us victory and that we can “be brave” no matter what comes along.

Guitarist Roger steps up to show his singing talent on “For the Record” penned by Sheryl. Roger does a great job on these types of songs -- straightforward with a message. I’ve always been a fan of Roger’s playing and his talent in the studio; now add me as a fan of his vocals. This track proclaims a love for the Lord and being one of His own.

Ruben is featured on the Larry Whitehead song “Something Worth Saving” a heart touching song that’ll make you stop and think about the day you were saved. You’ll wonder what the Lord saw in you that made you worthy of His love and mercy, of His saving grace. I know I did as I listened to this number. And just an FYI, good luck not shedding a tear!

“Trophy of Grace” is a great song that says we are a testimony of the sacrifice that He paid; we’re a display of His love and an example of Calvary for the world to see. Another song written by Sheryl with a great message.

Tracy Dartt wrote the ever-popular, 1988 Number 1 song that features Peg, “God on the Mountain”. I don’t think you could ever think of The McKameys and not think of this great song that features Peg. I don’t need to remind you what this song is about, but just in case there is that one out there that doesn’t know, the message is simply this: no matter what, whether we are on top of the mountain or down in the valley, no matter what comes along God is always the same. God is always faithful.

When God saves us, He takes all of our sins and throws them into the sea, never remembering them -- they are cast away. Connie takes the lead again on Bill Stephen Henry’s “How Deep Is the Sea” and wonders just what the depth of that sea is! It is a powerful song and another of my favorites.

We get to hear from Roger again on the Paul Stephen Chapman written “Unspoken Request.” I remember when you would sit in church and the preacher would

ask if anyone had an unspoken request. God knows just what they are, and as the song says, “Child have no fear our God can hear an unspoken request.”

Sheryl takes the lead on “The Shepherd’s Point of View” written by Sandy Blythe. We often go through trials and don’t understand what God is doing or what He is trying to show us. Sometimes it gets so hard He has to pick us up and carry us through. But when we get through that valley and on the mountaintop, we can turn and look back and see just what God was doing. We can see how God brought us through. We can see the lessons we needed to learn.

The upbeat song of encouragement, “Roll That Burden on Me”, penned by Arlie Petree, features Peg and reminds us of what David said in Psalms 55:22-- to cast all our care on the Lord. We stumble and fall under the weight of our worries, so we need to turn them all over to the Lord.

Eli, Roger and Connie’s son, takes over on “God is Good” written by Sue Smith, Tony Wood and Joseph Habedank. Few people know the greatness of God like Eli does. Having gone through not just one but two kidney transplants in his life, Eli never gave up. He held on to the Lord and kept his faith through the ordeal. Eli does a great job on this track, singing from the heart and from personal experience of just how good God is.

Sheryl is featured on another of her songs “From Dust to Glory.” When God created man, He created him from dust. His power transforms us to be like Him until one day we make it home, and dust receives a glorified new body.

Peg and Sheryl both share the spotlight and proclaim “There Is Jesus” written by Sheryl. This song has a simple message of promise that says no matter what comes along, no matter the trial, and whether in the good times or the bad, Jesus is right there in the middle of it all.

The project wraps up with Gary Duty’s song “Do You Know How It Feels” featuring all three lovely ladies and asks the question, how does it feel to know you’re a child of the King? Do you ever think about that? We belong to almighty God, the Creator of the universe who holds the stars in His hands!

Final thoughts:

It has been a joy to listen to this CD and watch the DVD. Whether you are a fan of the McKameys or not,

I encourage you to get this project. If you're not a fan, I think this will transform you into one. And if you already are a fan, you definitely don't want to miss this project--it's their best ever and a great way to wrap up a prestigious career in Southern Gospel music. The McKameys will certainly be missed in full-time ministry, but I am sure that God is not through with them yet!

You can learn more about The McKameys at their website <https://www.mckameysonline.com/store>

Writer Favorites:

Getting Used to The Dark

God on the Mountain

God Is Good

From Dust to Glory

There Is Jesus

Do You Know How It Feels

It's a solid 5 out of 5 stars for me.



The Old Paths

"What Love Does"

Label: Sonlite Records / Crossroads

Producer: Roger Talley

Release Date: June 05, 2020/Available Now

Songs on this project:

1. This Is Amazing Grace
2. I Got the Grace, He Gets the Glory
3. Look at All I Lost
4. Bread
5. You Can't Get Away from God
6. Pray While You Wait
7. How Great Is Our God
8. Salvation's Song

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Steve Ladd (tenor), Tim Rackley (lead), Doug Roark (baritone) and Daniel Ashmore (bass) make up The Old Paths. I had the privilege of meeting Steve Ladd in the mid-90's when he sang tenor for The Anchormen. I was impressed with his vocals at that time and he has done nothing but grown and improved through the years. With Steve on tenor, Daniel filling out the bass and Tim and Doug filling in the middle on lead and baritone they are, in my opinion, one of the best quartets out there today.

This project kicks off with "This is Amazing Grace" a song written by Joshua Farro, Jeremy Riddle and Phil Wickham and talks about the amazing grace of Christ. While more of a contemporary than southern gospel song, the harmonies are solid, but for me, I'll have to say it's the weakest track of the eight. It's followed by the first single, "I Got the Grace, He Gets the Glory" a high-energy, upbeat song penned by Jason Cox and Kenna West. Their first radio single from the project features Daniel's rich bass vocals giving God all the glory for His grace and all He's done for us.

"Look at All I Lost" features lead singer Tim Rackley and was written by Debbie Davis, Gene Ezell and Rachel McCutcheon. It's a great mid-tempo song about the sin and shame taken away from us when we kneel at His cross

The up-tempo Lee Black, Joseph Habedank and Sue C Smith number "Bread" features Steve and uses the miracle of the fishes and loaves as an example of what God can do in our lives.

Songwriters Sue C Smith, Kenna West and Brian White teamed up to bring us this moderate tempo country styled "You Can't Get Away from God" that features Doug. No matter what we do, no matter how hard we try, because of His love we can't hide from God!

Daniel takes the lead again on "Pray While You Wait" penned by Brent Baxter, Jason Cox and Kenna West. We are reminded that no matter what, God is always on time. When things look impossible, "pray while you wait."

Daniel is featured once again but this time on the saxophone for the instrumental jazz arrangement of "How Great Is Our God" written by Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves and Chris Tomlin.

The project wraps up with the thoughtful "Salvation's Song" written by Jason Cox, Michael Farren and Kenna

West and featuring Steve. It's a beautiful song about how heaven rejoices when a sinner is saved and another child comes home!

Final thoughts:

As expected, The Old Paths deliver a solid project with great arrangements and strong vocals. With all that is going on in the world, this project is perfect timing as all the songs tie together and tell us the story of God's love and just what that love can and will do for us if we open our hearts and let Him work. I recommend that you add this project to your music collection.

You can learn more about The Old Paths at their website <https://www.theoldpathsonline.com/>

Writer Favorites:

I Got the Grace, He Gets the Glory

Look at All I Lost

You Can't Get Away from God

How Great Is Our God

It's 4.5 out of 5 stars for me.



Hope's Journey
"We Are Not Ashamed"

Label:

Producer: Alicia Estis

Release Date: February 15, 2020/Available now

Songs on this project:

1. Faithful to the End writers Rachael Gill, Alicia Estis and Marty Estis
2. We Are Not Ashamed writers: Rachel Gill, Debbie Gill, Alicia Estis and Marty Estis
3. It If Had Not Been the Lord writer: Annie Laura McRae-Henning

4. Five More Minutes with You writers: Alicia Estis, Marty Estis and Elizabeth Dunnaway

5. Into the Fold writers: Racheal Gill, Debbie Gill and Alicia Estis

Hope's Journey is comprised of Alicia Estis, Jenny Sullivan and Vonda Easley Armstrong. The vision for the group was to spread "Hope" to a lost and dying world.

The project starts off with a refreshing, old school country/Americana arrangement of "Faithful to The End." Right off the bat we are treated to some sweet harmony that reminds us and encourages us that the Lord is always there, holding our hand, walking along with us, and leading us through every storm.

The first single from the CD is "We Are Not Ashamed" which is an up-tempo, anthem song that quite simply proclaims that these ladies are not ashamed of Jesus Christ and the gospel of salvation.

"If It Had Not Been the Lord" is a toe-tapping number that will have you singing along. If we had to face our day to day life without Him, we would be in despair and all would be lost. This is a catchy little song and you'll find yourself singing that chorus over and over as

you go about your day.

"Five More Minutes with You" is a touching song about loss, something we have all experienced, and that longing for just a few fleeting moments with that loved one to say "I love you." In that time of emptiness and loss the Lord is there alongside us.

The ladies wrap this CD up on an up-note with the country styled "Into the Fold."

Final Thoughts:

I had one complaint about the CD – MORE SONGS! It was a short CD but really very well done. The vocals are solid, the arrangements aren't overpowering, and the harmonies as sweet as honey! You'll want to grab up this CD and I personally can't wait to hear more from Hope's Journey.

You can find out more about Hope's Journey at <https://www.hopesjourneyonline.com/>

4 out of 5 stars.

Writer Favorites:

Faithful to the End

Five More Minutes with You



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A Legacy of Hope: Checking in with The Lefevre Quartet



By Justin Gilmore

The name LeFevre has been a mainstay in Southern Gospel music for decades. With a rich tradition of spreading the Gospel through song, Mike LeFevre carries on this legacy still today.

LeFevre is dedicated to spreading the hope of Christ to all who will listen. With stellar vocals, high energy, and this dedication to ministry, the LeFevre Quartet has become one of Southern Gospel's most popular groups.

Even despite the current global situation, this exciting group is still finding hope and is stronger than ever. LeFevre exclaims, "We have a great bunch of guys. I'm actually enjoying singing probably now more than I ever have in my life."

Despite the damper that this pandemic has placed on them, the group remains committed to their calling. "Our mission, I'll tell you this, is to go and tell the world that Jesus saves," LeFevre explains. "He is alive and well. We serve a risen Savior. All of my life I've heard that song 'Jesus Is Coming Soon.' I think we're in a time right now, with all the current things that are going on, an urgent time, a time that we need to be aware. I think that this is a time for the LeFevre Quartet and all the groups that are on the road, that we need to be sharing the Gospel now more than ever and telling the world that Jesus saves."

He goes on to say: "Even though things seem bleak sometimes, we have hope in Jesus."

This mindset is clearly evident in their music which was heavily influenced by the classic LeFevres, Gold City, the Statesmen and more. The group's latest recording is coincidentally entitled Hope and features a wide variety of inspirational songs.

LeFevre remarks, "We actually had named the CD before all this stuff came about. It was pure coincidence. All of the songs off the new CD had an element or something in common...They all had a common thread: hope. I thought, wow what a timely thing for that album to have. Hope is on New Day, a Daywind label, and it is produced by Wayne Haun," LeFevre explains. "Wayne has been able to capture a sound that I've liked. He did it on our last CD and did it again on this one."

He captured a progressive sound yet kept us in a traditional place. I love the place he got us in there.”

He also praises the song selection stating that they are “some of the best we’ve ever had.” One such song, which he credits the Booth Brothers with finding, is entitled “Between The Prayer And The Answer.”

According to LeFevre, The Booth Brothers had the song on hold. On the final song selection day, Michael Booth made the call to Rick Shelton, head of publishing at Daywind, and told him that he wanted the LeFevres to have that song. “He said ‘they need a hit song and we want them to have it.

If they don’t want it, the Booth Brothers are cutting that song.’ We heard it one time and that was it,” LeFevre recalls. “We knew that was the song. That shows what kind of heart the Booth Brothers have. Not many groups would give up a song like that. It applies to everybody who

has a prayer life. You pray for something, you ask God to do something and you wait. Some of the hardest times are when you pray for something and you wait for the answer. That waiting period is such a tough time.”

In addition to the uplifting ballad “Between The Prayer and The Answer,” the album showcases the talent of each of the group members. Jordan sings a song called “The 99” that LeFevre believes is probably one of the best songs they have ever recorded. Jay Parrack brought over an old Squire Parsons song called “Whosoever Will,” Mike sings a catchy tune called “Bigger Boat,” while Will Lane shines on the groovy “Dry Bones.” This exciting new album is the first to feature the new lineup.

LeFevre is honored to have a great team with him. As of late last year, the group features Mike LeFevre at baritone, his son Jordan at lead, the beloved Jay Parrack singing tenor, bass singer Will Lane, and Bryan Elliott on the piano. LeFevre added, “Somebody in our group that never gets any attention or doesn’t get mentioned much is Terry [Stewart], our product guy. He’s been with us for five years. He’s the guy that does everything for us. He is a big part of our group. Terry travels with us every mile of the way.”

LeFevre had this to say about his thirty-seven year old bass singer Will Lane: “When you think about bass singers in Gospel music, I think about George Younce, Tim Riley, and Jeff Chapman. These names come to mind and Will is going to be one of those guys. To me, he is just now starting to crack the nut.”

Another new member is the legendary former Gold City tenor Jay Parrack. “I mean what can I say? Everywhere we go people love Jay,” LeFevre proclaims. “He came off the road about fifteen years ago to raise his children. He did that, and he

is ready to get back. God’s timing is perfect. When I needed a tenor, he was the only call I made. It was amazing how God put that all together. It has been a perfect fit. Our current single features him. It’s doing well. He’s jumped right in there and hasn’t missed a beat.”

Another vital part of the group is Mike’s son Jordan, who has

been with the group since he was thirteen years old. Now at age twenty-nine he serves as lead singer. “Without my son, this group would fall apart,” LeFevre declares. “He’s really the glue. He does the lead part and does it well. Our first number one song ‘Sun’s Gonna Come Up’ he had the lead vocal on that. He sings lead, runs sound, drives the bus, and takes care of so much of the business part.” Rounding out the group is former Perrys and Gold City pianist Bryan Elliott.

The LeFevre Quartet has been blessed over the years to sing all over the country. Rather than focusing on where they have been, Mike instead views each concert as an opportunity. “This is gonna sound kinda corny. Every time we sing, I tell the guys and I don’t care if it’s a church that seats one hundred and fifty people or a place that seats ten thousand people, every time we sing it’s Superbowl Sunday so to speak. Every place we sing is important from the biggest to the smallest because that one person that may hear the Gospel and make a decision for Christ is important. If somebody makes



that decision for Christ and it changes their life, or we made a difference in somebody's life, or we brought joy to somebody's life,....or we made somebody smile that's been down, or God used us, or they saw Jesus in us, you know that's why we leave our families every week. I'm at a point in my life where I'm trying to make every time we sing a memorable event. The older I get the more I realize that I may not have that many more. So, every event is special to me. That's the truth."

This talented group shows no signs of slowing down even in the face of the current global crisis. The year 2020 has brought some challenging times for many artists, including The LeFevre Quartet. Despite this, the group's passion for the Gospel amidst this pandemic remains the same.

This difficult time has reminded them just how special their calling is and to never take it for granted. The cancelled dates have rendered a greater appreciation for the concerts still scheduled and the opportunities they present to share the gospel. Mike concludes, "When we get together to sing, we get so excited. One thing you can expect from us is everything we've got. When we go out and sing, we are gonna present the Gospel, we're gonna laugh, we're gonna have a good time and we're gonna sing with all our hearts."

As evident in their music and daily lives, the members of the LeFevre Quartet are Christians and will continue to strive to tell the world about the Lord through their music. No matter

the accolades they receive, the experiences they are a part of, or the challenges they face, they remain dedicated to sharing the legacy of hope that is found in Christ.



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DJ SPOTLIGHT

*Keith Brady,
WVOB in Dothan, Alabama*



By Vonda Armstrong

This month I talked with Keith Brady at WVOB in Dothan, Alabama. If you know Keith very well, you know that this was a fun interview and that we talked a lot about his grandchildren.

Here's what I asked Keith and what he had to say.

VONDA ARMSTRONG:

Tell us about what you do at WVOB. What is your title and where is the station located?

KEITH BRADY:

I am Operations Director and on-air guy at Gospel 91-WVOB. We are in Dothan, Alabama, and reach into parts of Georgia, Florida, and Alabama! During the time our group, The Bradys, was on the road, due to our increased schedule, I needed something that would give flexible hours when needed. The job at the station worked out perfectly! The management allowed me to book concerts any weekdays, or weekends, we needed to be on the road. They even allowed me a full week off during the week of NQC!

VA: How did you get involved in radio?

KB: Bethany Divinity College, where my dad was taking a few classes back at the time, owned WVOB Radio. Dad told me they were needing a DJ. I did not have any on air experience, but I had a few years of emcee experience under my belt, and they felt that this, along with my knowledge of Southern Gospel Music, would help me qualify! I'm glad they took a chance on me! It's worked out great for 30 years! I hope it continues!

VA: If you could visit anywhere in the United States, where would you go?

KB: That's easy, any day, every day, I'd go to Nashville to see my grandkids! I had never flown until they came along, but I'm an old pro now, ha! That one-hour flight sure beats a 7 hour drive any day!

VA: Well since you brought that up..... Tell us about those grands!

KB: Grandkids: Do you have all day? And can you print the almost 1000 pictures of my grandkids currently stored in my phone? Cooper will be 9 in September of 2020, and Adele was 4 as of January 2020. I may be a bit jealous that my daughter-in-law's mom and dad live in the same town and get to see them almost every day, lol! But I can tell you those plane rides to Nashville are becoming more frequent!

VA: When is your show on and can we listen online?

KB: I'm actually off and on-air several times each weekday! But normally 7:30-11:00 a.m., and 1:00-3:00 p.m. And of course, Sylvia Green joins me for "The Coffee-Break with Keith and Sylvia" at 9:30 am on most Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. We have the latest news in gospel music, the latest songs, comical incidents, useless facts, games for prizes, and a whole lot more! We have a blast, and our intention is to make folks smile, especially in times like we are in right now; I think we do that!

VA: Who is your all-time favorite group?

KB: I really couldn't pick just one! But I can say that

the Original Hinsons, Original Rambos, and the Happy Goodmans all had a big influence on shaping my interest in Gospel Music. I've been around a lot of years, seen all kinds of musical styles come and go, and I guess you could say I like at least SOME of most of it (well some of it, not so much, ha!) but those old styles that helped create my love for this music, are still my "go to" when I just want to listen, and be ministered to.

Thank you Keith Brady and WVOB. We appreciate all you do for this great Gospel Music that we all love!



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Floyd and Penny Andrews

The Gethsemane Quartet: A Southern Gospel Music Love Story



By Charlie Griffin

This is a love story of two people who met, fell in love, married, who raised a family while singing gospel music, developing other singers and couples, and sharing a public Christian witness every day.

In the early 1930's, in the midst of a depression, Floyd Andrews was born in Chatham County, North Carolina. Over in a Guilford county mill village in Greensboro, North Carolina, Penny Brown was born. That's where the Gethsemane story begins.

Penny states, "Floyd and I knew of each other since we were just babies. I lived in Greensboro and he lived in Chatham county. I would send him my little Sunday School papers by Floyd's older brother who was dating my cousin. There were a few times they brought Floyd to Greensboro. Then his family moved to Greensboro when he was 11 years old. I saw him then and again, when we were in the 9th grade."

Throughout the years during concerts Floyd would tell

how it came to be that Penny married him. In his dry humor he would say, "I took one look and knew she's the one for me."

Penny shares, "When I was 17 a friend of Floyd's invited him to our church where I was the pianist and my Dad was the choir director. He didn't recognize me but told his friend if I wasn't married, he would marry me. We started dating and he started attending my church. The name of our church was Gethsemane Baptist Church."

As the story goes, one Sunday afternoon in 1949 they were with a couple of good friends just riding up in the mountains and singing together. They had all four parts and it sounded pretty good, so they decided to sing at church that night. They began to sing at homecomings and revivals. People would introduce the group as the quartet from Gethsemane Baptist Church which eventually evolved to Gethsemane Quartet.



The quartet had various members through the years. Yet, the Gethsemane Quartet were known for taking couples who loved to sing and developing them. Over those many years, four noted couples excelled with the Gethsemane Quartet. Bob and Jeanne Johnson, Von and Teresa Hohn, Robert and Patti Griffith along with Greg and Kathy Ottaway. These tandems created and continued that rich mixed quartet tradition for over fifty years.

Jeanne Johnson says, "I was 16 when I went to sing with the Gethsemane. I was 18 when Bob joined the quartet. We were married in 1959 and sang with them until 1968 when we started with the Speers. Penny and Floyd were mentors for us. They gave us a chance to sing, to be heard and be a part of gospel music. I will always appreciate them. Penny and I are friends to this day and stay in close contact. She is a great Christian example."



Johnson recollects, "We sang at the Grand Ole' Opry for their Sunday night gospel music and that was a big thing back then. Once I remember singing in Youngstown, Ohio, and our bus driver Bert Lancaster (not the actor) got saved there. It was so special that night. We worked all week long and sang on the week-ends. We loved what we were doing. What great memories."

Gospel music with the Gethsemane Quartet was all about family. Their son started singing when he was eleven and continued until he went off to college. "Mark has always been part of our music and that's a blessing to me. You know, I am still friends and talk regularly with those who were part of our Gethsemane family," states Penny.



The hectic schedule was constant over the years. By their count the quartet covered more than 40,000 miles annually. Floyd and Penny sang Southern Gospel music for 55 years and retired from the group in 1994. The bus, the quartet name and equipment was sold. Floyd and Penny were going to slow down....some. "Well that is what he said," explains Penny.

But they never really retired. Floyd and Penny ministered together in song as a duet for ten more years. They also did a radio program twice a week called

“Mid-Morning Manna.” Floyd and Penny Andrews were the official Ambassadors of WPET Radio AM 950, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Longtime WPET Radio host Dave Compton says, “Back in those days, the Gethsemane Quartet was special to us and deserved the recognition. We bragged on them. What a precious couple. I really miss Floyd. Right before Floyd’s death, I went by their house to enjoy some fish Floyd had caught and Penny fried up. It was just a good time with them. I will always remember that time. I cherish that memory.”



Floyd Clyde Andrews graduated this life at age 72, on Monday, August 2, 2004. In some ways he just really moved singing locations. Prior to his death, Andrews said, “Nowadays, it’s tiring and it takes me a couple days to recover from a weekend of travel. If you didn’t love it, you definitely wouldn’t do it. We have loved it all of our lives.”

Somehow or another, today Penny still carries on a legacy with great enthusiasm and in the same classic tradition. She sings, shares and continues her work in the church as before, but this time as a soloist and speaker. “I am still singing, still being a witness. For a while I was the interim pianist at my church, and I am still the assistant pianist. But I travel at my speed now. Until the virus hit, I was singing at camp meetings, revivals and my church. I kept busy.”

She recently penned an autobiography of her life and the adventures of the Gethsemane Quartet. The intimacy of a gospel singer, her life, love, family and friends

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shines in this. “This Is My Story; This Is My Song” has touched countless people.

Penny states, “You know, when I was eight years old, I promised the Lord, if he would send someone to sing gospel music with me, I would sing it the rest of my life. I even asked him to send me a black-curly haired blue-eyed man and he sent me Floyd. I can say I got

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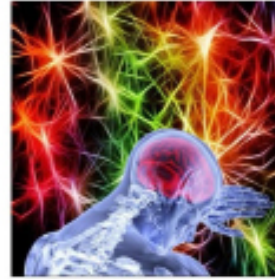
what I prayed for. I am so blessed. I am 89 now and still singing. I am doing what I promised and love to do. Singing and telling people about Jesus.

But there's more to the story than just the summary of facts. This is a love story of two people who met, fell in love, married, who raised a family while singing gospel music.

DEVON BLANTON AUTHOR

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POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	AMAZING AMOUNTS OF AMAZING GRACE	DOWN EAST BOYS/CROSSROADS
2	I SANG MYSELF HAPPY	OLD TIME PREACHERS QT/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
3	BETWEEN THE PRAYER AND THE ANSWER	LEFEVRE QUARTET/DAYWIND
4	FEAR NOT	TRIBUTE QUARTET/DAYWIND
5	THIS GRACE	JOSEPH HABEDANK/DAYWIND
6	HOW ABOUT YOU	WHISNANTS/UIA
7	I REMEMBER THE FISH	GREATER VISION/DAYWIND
8	HOW BIG IS GOD MEDLEY	GUARDIANS/STOWTOWN
9	GOD HAS PROVIDED HIMSELF A LAMB	MARK TRAMMELL QUARTET/CRIMSON ROAD
10	LOVE LIKE I'M LEAVIN	GAITHER VOCAL BAND/GAITHER MUSIC
11	WITHOUT JESUS	BRIAN FREE & ASSURANCE/DAYWIND
12	LEARNING TO DANCE IN THE RAIN	JEFF & SHERI EASTER/GAITHER MUSIC
13	DIDN'T HE PROMISE	LORE FAMILY/CROSSROADS
14	I'LL NEVER GET OVER THE BLOOD THAT I'M UNDER	KINGDOM HEIRS/CROSSROADS
15	ANGELS SING MY VICTORY SONG	SUNDAY DRIVE/CROSSROADS
16	THREE MEN ON A MOUNTAIN	ERNIE HAASE & SIGNATURE SOUND/STOWTOWN
17	KING OF KINGS	KINGSMEN/CROSSROADS
18	HAPPY GLAD DAY	HEART 2 HEART/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
19	NEVER A TIME	PERRYS/STOWTOWN
20	LOVE DON'T	11TH HOUR/CROSSROADS
21	BEHOLD THE LAMB	BOWLING FAMILY/RIVER HILL MUSIC
22	I WANT TO LIVE FOR JESUS	MYLON HAYES FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
23	GOD IS SHAKING OUR LAND	SWEETWATER REVIVAL/INDEPENDENT
24	PEACE LIKE A RIVER	MASTER'S VOICE/CROSSROADS
25	THERE IS A GOD	HYSSONGS/CHAPEL VALLEY
26	IF THIS ALTAR COULD TALK	WILLIAMSONS/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
27	TIL THE END	FREEMANS/INDEPENDENT
28	I GOT THE GRACE, HE GETS THE GLORY	OLD PATHS/CROSSROADS
29	THE HEALER IN THE GRAVE	TALLEYS/CROSSROADS
30	AFTER THE STORM	ERWINS/STOWTOWN
31	GRACE BECAME AMAZING	GORDON MOTE/NEW HAVEN/PROVIDENT/SONY
32	FOUNDATION	STEVE HESS & SOUTHERN SALVATION/MANSION
33	THOSE SAME HANDS	GOLD CITY/SONY
34	BEGINS WITH YOU	WISECARVERS/CROSSROADS
35	VICTORY ROAD	BIBLETONES/INDEPENDENT
36	HALLELUJAH HOMECOMING	WILBURN & WILBURN/DAYWIND
37	THE GOD I SERVE	KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER/DAYWIND
38	EYE OF THE STORM	TRIUMPHANT/STOWTOWN
39	HE'S STILL THERE	LANCE DRISKELL/INDEPENDENT
40	CITY OF GOLD	CHRONICLE/INDEPENDENT
41	HEAVENLY MUSIC	MARK DUBBELD FAMILY/SONG GARDEN
42	I'LL HAVE TO RUN	RIVER'S EDGE/INDEPENDENT
43	I'M SAVED	HOPPERS/HOPPER MUSIC GROUP
44	PREACHER'S DAUGHTER	PARDONED/MANSION
45	I BELIEVE THE BOOK	LEGACY FIVE/DAYWIND
46	GREAT GOD ALMIGHTY	THE SOUND/NEW DAY RECORDS
47	HAND ON THE PLOW	TROY BURNS FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
48	I'M TRAVELING ON	CAROLINA BOYS/CROSSROADS
49	SEND REVIVAL	JOSH AND ASHLEY FRANKS/INDEPENDENT
50	I KNOW HIM BETTER NOW	JIM & MELISSA BRADY/DAYWIND

SGN SCOOPS

HOME OF THE

DIAMOND



AWARDS

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
51	HOUSE OF GOD	TAYLORS/STOWTOWN
52	HERE I AM, LORD	4 CALVARY QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
53	WATER WALKER	KRAMERS/STOWTOWN
54	YOU CAN'T ASK TOO MUCH OF MY GOD	LES BUTLER/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
55	LEAVIN	LITTLES/INDEPENDENT
56	YOU'RE HELP IS ON THE WAY	JASON CRABB/DAYWIND
57	CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THE SOUND	JUSTIFIED QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
58	NOTHING BUT	THREE BRIDGES/CROSSROADS
59	BEGINNING AGAIN	GREG SULLIVAN/RESTING PLACE MUSIC
60	FOREVER SETTLED	INSPIRATIONS/CROSSROADS
61	BLESSED ASSURANCE	WALKERS/MANSION
62	WHEN I LEAVE IT IN YOUR HANDS	BILLY HUDDLESTON/INDEPENDENT
63	BETTER OFF THERE	BROWNS/STOWTOWN
64	AT MIDNIGHT	CANA'S VOICE/STOWTOWN
65	JORDAN	NELONS/DAYWIND
66	NO LONGER SLAVES	BATTLECRY/CHAPEL VALLEY
67	LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
68	GOD IS GOOD	MCKAMEYS/CROSSROADS
69	OLD CHURCH CHOIR	BALL BROTHERS/INDEPENDENT
70	INTO THE FOLD	HOPE'S JOURNEY/INDEPENDENT
71	I'LL SAY THANKS	JOHN WHISNANT/INDEPENDENT
72	I'LL PRAISE YOU	AUSTIN & ETHAN WHISNANT/UIA
73	DEVIL'S HAND	ADAM CRABB/DAYWIND
74	MOUNTAINTOP FOR ME	CRABB FAMILY/DAYWIND
75	I CAN'T QUIT	ADAM'S FAMILY/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
76	39 CHAPTERS LATER	LIBERTY QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
77	PRAY TIL YOU PRAY THROUGH	JAY STONE SINGERS/CROSSROADS
78	RETIREMENT HOME	ED MEADOWS/INDEPENDENT
79	STARBOARD SIDE	JUDITH MONTGOMERY FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
80	BOLD IN THE BOAT	FIELDS OF GRACE/INDEPENDENT
81	RIVER OF GRACE	ZANE & DONNA KING/JOURNEY RECORDS
82	WE NEED A SAVIOR	CAMI SHROCK/INDEPENDENT
83	CAPABLE HANDS	MICHAEL ROBERTS/INDEPENDENT
84	CLIMB	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
85	ALWAYS ANGELS	DAVID TIMMS/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
86	THEY TRIED	DOUG CORUM/INDEPENDENT
87	1945	INSPIRATIONS/CROSSROADS
88	MY LIFE A TESTIMONY	JOHNSON EDITION/INDEPENDENT
89	A NEW LOOK	BLACKWOOD BROTHERS/DAYWIND
90	WHERE WOULD I BE	BLYTHE FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
91	A WRETCH LIKE ME	LAUREN TALLEY/CROSSROADS
92	I CAN TELL YOU THE TIME	DIXIE MELODY BOYS/INDEPENDENT
93	MERCY CAME RUNNING	CHOSEN ROAD/SONG GARDEN
94	IT'S ALWAYS TOO SOON	DEBRA PERRY & JAIDYN'S CALL/INDEPENDENT
95	WE'RE ALL BROKEN	DUNAWAYS/INDEPENDENT
96	I WILL GO	FERGUSON FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
97	IN JESUS NAME WE PRAY	PORT CITY QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
98	SOMEWHERE PRAYING	BATES FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
99	HARBOR IN THE TIME OF STORM	BARBER FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
100	WHAT GRACE CAN DO	PHILLIPS FAMILY/INDEPENDENT

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POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	LORD, WE NEED YOU	PRIMITIVE QT/MOUNTAIN HERITAGE
2	THE BEGGAR AND THE KING	BRITTON FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
3	LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
4	BEGINNING AGAIN	GREG SULLIVAN/RESTING PLACE MUSIC
5	I'LL STAND FOR THE BLOOD	KNIGHT FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
6	HE HEARS MY EVERY PRAYER	JESSICA HORTON/M.A.C. RECORDS
7	TELL THE WORLD THAT JESUS SAVES	CHIGGER HILL BOYS & TERRI/GREAT ESCAPE RECORDS
8	COME ON HOME	TIM DAVIS/INDEPENDENT
9	SOMEDAYS I FEEL LIKE DAVID	LAKESIDE/INDEPENDENT
10	READY TO SERVE	ROCHESTERS/INDEPENDENT

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	PREACHER'S DAUGHTER	PARDONED/MANSION
2	LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
3	SINGIN' MAMA TO SLEEP	CHRISTIAN DAVIS/INDEPENDENT
4	RIDING THE WIND	JACKSON HEIGHTS/CENTERSTAGE MUSIC GROUP
5	I TALK TO GOD	MARY BURKE/INDEPENDENT
6	PATIENTLY WAITING	STEVE BRIDGMON/INDEPENDENT
7	HE IS THERE	JIM SHELTON/ZENITH RECORDS
8	FIT FOR A KING	GENE WATSON/INDEPENDENT
9	CLIMB	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
10	THANK YOU LORD FOR THIS DAY	CHRIS GOLDEN/INDEPENDENT
11	A DAY	CAROL BARHAM/M.A.C. RECORDS
12	I AM NOT AFRAID	DONNA ULISSE/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
13	BLIND MAN IN THE BLEACHERS	AARON WILBURN/INDEPENDENT
14	BLESSED ASSURANCE	WALKERS/MANSION
15	BROKEN CHINA	MICHAEL ROBERTS/INDEPENDENT
16	MY LORD IS TAKING GOOD CARE OF ME	DETTY SISTERS/INDEPENDENT
17	CAN I RUN AWAY FROM HERE	SHARON STEWART & OUT OF ASHES
18	STILL A SPECIAL PLACE	TONY ALAN BATES/INDEPENDENT
19	I WON'T TURN AROUND	CARTER FAMILY BAND/INDEPENDENT
20	BUILD ONE FOR ME	ED MEADOWS/INDEPENDENT
21	LAUGH OFTEN	KALI ROSE/INDEPENDENT
22	MERCY CAME RUNNING	CHOSEN ROAD/SONG GARDEN
23	A GREATER HEALING	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
24	HAND ON THE PLOW	TROY BURNS FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
25	HE HEARS MY EVERY PRAYER	JESSICA HORTON/M.A.C. RECORDS
26	LET'S PUT GOD BACK IN AMERICA	STEVE WARREN/INDEPENDENT
27	AMERICAN HEROES	HUNTER MAY/INDEPENDENT
28	YOU'RE EVERYWHERE	SHELLEM CLINE/TIRE SWING RECORDS
29	ALWAYS ANGELS	DAVID TIMMS/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
30	CAPABLE HANDS	MICHAEL ROBERTS/INDEPENDENT
31	THEY TRIED	DOUG CORUM/INDEPENDENT
32	MY RETIREMENT HOME	ED MEADOWS/INDEPENDENT
33	NO ONE'LL EVER LOVE ME	TAMMY RENEE/INDEPENDENT
34	BEGINNING AGAIN	GREG SULLIVAN/INDEPENDENT
35	MEMORIES	CORI AND KELLY/INDEPENDENT
36	ONE DROP OF BLOOD	EADES FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
37	COME ON DOWN	BARRY LEE WHITE/INDEPENDENT
38	MOUNTAIN MOVING GOD	PURPOSE/CHAPEL VALLEY
39	HOLY GHOST REACTION	KEVIN & KIM ABNEY/INDEPENDENT
40	OH THE LORD HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME	DENNIS JOLLY/CHAPEL VALLEY


POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	COME TO JESUS MEETIN'	GERALD CRABB/INDEPENDENT
2	MADE RIGHT	KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER/DAYWIND
3	MY HOME	BROWDERS/INDEPENDENT
4	MAKE THE LAST DAYS COUNT	TIM LIVINGSTON/DIAMOND MILL MUSIC
5	HERE'S A REMINDER	HOSKINS FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
6	WHAT IF JESUS	STEELE'S/STOWTOWN
7	I BELIEVE	RICKY ATKINSON & COMPASSION/RESTING PLACE MUSIC
8	GIVE IT TO JESUS	3 HEATH BROTHERS/CROSSROADS
9	LIKE IT'S ALREADY DONE	BARRY ROWLAND & DELIVERANCE/FAMILY MUSIC
10	JAILBREAK	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
11	NOBODY	GLORYWAY QT/INDEPENDENT
12	ANCHOR OF MY SOUL	CHANDLERS/CHAPEL VALLEY
13	DEAR JOHN	KINGSMEN/CROSSROADS
14	I HAVE TASTED AND SEEN	FAITHFUL CROSSINGS/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
15	LOOK AT ALL I LOST	OLD PATHS/CROSSROADS
16	THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN	MICHAEL BOOTH/DAYWIND
17	PRAYING WHILE I'M WAITING	REAL TRUTH REVIVAL/INDEPENDENT
18	I'LL PRAISE YOU	AUSTIN AND ETHAN WHISNANT/UIA
19	HOPE FOR THE WORLD	JORDAN FAMILY BAND/CROSSROADS
20	HEADED HOME ALMOST THERE	HAZEL PARKER STANLEY/INDEPENDENT


SEPTEMBER 2020

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ENDLESS HIGHWAY

GOSPEL MUSIC'S NEW GREAT FAMILY GROUP

By Justin McLeod

Family groups have been a constant in Gospel music for generations, but one such group has been making waves across the industry in recent times. Meet Endless Highway.

The group is a true family, consisting of Jason and Vanessa Griggs and their children; son Jay is 24 and daughter Ally is 20 years old. Both Jason and Vanessa come from musically-rich heritages, and they have continued that tradition with their own family.

If you're not familiar with Endless Highway, it could be because the group has only sung under that moniker since 2017. Prior to that summer, the Griggs', along with Vanessa's parents, Perry and Nell Wimberley, sang as The Joylanders. Formed in the early 1970s, the Joylanders sang continuously from their beginning until the Wimberleys left the road. With the change in on-stage personnel, the group decided to undergo a complete rebranding.

"There were some off-stage considerations that went into it," Jason said. "We're now in the third generation, my kids, of carrying on this legacy, and a name is a name. The legacy is going to continue no matter what name we're under... the Scripture tie-in for our name comes from Isaiah 35:8-10, too. That's our Scripture reference."

The passage of Scripture that underscores the group's still-new name reads, in the eighth verse, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." (KJV)

Despite a rigorous slate of concerts during the course of a normal year, three members of the group work full-time jobs outside of their touring schedule. Jason works as the general manager of a local utility company near the family's hometown of Milan, Tennessee, while Jay works for the city's



parks and recreation department, and Ally works at a gym.

If you've ever watched one of the family's impromptu Facebook Live videos, then you've seen different members of the clan in their natural element, and what you see is genuinely what you get, according to Jason.

"We're normal people who work and try to do what we believe God called us to do through music," said the family patriarch. "Reach people, tell them about Jesus, and encourage them. It's ministry; music is just the vehicle that we get to do it by. But we always say, all of life is ministry. When you're working, it's ministry. When you're eating at the restaurant, it's ministry. You don't have to be holding a microphone or an instrument to minister."

Attend an Endless Highway concert, and you're likely to get quite a musical sampler. The group embraces their identity of being something of a Gospel "variety show," including becoming a full bluegrass band during a portion of each concert. They mix the bluegrass in with classic Southern Gospel and some modern songs for an experience that's sure to have a little something for everyone.

"We love all styles of music," Jason declares. "If

you come hear us, you're going to hear a few songs with tracks. We like to throw in some a cappella arrangements, too. Then we'll do some straight-up bluegrass and some other acoustic stuff. We want you to be able to, at the end of an hour or so, look at your watch and think 'Wow, has it been that long?' We never want someone to get bored."

Even though their concerts may run the gamut of their various stylistic options, the exact opposite is true of the group's recordings. "We realize that there are a lot of people who prefer one certain style of music, whether it be bluegrass or good ole' Southern Gospel at its finest," Jason said. "When we do a recording, we try to stick to one thing so that if somebody likes a certain part of what we do, then there is something that they can know they'll enjoy all the way through."

While Vanessa's family is the lineage of the group itself, Jason also has his roots in the Gospel music world. Members of his family made up the well-known group the Songmasters, and his uncle is Dale Shipley, the original lead singer for Perfect Heart who is now with Jordan's Bridge.

Earlier this year, Endless Highway released a new EP entitled Countless; the album's title track was

also it's first single.

"These are all songs that, if you come see us, we're going to play these live. These aren't going to be tracks," Jason noted. "That was the real purpose of the EP; to give us something with those songs that we will actually play and sing live. Coupled with that, we had wanted to do a project of what are called 'story songs.' They're not necessarily Bible stories like Jonah in the whale or Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, but these are life-type stories with the Gospel woven into them. You have to really live some of the songs to relate to them, and because of that, people really can relate on a very deep level. Incredible depth of lyric in these songs, and they're the kind of songs where you'll later have people come to the product table and just hold you and start pouring out life stories."



Normally appearing at more than 100 concerts and services every year, the group has been hit as hard as anyone by COVID-19. "It's really shut us down," Jason said of the raging pandemic.

"We've had some [pastors] that were even trying to wait until the last minute, in case the restrictions were eased up a little, but that hasn't happened. It makes you really grateful for the ones that we're still able to fulfill, but it's definitely been our hardest year."

Despite the year's hardships, another new project is around the corner for Endless Highway. Produced by Wayne Haun, the album itself was even affected by social distancing rules when it came time to record certain pieces of the orchestration in



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the studio. The project is set to showcase a more progressive Gospel sound, according to Jason, and will add yet another dimension to the group's repertoire.

In 2019, the group appeared on the mainstage of the National Quartet Convention, and are scheduled to double that appearance total if this year's event continues as planned. They also recently appeared among a stellar list of headliners at the Lebanon Gospel Music Get-Together in Lebanon, Missouri. Even as the group has reached new heights in the last couple of years and have taken the stage in front of a variety of audiences, they have remained true to their calling of advancing the cause of Christ.

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Sitting Down With The Sound



By Jantina de Haan

With the success of the first release from their new album *Make It Count*, Michigan-native group The Sound truly is making it count.

This father-son trio is quickly ascending through the ranks of Gospel Music, earning a number one song with “Can I Get A Witness” and their first Dove Award nomination just within the last few months.

Re-branded from their former identity as The Rob Mills Family, The Sound is now comprised of father Rob Mills and his two sons, Levi and Jacob. This family is laden with talent, creating a unique sound along with tight family harmony. I recently had the opportunity to catch up with them and talk about life on the road as a family, their ministry, and their journey.

Janitina de Haan: How is it traveling as a father-son trio--how do you separate the family dynamic from the ministry?

The Sound: Obviously we’re family and some of that relationship bleeds over into everything we do, but it’s important for us to remember that any disagreements we may have as a group aren’t personal. Fortunately, we’re generally in agreement with each other on most major decisions regarding The Sound. That’s a blessing.

Janitina de Haan: What wise lessons have you all learned

traveling as family?

The Sound: We make sure we spend quality time together. It’s easy to get wrapped up in touring and recording, but we take time to do fun things as a family while we’re on the road. That’s been important to our love for traveling together.

Janitina de Haan: You are talented singers, but not only that, you write your own music. What inspires you to write these fresh songs?

The Sound: The gospel is clearly the driving force behind what we do but, beyond that, other artists really inspire us to write quality music for others to enjoy. We have a very real love for both the Gospel and great music. Other artists help to set the bar higher for us, for sure.

Janitina de Haan: How did your partnership with Daywind come about?

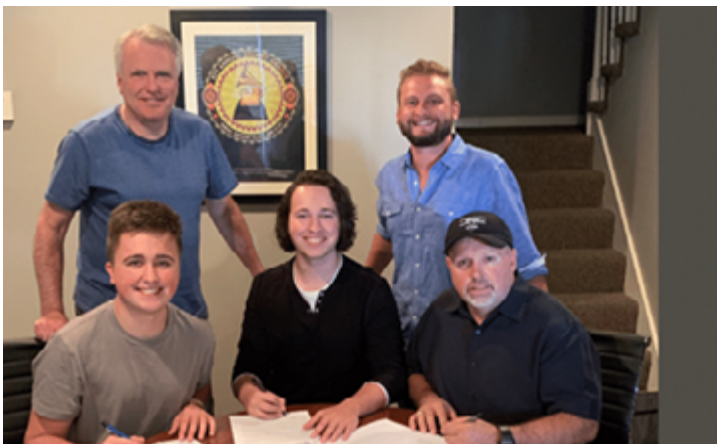
The Sound: Scott Godsey was the Vice President and A&R Director for Daywind at the time. He actually put out a question on Facebook asking for unsigned artists that he could listen to. Several people gave him our name and the rest is history! We met with the Daywind team and entered into an agreement with their New Day Record label. We’re very fortunate to be able to work with our Daywind family!

THE SOUND



Janitina de Haan: Share with us how this journey in ministry affects each of you personally.

Janitina de Haan: Just now you released a new fun song “Great God Almighty.” Tell us-- what is the message of the song? In what category can we place the style of this song?



The Sound: It’s been a learning experience and we feel like we’ve all grown spiritually over the years. We re-launched The Sound in 2017; making music together that impacts others has allowed us all to strengthen our connection with God and each other.

The Sound: Great God Almighty is a song of hope and trust in the Lord. It was originally recorded by a band called Third Day on their final album. It’s southern, for sure, but in many ways: It’s gospel and it has country overtones, but it also has the drive of some older “southern rock” music. It was very fun to record and it’s a blast to sing live!

Janitina de Haan: Levi and Jacob, when and how did you know that you wanted to follow Jesus?

The Sound: We both trusted Jesus at a young age and we’ve been a work in progress ever since! We both felt like we understood the Gospel and what salvation meant. We understood that we needed to be saved. Our relationships with Jesus have strengthened since then and he’s been the driving force behind our lives for years now.

Janitina de Haan: How do you reach the younger generation with the message of that Jesus still saves?

The Sound: The Gospel isn't a message that ever gets old. It's as real today as it was centuries ago. It's important to remember that the message doesn't change, but the delivery does. It's our responsibility as Christians to find the most effective way of delivering the greatest message on earth. If we allow the Lord to lead, he'll show us the path we need to take.

Janitina de Haan: What is your definition of a good song?

The Sound: There are several things that make a song truly great. Unfortunately many genres of music today only focus on one or two elements of excellence in a song. A great song is great musically, lyrically, vocally, and sonically. Most songs have just one or two of those elements, but when you can check off each of those boxes, you know you're listening to something that's truly magical.

Janitina de Haan: Where do you see yourselves in ministry 5 years from now and in personal life?

The Sound: In 5 years we'd love to be at a point in our career where we've impacted thousands, if not millions more

people. Social media will certainly be a big part of that and we're working very hard towards it. As a fun goal though, we'd love to play the Grand Ole' Opry someday!

Whether through social media or concerts both big and small, you can bet that we haven't heard the last from The Sound. This family will continue to make every opportunity they are given to share the gospel count. If you would like more information on The Sound, please visit their website at www.thesound.org.



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Les Butler and Friends: Daryl Mosley

By Les Butler



I first met Daryl Mosley about 20 years ago when he was a member of the super group, New Tradition. Wow, they were something else and Daryl's singing, upright bass playing, and especially his writing were integral parts of their huge success! Hear me and hear me well; Daryl is one of the best writers holding a pen today. The Southern Gospel world wouldn't have "(Ask the Blind Man) He Saw It All" if not for the writer Daryl Mosley. These days he's hit the solo road, and I wish him the very best. The Gospel music world needs folks like Daryl Mosley!

Les Butler: What is your earliest musical memory?

Daryl Mosley: My mom sang and played guitar. She is a tiny woman with this great big, Vestal Goodman-like voice. I remember her singing at church, playing an old Gibson guitar when I was just a lad.

LB: Tell us your personal history. Where are you from? What was your upbringing like?

DM: I was born, raised, and still live in Waverly, Tennessee. I was raised in a very "Father Knows Best" kind of household where Dad worked and mom stayed home with us kids. I played with neighborhood friends, played baseball, etc. It was a great childhood.

LB: Tell us about your family.

DM: My mom is still with us. We lost Dad in 2015. I have 3 sisters who live close by. Sandy and I have 3 children. Tyler is 29, Amanda is 25, and Ben is 22. I'm very blessed.

LB: Give the folks a short history of your musical journey, bands you've been with, etc.

DM: My first professional job was in the 1990s with the band New Tradition. I left the band in 2000 and joined The Osborne Brothers, which gave me about 10 years on the Grand Ole Opry. In 2010, I started the band The Farm Hands and toured with them until September of last year when I decided to pursue a solo career.\

LB: What are you doing these days?

DM: I've been working (as much as Covid-19 will permit) doing concerts at churches, songwriter venues, etc. I have a brand new album out on Pinecastle Records called "The Secret of Life" and it's doing very well.

LB: You are a great singer, musician and songwriter. If you could only do one, which would it be and why?

DM: I've always loved to sing, but the older I get, the



more I appreciate the legacy of songs and songwriting. I think I will likely be remembered more for the songs than my singing and that's just fine with me.

LB: Do you recall the first song you ever wrote? How old were you and what was it about?

DM: My very first song attempt was about the unrequit-

ed love from a classmate. As you can imagine, it was terrible. My next song was a gospel song. Hopefully, it was better. It's still my hope that I continue to grow as a writer.

LB: Who are some of the artists who have recorded some of your songs?

DM: I've been really blessed. I've had songs recorded by artists ranging from The Booth Brothers to Lynn Anderson, Bobby Osborne, Ken Holloway, Josh Williams and others.

LB: What's the favorite song you've written and why?

DM: It's hard to pick just one but one of my special favorites is "I Would" that was a hit for Ronnie Booth. I still enjoy performing that one live.

LB: What is the biggest song you've ever written?

DM: (Ask the Blind Man) He Saw It All. I'm still amazed at the way God has used that song. I've been told so many stories from people of how that song has



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and just spending time with the family.

LB: Give us a brief testimony.

DM: I was 14 and our pastor, Brother Silas Decker offered the invitation. I knew without a doubt that I was lost and I needed to surrender to Jesus. I went forward and gave my heart and life to Him. I was baptized in the creek behind the church. God was with me then and continues to be. It's been a very blessed life.

impacted their life. I'm so blessed that He allowed me to hold the pen on that one.

LB: When you're not picking and singing, what are you doing?

DM: I play a little golf. I enjoy antique stores, traveling,

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Getting to know the Greesons



By Robert York

The Greesons, a family group from a small town of less than 4,000 people just south of Chattanooga in Ringgold, Georgia, have been singing for over thirty years. All members of the Tri-State Hall of Fame, the current group members are Karen Greeson Demastus, Lisa Greeson Dykes Booth, Darrell Demastus and KC Brandon.

Herschel and Elon Greeson were married on May 5, 1962. They have three children: Lisa, Karen and Eric. From an early age, these parents instilled within their children the love of music and began singing with their mother while their father played the piano for them. Karen stated, “Lisa and myself sang as The Cross Bearers with a friend in our church during our early and preteen years.”

Karen said, “From a very young age I had a speech impediment that required years of classes with a speech pathologist. So I know first hand about being different. But on a Saturday night in April of 1978 I accepted God’s invitation and put my faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. When I returned to school that year in August, I tested out of speech class. With God doing something so miraculous in me how could I not sing His praise. I served a wonderful Savior.”

The first song Karen and Lisa sang was “Hallelujah Square.” Reminiscing, Karen stated, “I am certain that Dad still has the eight track tape of this in his collection somewhere. We would also sing for our Uncle James who would reward us a quarter for a song.”

In 1985, Karen married Darrell Demastus. Darrell, who grew up in the small town of Elkton, Tennessee, also had a love for music. “At age 12 I was saved and joined Elkton Baptist Youth Choir and at age 15, along with other members from the choir, formed a youth quartet. We continued to sing as a quartet through our first year of college.”

Darrell and Karen have two children, Joey and Christian, who shared the stage with them for many years although they no longer travel with them. As parents, they cherished the years they ministered together as a family – singing, encouraging, and helping to enlarge God’s church.

Lisa was born on Valentine Day in Fort Payne, Alabama. She remarked, “I love the Lord with all my heart. I am so glad He spoke to me when I was a young girl and I accepted Him into my heart. I thank God for my parents who took us to church and taught us to love the Lord and to serve Him with all our hearts.” She was



married to Tony Drake for 22 years and they had two children, Emily and Jacob. In May of 2008 at the age of 45, Tony was diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer. After two and a half years, on November 4, 2010, he went to be with the Lord whom he had sung about for so long.

But Lisa's story didn't end there. In September of 2015, she met Kenny Booth whom she later married on April 8, 2017. "We had a beautiful beach wedding," she recalls. "God surely played a part in our life for us to find one another. What a journey God is allowing to happen. Make sure to ask me or him when you have time and we would love to tell you."



The newest and youngest member of the group is KC Brandon. While not a family member in the truest sense, the group often refers to him as their adopted son saying that he spends more time at their dinner table and in their house than he does his own. KC also grew up with roots in a musical family who sang together as The Brandons.



"I traveled with my family for ten years. I was saved January 18, 1983, and raised in a Christian home. I'm a PK (pastor kid). Even though I had been in church whenever the doors opened, I never had a personal relationship that everybody thought I had due to who my parents were. Just by reading a track that was left at my house, I asked Jesus into my heart in my living room. If it wasn't for the Grace of God, I'd be on my way to hell today. I'm thankful that God is a God of second, third, fourth and even fifth chances. Although I know I'll never get it right, one thing I got right is the day I asked Him into my heart."



During his career he has traveled with Devin McGlamery and Doug Anderson on the D&D tour. He has also filled in with numerous groups. He recalls one rather embarrassing incident while on the road. "When I was singing with my family, we sang at a church in Alabama. I had previously purchased a new pair of dress shoes that were very slick on the bottom. Well, that night they called us up to sing; there were a lot of steps to the stage. It was all well and good....until I got to the next to the last step. My foot slipped and down I went. I turned around, and the first three rows on the left side of the church was full of young people who got a great laugh at my expense."

Although currently traveling with The Greesons, KC continues to do some solo dates.

On a personal note, August of 2019 became a very important time in his life as he married the lady of his dreams, Victoria Lynn Brandon. The two of them are expecting their first child in November.

All of the members of The Greesons not only share a love for music, but they also share a passion to tell the world about Jesus and what He did at the cross. Lisa declared, "I am blessed to still be singing and traveling with my family. I can't help but sing unto Him, the one who meets our every need and guides us."

The Greesons have had several radio releases and are hoping soon to release "Because Of The Cross."

Keep up with The Greesons at www.thegreesons.com and on Facebook at facebook.com/greesons.



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THE INSIDE SCOOP ON



JACKSON HEIGHTS

By Suzanne Mason

Jackson Heights' new album, *This Thing Called Life*, matches country sound with lyrics about everyday life to create a deeply moving soundtrack for today's listener. With 11 new songs that each paint a vivid picture, this Christian country music group masters storytelling, faith, and the Christian Everyman perspective.

The name Jackson Heights might be new in Christian music, but the artists are not. Formerly with the Dixie Melody Boys/DMB, a pioneer group in the Christian country genre in the 1980's, Kent Humphrey, Allen O'Neal, and Frank Sutton have joined with Jordan Humphrey, Olan Witt, and Jeremy Edwards to form Jackson Heights. After a 25-year hiatus, the emergence of crossover bands, and the wider acceptance of the Christian country genre, the guys have reignited their passion for "the message and the music that we do. It's a natural part of who we are," Kent Humphrey explained to me.

This Thing Called Life presents a mix of upbeat, contemplative, worshipful, and country ballad songs, a nice panoply of music, much of it written by Humphrey. "It's

fun singing about everyday life and things we have to deal with," he says. "We're all human, and we all have things we have to go through. I like to write about things that hit me where I'm at in life."

It seems many of the things that have hit Humphrey are especially poignant now. "God's Waiting Room," one of my favorite songs on the album, walks through the struggle of waiting on God while highlighting the lessons that can be learned during and the benefits of that struggle. "I Cry" describes the restless mind of one crying out to the Lord for help, safety, and healing while acknowledging that God cares and loves us deeply. "Fight," an upbeat mantra-song featuring Duane Allen of the Oak Ridge Boys, emphatically encourages believers to "fight for what [you] believe," even as the world tries to influence your walk.

Though the title may seem ironic at first, "God Doesn't Care" is actually quite compelling. Another wonderful song penned by Humphrey, it reminds us just how strong God's love is and how little He cares about our past as long as we seek the salvation He has offered to



us. The album's title song, "Living This Thing Called Life," describes the handling of life's day-to-day problems by sticking it out together. And "Here in This Place" is a reverent recollection of the church (his grandfather's Methodist church, Humphrey told me) where he found salvation.

Not many groups get the opportunity to re-form their band after a 25-year hiatus, but Jackson Heights, with lyrics that paint vivid pictures and their blend of Chris-

tian and country sounds, has successfully managed to bridge that gap. "We're more grateful than ever that God has opened the door for us to travel and perform," Humphrey says. "We're extremely blessed."

For more information on Jackson Heights, their music, and potential upcoming travel dates, please visit www.JacksonHeightsMusic.com. This Thing Called Life is available now on Spotify and Apple Music.



Remembering the Fun Times **MOMENTS FROM CREEKSIDES' PAST**

By Rob Patz and Staci Schwager

As many of you have probably heard by now the Creekside Gospel Music Convention, which takes place in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, every fall has been postponed until 2021.

While we hated to cancel the event slated for the end of next month, for the safety of everyone – our friends, fans and artists alike – we felt like this was the best option.

Just because the popular hashtag event “#wearefamily” isn’t happening in 2020, Covid-19 couldn’t stop us from having some fun celebrating what would have been our 8th annual event.

We did some digging and found some great memories from the past 8 years and are bringing them to you this month. We hope you enjoy reflecting on many great years, past performances, special events as well as some great memories of those who have gone along before us and walked through those pearly gates.

While we will miss seeing all of our friends in person, we hope this will put a smile on your face and we can’t wait to see everyone again in the fall for Creekside 2021! #WEAREFAMILY









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For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

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.



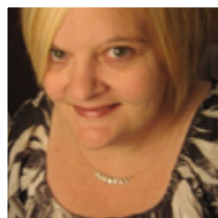
Stephanie Kelley is a public speaker and owner of Queen-O-Q, a blog featuring coupon match-ups, freebies, samples and information on frugal living. She is married, has three children and lives in Washington State. Queenoq.blogspot.com



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.



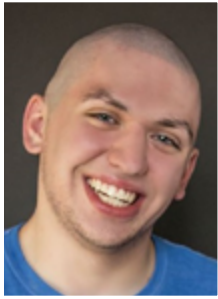
Joan Walker grew up with music in the house and first heard Southern Gospel in her early teens. With almost a quirky (some may say 'weird') need to make sure words are spelled correctly and the apostrophes are in the right place, she enjoys proofreading the articles for the SGN Scoops magazine each month...and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



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.

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



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.



Jeff Lowe, from Massillon, Ohio, has been involved in Southern Gospel Music for 46+ years. In 1974, at the age of 14, Jeff started singing bass with The Souleseekers, a mixed group from his hometown. There have been several groups since that time, and in 2009, Jeff started Mercy River Quartet. Eleven years later, the group is still serving the Lord and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Having written for other publications. Jeff is excited to be a part of the SGNscoops family!

Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



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."