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OUR MISSION

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

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PUBLISHER'S POINT - I

by Rob Patz



Welcome to the November edition of the Publisher's Point! November makes us think about being thankful and during this month I always like to take inventory of all the blessings that the Lord has allowed in my life. I'm thankful for a great staff here at SGN Scoops and a wonderful family who supports me throughout the year with everything that I do.

This November also marks the third anniversary of the Creekside Gospel Music Convention which just came to a close, and I have to tell you that I am so excited and blessed by how this year's Creekside turned out. We had a wonderful time of music and fellowship! I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this year's event so special. If you missed Lou Hildreth Honors Willie Wynn plan to see it on channel 57 coming out very soon. Also, the Diamond Awards will be on channel 57.

This year, we added a brand-new part to Creekside, and that was Midnight Prayer. It was an awesome time of fellowship and singing, and it was something to renew our souls and bring the needs of the Creekside community together. Make plans to join us November 2nd through the 5th, 2015 for the fourth Creekside Gospel Music Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Ephesians 5:20(ESV) "Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..." This is one of my favorite scriptures and I know it's difficult at times to be thankful for everything, but it says give thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes we might be going through hard things and we can't imagine being thankful for them, but please know that God is with us throughout all of what we are going through. If you want to talk to me about this faith, please email me at rob@sgnscoops.com.

GospelGigs.com Featured Grou for November

Support Southern Gospel music and support these groups the next time they're in your area.

Ascension Quartet

http://www.theascensionqt.com

Appointed Quartet

http://www.appointedqt.com

Blackwood Brothers Quartet

http://www.blackwoodbrothers.com

Bradford Ministries

http://www.facebook.com/ bradfordministries1

The Bridgemans

http://www.thebridgemans.com

Christy Sutherland

http://www.christysutherland.com

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http://www.we-are-delivered.com

Divine Mercy

http://www.divinemercysingers.com

4 His Praise Trio

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Full Life Trio

http://www.fulllifetrio.com

Gospel Messengers

http://www.gospelmessengersministries.

The Harvey Family http://www.gospelgigs.com/ theharveyfamily

The Helmsmen

http://www.thenewhelmsmen.com

The Heritage Quartet

http://www.theheritagequartet.com

The Inmans

http://www.theinmans.com

Jeff Steinberg Ministry Team

http://www.tinygiant.com

Jim Sheldon

http://www.jimsheldonmsic.com

John & Dody Martin

http://www.martinminitries.org

LeFevre Quartet

http://www.thelefevrequartet.com

Living Fountains

http://www.gospelgigs.com/ livingfountains

Lumber River Quartet

http://www.lumberriverministries.com

The Masters Men + 1

http://www.mastersmenquartet.com

Masters Promise

http://www.masterspromise.com

Mercy River Quartet

http://www.mercyriverqt.com

One Way Quartet

http://www.onewayquartet.org

Persuaded

http://www.youtube.com/user/ PersuadedVideo

Pine Ridge Boys

http://www.pineridgeboys.com

The Representatives

http://www.therepresentativesquartet.

Roger Wells Ministries

http://www.rogerwellsministries.com

Servants Call

http://www.servantscall.net

Siouxland Gospel Promotions

http://www.facebook.com/ SiouxlandGospelPromotions

Soul Seeking Disciples

http://www.gospelgigs.com/thessds

Sounds of Jericho

http://www.soundsofjericho.com

Southern Plainsmen Quartet

http://www.southernplainsmen.com

Southern Tradition

http://www.americanheritagemusic.com

Steve Jones

http://www.stevejonesgospelmusicministry.

Stephen Wood

http://www.gospelgigs.com/ stephenwoodministries

Three Parts Grace

http://www.gospelgigs.com/threepartsgrace

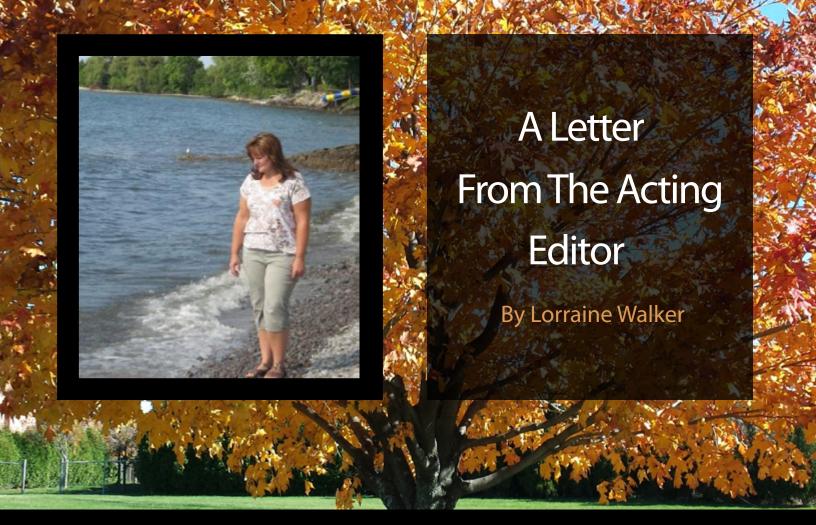
2 Determined

http://www.gospelgigs.com/2determined

Unity 4 Quartet

http://www.theunityfour.com

The Worlds Largest Southern Gospel Search Engine http://www.GospelGigs.com



Happy Thanksgiving! This month we celebrate Thanksgiving and the beginning of the holiday season leading into Christmas. In this month's SGN Scoops magazine, we also celebrate Creekside Gospel Music Convention, which is four days full of thanksgiving to the Lord for His music, His artists and His Word. We know that this Word was and is God, but also became flesh on that first Christmas, allowing us to know God like never before. So we give Him thanks during Christmas, during Creekside and during the Thanksgiving season.

I read a church sign that hit home with me. "Thanksgiving is a way of life, not just a day in your life." I hope that you live a life of thanksgiving to God and to those around you. I hope too that you will thank God each morning for the precious gift of a day in which to serve Him. Some days it is harder than others to thank God. But remember, "This is the day the Lord has made, I WILL rejoice and be glad in it." Find something in the day in which to thank the Lord for, even if it is just for the air you breathe. Encourage others to look to the Lord with thanksgiving and that will help strengthen your will to rejoice and be glad. Put on some music that points your spirit to Jesus and begin to rejoice! Read these pages that talk about the artists that strive to be an encouragement and find your faith renewed.

We hope you will enjoy our coverage of Creekside and the 2014 Diamond Awards, where we salute the artists making the music we love. Thanks to all the artists who poured their talents into these days of wonderful music and fellowship. Thank you for your generosity and giving of your best to our audience!

All of our staff and many volunteers work hard all year long to bring Creekside to fruition. Rob Patz, Vonda Easley, Ava Kasich, Donnie Williamson, Tim Griffin, Jean Grady, Jonathan Edwards, Marcie Gray, Vivian Belknap, Holly Faith May and so many more spent hours and hours in the planning and executing of this Convention. Thank you all for your hard work. We really missed Ms. Lou Will Hildreth at Creekside this year and we sincerely hope, Lou, that you are able to join us next year.

Although we strive to put our very best into each and every issue, we do make errors from time to time. Last month we featured Gold City in an article by Melissa Joy Wright that contained lovely photographs by Kimberly Roberts. We neglected to give Kimberly credit for the pictures and we apologize for that oversight. You can find out more about the photography of Kimberly Roberts by visiting the website of 4 His Love, at 4hislove.com . Thank you Kimberly for your sharing your gifts with us!

I want to take a moment here to personally thank all of the contributors to SGN Scoops who work so diligently every month. Each of you is valuable and special, and I thank God for you. From our Publisher, Rob Patz, to our creative set-up and artistic team, to all the writers and our proofreader, Joan Walker. Thank you!

As we celebrate this time of Thanksgiving, we also take a moment to remember those who have fought to give us the



freedom we enjoy. Veteran's Day and Remembrance Day both serve to remind us once again, that freedom comes with a price. We were hit once more with that reality last month when a man with a gun shot an unarmed guard at the Canadian National War Memorial and then proceeded through the government buildings, spraying bullets within inches of where the Prime Minister was sequestered. In North America it is becoming more and more obvious that terrorism comes

in many forms. Let us be thankful for those who uphold our peace, whatever uniform they wear.

Let us also be thankful for our ultimate Peace-giver, Jesus Christ. He has given us this day, this hour, this minute to live for Him. Let us make this day our day of thanksgiving, and make thanksgiving a way of life. If you have any questions or comments about this article or anything you read in this issue, please write me. lorraine@sgnscoops.com





November has arrived and I am overwhelmed with the blessings of God. No doubt, God poured out His anointing on the Creekside Gospel Music Convention, November 3, 4, 5, and 6th. Although I could not attend, I joined you in spirit, especially at those Midnight Prayer services. Much appreciation is due Rob Patz, Lorraine Walker, and the Scoops staff for last month's October issue.

The story on Willie Wynn set the tone for Creekside's Monday night's celebration of this LEG-END. Willie deserved every honor shown him, and Woody Wright's presence always makes for a great event. Howard and I love Willie and Sandi and missed

being there so much.

The Diamond Awards are so dear to my heart and I appreciate the honor of the "Lou Hildreth Award" being included with the other recognitions of service. Giving the 2014 Award to Tim Lovelace was especially delightful. He is making a huge impact for gospel music as host of the "Music City Show" on RFD-TV. Tim and Mary Alice have been longtime precious friends. He was the emcee for my "Celebration of 75 Years In Gospel Music" at Creekside 2012 and helped me present the "Lou Hildreth Award" to Pat Mathis, WATC-TV of Atlanta.



Thanks be to our Heavenly Father for blessing the 2014 Creekside Gospel Music Convention!

My LIFE has been blessed. Howard and I celebrated our 68th Wedding Anniversary on November 3rd. My sweetheart has done the housework, plus caring

for me, as I recover from a broken ankle. So thankful to be doing very well and walking some, just not able to travel.

Thank you, dear friends, for your LOVE, prayers, cards and e-mails. God is faithful! Lou Hildreth gosplvideo@al.com P. O. Box 271106 Houston, TX 77277



Photographs courtesy of Lou Wills Hildreth.

Photo A-- Willie & Sandi Wynn & Lou Hildreth

Photo B-- Tim Lovelace, MC at Lou Hildreth's Celebration, Creekside 2012

Photo C-- Pat Mathis, WATC-TV Atlanta, recipient "Lou Hildreth Award" 2012 Diamond Awards





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His Mercies celebrated the release of their latest CD, Onward, during the Convention. They are pictured on stage during the Chapel Valley Showcase.



Little Willie Wynn and friends have a bash at Creekside. Willie was honored by Lou Wills Hildreth (in absentia). Jonathan Edwards presented Willie with a plaque from Lou. Then Woody Wright and friends joined Willie onstage for a time of laughter, memories and music.



Chapel Valley Showcase: Richard Hysong hosted the Chapel Valley Showcase at Creekside Gospel Convention. Featured artists included Glad Heart, Terry Collins, His Mercies, The Pruitts, Michael Wayne Smith, Chapel Road and the Hopkins Family. Pictured: The Pruitts.



Morris Music Group Showcase included Hope's Journey, The Stephens, Tina Wakefield, Exodus, Clear Vision, Linda Foster, Charlie Sexton, Undivided, The Drummond Family, Faith's Journey, Higher Hope and more. Pictured: Hope's Journey.



2014 Diamond Awards Gala Event

Pigeon Forge, TN.(November 5, 2014) – SGN Scoops and Creekside Gospel Music Convention were proud to present the 2014 Diamond Awards on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The gala celebration was hosted by Tim Lovelace and included appearances by The Blackwoods, Karen Peck and New River, the Dixie Melody Boys, the Freemans and many others. The evening was also filmed by WATC, Channel 57 of Atlanta, Georgia, to be aired/streamed at a later date.

The big winners of the night were Karen Peck and New River, who were honored with Song Of The Year, Album Of The Year, Mixed Group Of The Year and Trio Of The Year. Karen Peck Gooch was the 2014 Female Artist Of The Year.

Ken and Jean Grady of Gospel Music Today were award winners and Jean also contributed to the planning of the program. "It was a Southern Gospel star-studded night in Pigeon Forge at the Creekside Gospel Music Convention Diamond Awards. What a blessing to see so many artists and friends for the annual Awards show. Although it was a lot of work, it was well worth it as the artists sang and the artists and industry professionals received their awards."

Rob Patz, CEO of Coastal Media Group and publisher of SGNScoops, commented, "The Diamond Awards are always a special time of honoring the Gospel artists that fill our world with the music we love," said Patz. "It's great to take this opportunity to thank them and to be able to share the ceremony with fans across the nation and the world by internet. We are grateful to Tim Lovelace, our special musical guests and to WATC for recording the Diamond Awards. We had a great time at the ceremony and we hope everyone will tune in and watch!"

"What an awesome night at the Diamond Awards at Creekside Gospel Music Convention 2014. What a blessing to be a part of such a great event!" said Vonda Easley, from Strictly Southern With Vonda Easley. Vonda is also a vocalist with Hope's Journey and part of the SGN Scoops staff. "The music was amazing and the winners were deserving. I loved it!"

Jonathan Edwards, from Faith's Journey, is part of the Creekside crew and the voice of SGN Scoops Radio. He stated, "I am always thrilled at the amount of talent that is featured on the Diamond Award program and this year was no different. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a small part of this special event."

Lorraine Walker, acting editor of SGN Scoops digital magazine, was unable to be present but noted that a lot of work goes into the planning and execution of the Diamond Awards. "Many people have contributed to this year's Diamond Awards event and I am thrilled that it was such a beautiful night. My thanks to the volunteers and staff of Creekside and SGN Scoops for making the Diamond Awards an exceptional evening. Congratulations to each of the very deserving winners!"

The 2014 Diamond Award Winners Are: J.D. SUMNER LIVING LEGEND AWARD: Ed O'Neal MIXED GROUP OF THE YEAR: Karen Peck and New River

QUARTET OF THE YEAR: Brian Free and Assurance
TRIO OF THE YEAR: Karen Peck and New River
DUET OF THE YEAR: Aaron and Amanda Crabb
FEMALE SOLOIST OF THE YEAR: Karen Peck Gooch
MALE SOLOIST OF THE YEAR: Jason Crabb
SUNRISE AWARD: 11th Hour

SONG OF THE YEAR: Revival – Karen Peck and New River

ALBUM OF THE YEAR: Revival – Karen Peck and New River



CHRISTIAN COUNTRY GROUP OF THE YEAR:
The Freemans

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Christy Sutherland

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY ALBUM OF THE YEAR:
James and Jeff Easter – Like Father, Like Son
ANTHONY BURGER INSTRUMENTALIST OF

THE YEAR: Gordon Mote

DOTTIE RAMBO SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR: Jeff Steele

BLUEGRASS GOSPEL ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Doyle Lawson and Quick Silver

VIDEO/DVD OF THE YEAR: Lead Me Home – The Freemans

FAVORITE ARTIST WEBSITE: LeFevre Quartet FAVORITE INDUSTRY WEBSITE: Gospel Music Today

PAUL HEIL AWARD (Broadcasting): Ken and Jean Grady- Gospel Music Today

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY MALE ARTIST OF THE

YEAR: Jason Crabb

LOU HILDRETH AWARD: Tim Lovelace PUBLISHER'S CHOICE AWARD: Donna Blackwood

Tim Lovelace, emcee and winner of the Lou Hildreth Award





The Freemans, Christian Country Group Of The Year

Ed O'Neal receives the J.D. Sumner Living Legend Award







Christy Sutherland (with Matthew Dudney) Christian Country Female Artist Of The Year



Southern Gospel Artist Finale

Blue Highway

Karen Peck and New River receive one of five Diamond Awards





Blackwoods, Publisher's Choice Award (Donna Blackwood)

Creekside Gospel Music Convention

UPDATE

by Lorraine Walker

Creekside Gospel Music Convention 2014 is in the books! What a great time to be a Gospel music fan at the Gospel music capital, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Hundreds gathered at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center from November 3rd through 6th to experience music, fellowship, fun...and doughnuts!

Monday night began with set-up in the Exhibit Hall of artist booths. It's always fun to get together with the artists before the concerts. There had been snow in the area on the weekend but we were glad that Monday was sunny and mild. The evening concert began at 5:30pm to a crowd who were excited and enthusiastic. At 8:00pm, we welcomed our honored guest, Little Willie Wynn and all of his friends for a "Bash" like Creekside has never seen before. Laughter, fun and a whole lot of great music from Woody Wright, The Kramers, The Tennesseans and Sweetwater members. What a terrific evening!



Tuesday was the Chapel Valley Showcase, the evening concert and then the 2014 Diamond Awards. You will see the winners elsewhere in this edition. Wow! We had a great celebration with special guests Karen Peck and New River, Blue Highway, the Dixie Melody Boys, the Freemans, Danny Jones, and of course the impeccable Tim Lovelace as emcee.

Wednesday we had the Morris Music Group Showcase, the Red Back Hymn Book Choir and the special evening concert. On Thursday, we were privileged to have Ken and Jean Grady of Gospel Music Today do live tapings for their show. They had been with us all week and also worked with us in the producing of the Diamond Awards. What a precious couple! Our last evening concert was a special night with music from 20 groups and an audience who didn't want to leave.

New this year was the Midnight Prayer service, from Monday night through Wednesday night. It was a memorable time of prayer and praise from artists and fans who joined together to pray for the singing and for any needs within the group. On Tuesday night, those who had listened to the Strictly Southern Show with Vonda Easley were treated with doughnuts before the prayer service. There was more than one set of sticky hands!

We want to thank all of the artists, fans and volunteers who joined together to make this a wonderful event. Be sure to check this space next month where we will begin to tell you about next year's event! And don't forget to check www.creeksidegospelmusicconvention.com/

"Creekside Gospel Music Convention 2014 was everything I expected and more. Great singing, great showcases, and what a blessing Midnight Prayer was each evening. I am making plans now to attend Creekside Gospel Music Convention 2015! Meet me there." – Vonda Easley, Strictly Southern Show with Vonda Easley

"It is always a joy working with the artists at Creekside, the ones who have become close friends after three years together at this event, as well as the new artists experiencing Creekside for the first time this year. I look forward to the continued growth in this event and the introduction of new ministries to the Creekside family."- Jonathan Edwards, Faith's Journey

"Creekside was a great time of fellowship and getting together with all the artists and fans. It was wonderful to see the auditorium full each night and to feel the enthusiasm of the crowd. Midnight Prayer really caught on. The Diamond Awards were spectacular. All in all, the event was even better this year. I can't wait until next year! Join me!"- Rob Patz, Publisher of SGN Scoops







Photographs courtesy of Robert York and Michelle Drummond





Generally, when you sell or transfer something, the deal is done. The men of Soul'd Out gave their hearts to Jesus long ago. In this present day, it is more than their hearts that they are giving. Dusty Barrett, Matt Rankin, Bryan Hutson, Ian Owens and Michael Howard are on the road today because they are Soul'd Out to the Lord, and to living their lives to bring others to Him.

From the main stage at NQC 2014, to the smallest country churches, Soul'd Out lays everything down. Matt Rankin, the owner of the group is also one of its most gifted songwriters. In Halesford, Virginia, when the five men took the stage, they started the first note as a prayer through the song Rankin penned "Holy Spirit Come." The song features Dusty Barrett who carries the tenor part. The next selection allowed Rankin to be featured on another one of his songs, "He's the One."

With hearts in tune as well as their voices, Soul'd Out broke into all smiles when they let everyone know that they meant it by singing, "What a Great Life," featuring Bryan Hutson, baritone. Hutson is familiar to most audiences as he has been a gift to Southern Gospel music since his days with the Kingsmen.

From new songs to old, the audience enjoyed everything presented by Soul'd Out. The song "Hey Everybody" had the group asking, "Are you going to Heaven with me?" Rankin used opportunities in between songs to make short thought-provoking statements, such as, "God is bigger than whatever you are carrying." Such a statement needs to just

hang around in the mind, so it was fitting when Michael Howard showed his piano talent with a happy arrangement of "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho."

Ian Owens is no stranger to Southern Gospel and his rich bass tones are always a crowd favorite. The entire room rose to its feet when Owens eloquently sang, "I Believe." Keeping the program bouncing between new music and old, they sang, "In That Great Day A Comin'," and the tight harmony of the men was showcased as they echoed the "Fair thee well" line to this familiar song of the church.

In 2009, Barrett wrote "Maker of the Rain." "Not only is this song an encouragement; if you are in the storm you can be assured that God is there," shared Rankin as he introduced the song. Barrett sang this song alone and mostly with eyes closed in a way that communicated that the only One in the room was God.

Storms are generally a part of life for someone who is running from God, as in the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15. Hutson is best known for his delivery of, "When God Ran". He has sung the song for years but now as the lyrics are coming from a place of maturity; Hutson seems to be singing the song from an even deeper level than ever before.

"We serve a living God. A borrowed tomb was all He needed because He didn't stay there. Jesus is someone we can trust with all our problems and our needs. We all have a little 'prodigal' inside us. We need to come all the way home and show others that we have something they need. And,



show the devil who is boss!" declared Rankin as he brought the focus of the program to a time of decision. Anytime Soul'd Out takes the stage, you can be sure the message will culminate with an opportunity to meet Jesus.



There is something very different about this group. They do not travel mainly to sing, or to entertain, or to sell CD's (although that does help keep them on the road). They come for only one reason, and that is to bring honor to God. These men are different, they are completely, *Soul'd Out*. May they continue! http://www.souldoutquartet.com/.









Photographs by Candi Combs.

he Pastors Corner With Terry Snyder

It is my honor to write the premiere entry in this new series for SGN Scoops. Let me take a moment to introduce myself. I am the music director of East Columbus United Methodist Church, a position I have held officially for over 11 years, but music has been important to me for decades both as a listener and an eventual music maker myself. Although I love some secular music, nothing beats a Christian song that is either a song of worship to God, about God, or not only about life's struggles, but also the solution to those struggles. This is, of course, where secular songs fall short.

Songs often contain a sermon in the lyrics. Unlike a pastor's sermon, songs should be concise, pack a lot of truth in an orderly way that is probably to some degree repetitive but not boring. They should not replace sermons, where a pastor can go more in depth, but can supplement or reinforce what a pastor says.

If I were to mention the ABC's, I imagine most of you would find yourselves thinking of the ABC song. This is proof that we often learn easier and retain more when such information is mated with music. I cannot tell you the times that I have heard simply one word and my mind goes to a song. Sometimes this can be silly, or other times helpful, especially in my vocation as music director. It can either change my mood, inspire me, encourage me, give me fuel, or at times speak to me or remind me of one of God's truths.

Seven years ago, I found myself with a life-threatening disease and was told that, depending on the severity of it, I might have only six months to live. I will confess that I was a bit down and I recall driving to get supper with these thoughts on my mind. Then the Cathedral Quartet's song, "Healing" began to play on our local Southern Gospel station. I felt like this was God speaking to me.

I have heard different stories over the years of music being used to minister in times of struggle, to reach the lost, to draw people in, to keep people from suicide, and to give hope. The old spirituals were written and sung by slaves to have the strength to make it through trying times and to remind them of a better day. David played music to soothe King Saul and to rid him of the harmful spirit from God that was upon him. That seems to be evidence of the power of music to me and the power would only be there because God allowed it.

The devil wants to steal our song. It would be a pretty

sad world without music. There are just times that music reaches us and times where singing to and about God is an outlet of praise when mere words do not seem to be enough.

Music is a powerful tool and thus the devil takes a good thing and corrupts it by using it to cause division in churches and to lead people astray, such as with secular music and communicating a message contrary to God's will. If this were not such a great tool, the devil would have no reason to abuse it for his nefarious purposes.

I once knew an atheist who liked southern gospel music. Granted, he liked the style and performance, in spite of not believing in the subject matter -- much like we can sing about Frosty, Rudolph, Puff the Magic Dragon and such, I suppose. But I believe God's word will not return void and hope that those words will sink in until he sees the truth.

I have an acquaintance who went to another church in town, sang in its choir, and even led singing, who has fallen away from God; yet he still enjoys hearing southern gospel music. I hope that his love of that music will keep God's truth in his ear and mind and eventually help draw him back. These are just two of many people who would never darken the doors of a church, but yet are hearing God's word through radio, television, recordings and concerts.

I am sure there are Christian artists who are singing for the wrong reasons, but I believe there are many more who want to take the message out to people. I think the nature of the job itself will weed out a lot of these and God will do it Himself eventually. Face it, many of them are cooped up in cars, vans, busses and the like, far away from home and loved ones most of the week, making poverty wages, and missing out on events and milestones. I would think this would get tiring week in and week out unless people had a message to send and were able to see lives changed and the Gospel furthered.

I have told you what Terry Snyder has had to say, but more importantly, what does the Bible say about music? We are told in Colossians 3 to sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in our hearts to God; in James 5 to sing praise if we are cheerful, in Psalm 100 to make a joyful noise to the Lord and come into his presence with singing, and in Psalm 92 that it is good to give thanks to the Lord and sing praises to His name.

May we always have a song!





Singing the Good News of Jesus Christ is a family tradition for Mike LeFevre. His roots in Gospel music run deep. "My father's brothers, Urias and Alphus, started The LeFevre Trio in 1921." Nearly a century later the LeFevre legacy lives on in Mike's ministry with The LeFevre Quartet. "From the time I was a child, I had a dream to sing. Gospel Music was my passion all my life. In the beginning I sang for myself, but when I surrendered my life to Christ in 1988, it became my calling and I sang for the glory of the Lord."

Mike's resume is very impressive. He began his musical career singing with his uncles after the legendary LeFevre Trio retired. Then he went on to sing with The Singing Americans, Brian Free and Assurance, and Gold City. Fans were quick to recognize his talent and ministry heart. He won "Favorite Baritone Singer" in The Singing News Fan Awards three years in a row.

The LeFevre name has long been regarded as one of the finest in the Gospel music industry. It doesn't look like this will change anytime soon. The journey continues in Mike's son, Jordan, a third generation

LeFevre to answer the Call and sing for the Lord in an organized group. Mike is proud of his multi-talented son. "Jordan has been part of The LeFevre Quartet from the beginning. At first, he played the drums, but now he plays the bass guitar and sings lead." Fans took notice of Jordan immediately. He earned the group a "Favorite Band" nomination in the Singing News Fan Awards, as well as the "Horizon Individual Award."

Every quartet needs a gifted pianist. God blessed The LeFevre Quartet with one of the best in Michael Lott. At the tender age of five, Michael started playing the piano. At 17, he became a full-time pianist for The Bradys and later The Diplomats. Michael added, "As a born-again Christian, I am answering the Call of God on my life. I am thankful He has called me to The LeFevre Quartet."

Thomas Nalley, tenor singer for the group, grew up singing in the church; but when his wife, Sarah, introduced him to southern Gospel music, Thomas became a fan for life. He, too, answered the Call to serve the Lord through song. His fans and colleagues appreci-



ate his anointed singing and his compassionate heart.

Brandon Barry, bass singer for the group, fell in love with Gospel music when he attended his first Gospel music concert with his parents as a young boy. "When I heard George Younce and The Cathedral Quartet, I knew I wanted to sing Gospel music. When I was 15, I sang with my first group. I started singing full-time right after high school. Now, after 15 years of ministry, my commitment and priorities are to serve God with excellence. I want my heart to be true and pure as I carry out what God has called me to do for His kingdom."



Mike feels fortunate that their group has been able to keep the element of live music incorporated into their ministry with Michael on piano and Jordan on bass guitar. "Down through the years there have been some musical variances, mainly because of advances in technology, but the message has been and will continue to be the driving force behind our ministry and music."

Not only does the group have talented musicians and singers, but God has blessed them with some gifted songwriters. Brandon, Thomas, and Mike enjoy songwriting. Mike recently contributed a few ideas to Dianne Wilkinson for some great songs. Brandon writes for Phil Cross Music and does quite a bit of co-writing

with Phil.

The group has been thrilled with their audience's response to their radio single "Put It Right There." Mike gave this testimony, "Numerous people have shared with us how the message of this song, combined with the power of Christ to change lives, has helped them conquer addictions. The song has touched lives all over the world."



Marcie Gray, office manager for the group, said, "An interesting thing happened when 'Put It Right There,' written by Gerald Crabb, was released as a video on YouTube. Within a short amount of time it received around 130,000 hits and then the counter just stopped. We were so excited that it was reaching so many people, yet puzzled that it seemed to freeze all of the sudden, after the hits were climbing so rapidly each day. Then we found out what the problem was. YouTube had flagged it for copyright content and pulled the video. The link became invalid. The group's record label, Activate Records, and their studio at Oak Tree Productions looked into it and proved to YouTube that we owned all of the licenses for the music and used the video material with appropriate permission, so YouTube put it back up. Unfortunately, the view history was lost, but even after all of that and without any promotional effort, the video has reached over 10,000 hits again. God is using that song, despite Satan's attempt to get rid of it. The group has received numerous email testimonials from people who shared the video with a loved one or friend and used it as a tool to help them understand they needed healing only Jesus can provide. He is just waiting for them to, 'Put it right there, in the palm of His hand."

Another song the Holy Spirit is using powerfully in the group's concert is "Jesus Saves." Mike is thrilled to see the audience's response to the David Moffitt and Travis Cottrell's original song. "It is an

account of the life of Christ with a powerhouse lyric, speaking to the young and old, and breaking down barriers. It's the message the world needs to hear right now—Jesus saves!"



The group has released two new CDs this year. The first was *Something Familiar*, for the fans who have requested songs like "Oh, What a Savior," "I Know a Man Who Can," "He Sent Me Running," and "I Found Mercy."

"I Found Mercy," written by Jerry Goff, who joined The LeFevre Quartet in the studio to sing it with them.

The second release in 2014 was *Christmas Time is Here*; their newest CD released just this month. It made its debut at National Quartet Convention and the first shipment

completely sold out. The single from that album, "Children Go Where I Send Thee," will be released to radio in the near future.

If you'd like to learn more about The LeFevre Quartet, go to www.thelefevrequartet.com. Check out their tour schedule at www.thelefevrequartet.com/schedule to see when they will be appearing near you.

Highlights from the 2014 National Quartet Convention feature The LeFevre Quartet and their hit song "Jesus Saves." You can watch it at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gm15sBdv8yM.

Over the years The LeFevre Quartet has seen many souls altered at the altar. "Our group is inspired when we see someone surrender their lives to Christ in a concert. We get excited when someone walks down the aisle to the altar and gives God all their trials, fears, worries, and burdens. They leave the concert forever changed!"

The common thread resonating throughout the group is their determination to fulfill in the Call of God upon their lives individually and also corporately as a group. They are passionate about sharing the Gospel. Mike said, "We will continue in the capacity of God's calling on our lives. Our daily prayer is that God would expand our territory. And as He does, we will answer His calling on our lives to the best of our abilities to tell the world, 'Jesus saves!'"

The group and the family they leave behind realize there are sacrifices for their music ministry. Mike is quick to point out their ministry isn't glamourous. There is a price for doing God's will. "It's always difficult when we head out to a concert and have to leave our families behind. We thank God for our wives and children who understand the Call on our lives because it's their Call too. We pray when we stand before the Lord one day, we will hear Him say, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

God continues to pour out His favor and blessings upon The LeFevre Quartet. Many ministry doors are opening for them. They have appeared on the Jim Bakker Show, Trinity Broadcast Network, Dollywood, and Missouri's Branson Belle.



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

1	Old Paths	I arra Thama Ta Iagra			A wayen d Tha Therana
1 2		Love Them To Jesus I Was Blind But	28	Greater Vision For	Around The Throne All He's Done
2	Hyssongs	Now I See	20 29	Zane and Donna King	If There Was Any
3	Kingsmen	Oh Yes I Am	29	Zane and Donna King	Other Way
4	Karen Peck and New River		30	Heavenly Sunrise	Jesus Is Coming
4		g Through Something	31	Ernie Haase and Signature	
5	Perrys	I Can Trust Him	31	Eline Haase and Signatur	Walking God
6	Social Security Boys	I'm Not What I	32	Brothers Redeemed	If It Had Not Been
O	Social Security Boys	Was	33	Bledsoes	That's What's So
7	Dunaways	Church In The	33	Dicusocs	Amazing
,	Dunaways	Kitchen	34	Wilbanks	Song Of Thanks-
8	Kingdom Heirs	Joys Of Heaven	Jī	Wildanks	giving
9	Bowling Family	I Know Enough	35	Pauline Patterson	I Fell Down
10	Shellem Cline	Dinner With Jesus	36	Barry Rowland and Deliver	
11	Legacy Five	Christ Is Still The	30	Burry Rowland and Denve	God
11	Degacy Tive	King	37	Gordon Mote	Ain't It Just Like
12	Dennis Cook	Crying In The	0,	G01 u 011 1/10 10	The Lord
12	2 cmmo Gook	Chapel	38	Jeff and Sheri Easter	I'll Take It
13	Tony Burchette	We'll Soon Be	39	Mark Trammell Quartet	Don't Stop Run-
		Gone	• •		ning
14	McKameys	There Is Jesus	40	Terry Collins	Some Things
15	Wilburn and Wilburn	Help Me		,	Never Change
16	Shellem Cline	Look Up	41	Ashley Franks	He Did
17	Calebs Crossing	What I'm Made	42	Primitive Quartet	Empty Me Lord
	C	То Ве	43	Charles Surrate	Just Stand
18	11th Hour	How Will You	44	Mark Trammell Quartet	To Know He
		Plead			Knows Me
19	Joseph Habedank	Never No Never	45	Jesse Reece	My Life
20	Keith Barkley and Family 7	Tradition It Will Pass	46	Scotts	I Won't Let Go Of
	·	Ву			My Faith
21	Bev McCann	Through The	47	Adam Crabb	Hey Now
		Thunder	48	Undivided	I Trust You Lord
22	The Gospelaires	Miracle	49	Zane and Donna King	No One Like God
23	Hoskins Family	God Is Big	50	Erwins	When Justice
24	Lori Jonathan Trio	What A Precious			Called Mercy Answered
		Friend	51	Paul's Journey	One Foot In Egypt
25	Mark Bishop	Love's Gonna Get	52	Greater Vision	The Blood Hasn't
		You			Ever Changed
26	Talleys	Hidden Heroes	53	Soul Vision	When We Step
27	John Lanier	Look For Me			Inside

54	Gold City	Never Too Broken To Belong	84	For His Praise	Just Getting Ready To Fly	
55	Brian Free and Assurance	Say Amen	84	Gobers	You Are Good	
56	Booth Brothers	If God Didn't Care	88	Browders	Listening For The	
57	Brian Free and Assurance			210 (10010	Shout	
58	Gaither Vocal Band	God Leads Us	89	James and Jeff East		
	Guitifer Vocar Build	Along	0,5	julileo ulla jeli Luo	Son	
59	James and Jeff Easter	Jesus Is Living In	90	Mike Pardue	He Can Save Your	
37	juines and jen Daster	Me	70	wince i didde	Soul Today	
60	Higher Hope	All The Way	90	Wisecarvers	I Wouldn't Take	
61	Steeles	Eternally	70	vv isecui veis	Nothing For My Journey Now	
62	David Staton and Glass Ten	1		90 Porter Family It Won't Be Today		
02	David Staton and Glass Ten	Start Living	90	Cupps	What's Wrong	
63	Southern Image	He Never Left Me	70	Сирръ	With Living Right	
64	Tina Wakefield	Foot On The Rock	94	Barry Rowland an	6 6	
65	Ball Brothers	Who's Gonna	24	Daily Rowland and	Been Good To Me	
03	Dan Brothers		O.F.	Issan Cualib		
66	Tuibuta Ouantat	Stand In The Gap	95 06	Jason Crabb	Love Is Stronger	
66 67	Tribute Quartet	Everything I Need	96	Coffmans	He Just Kept On	
67	East Ridge Boys	He's Leaving His	06	D	Loving Me	
C 0	Voida Doubles on I Fourille T	Throne	96	Roarks	I Still Believe In	
68	Keith Barkley and Family T		0.6	т 1 • 1	Praying	
60	r I D	The House	96	Lakeside	Run To Me	
69 70	John Bowman	Have Your Way	99	Jim Sheldon	Even After	
70	Skyline Boys	Sing It Brother	100	Michael Frost Trio		
		Sing It			isher	
71	Blakely Quartet	It'll Be Alright				
=-	D 1m 4.1	With Me				
72 72	Beyond The Ashes	Over For Good				
73	Master's Voice	He Saved Me Any-				
	r. D. I	way				
74	Jim Brady	He Didn't Throw				
		The Clay Away				
75	Georgia	We Have A Hope				
76	Ray Stevens	If Jesus Is A				
		Stranger				
77	The Partons	I Make All Things		<i>[</i>		
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77	The Lears	The Drive		JULY LIO C		
79	Freemans	The Last Time I	200	ris the season" to give t	hanks, share	
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80	Collingsworth	Family How Great	36.7	A beartfelt"Thank		
		Love Found a Pardon	two	nendous 2014! What a		
81	Martins	If We Ever Needed				
		The Lord Before	_	th you, I am looking for		
82	Browders	Lift Up His Name	aN	ew Year of blessings &	Opportunity!	
83	Down East Boys	Holy All Over	Now	Scheduling 2015		
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84	Michael Wayne Smith	Changed By Your		uil: Cluslis@CluslisGsiffia.N		
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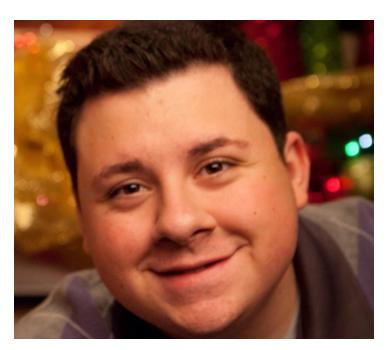


Thanksqiving Thoughts By Jennifer Campbell

Thanksgiving. It's not just a holiday, it is an expression of gratitude, especially to God. While we love to celebrate this grand occasion with turkey dinners, parades, and other delightful activities, we need to ensure that we keep our focus on what is truly important: our gratefulness for our family, our friends, and life itself. God blesses us each and every day with small miracles, from the moment we wake up in the morning to the moment we lay our head on the pillow at night. Take time this Thanksgiving season to thank God for each blessing He sends your way. May you be inspired by these quotes concerning thankfulness and Thanksgiving traditions!



"I'm thankful for my grownup kids. I loved all the fun things we did when they were little. I have such great memories I'll always treasure. But I'm so proud of the young women I call my daughters. They are strong, loving, smart, funny, wise, and hardworking. I'm grateful for them every day!" – Tanya Goodman Sykes, vocalist www.facebook.com/GoodmanRevival



"I am most thankful for my parents, after the past nearly two years I'm very blessed to have them both here and doing well! It's been a rough time but it has also brought us closer together and made us so much stronger than we were before. It proves that trusting God can get you through anything in life and that He never leaves you or puts more on you than you can bear. I cannot thank Him enough for keeping us together and alive and well!" – Jared Stuffle, vocalist http://www.perrysministries.com/



"We basically do the same thing every year on Thanksgiving and I love it! We get together with my brother Todd and his family. The guys always say we are going to watch football this year but we always end up going to see the newest movie. We are creatures of habit. I'm so thankful that God has been with us this year and blessed our family, our life. He has enlarged our territory to witness for Him. Every day is a great day with my family and with the Lord. Happy Thanksgiving to all of my wonderful friends!" – Kelly Nelon Clark, vocalist, actor http://kellynelon.com/



"This year, I am very thankful for new things. This has been an exciting year, and I'm especially thankful for my girlfriend, Shainah! She's become my best friend and is such a supporter of the ministry." – Jeff Hawes, vocalist www.karenpeckandnewriver.com/



"I'm most thankful for my Savior. I'm thankful that His grace is greater than my worst sin. I'm thankful that His touch reaches the depths of my heart. I am thankful for His blessings that are poured on my life, but I'm most thankful for Who He is!" – Paige Givens, vocalist, blogger paigegivens.com/



"Of course, I'm thankful for my health, my wonderful family, great friends, and the blessing of being able to continue to do what I do, after so many years. Honestly though, as a traveling Gospel Singer, I'm very thankful to just be at home on Thanksgiving...and I don't take that for granted. It's a GREAT blessing! I'm BIG on traditions and Thanksgiving Day operates like a welloiled machine at our house. We get up early. I cook a traditional breakfast. We watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. We leave around noon to go to my Mom and Dad's house for lunch. Then later, we drive to Donna's parent's house for dinner. Thankfully, our parents live in the same town as we do, so we don't have to travel a long distance to be with family for Thanksgiving." – Gerald Wolfe, vocalist www.greatervisionmusic. com



"Thanksgiving Day in Canada is in October so we are usually blessed with sunshine brightening the colors of the changing leaves and we haven't yet felt the first sharp winds of winter. We celebrate out at the farm and enjoy a full, traditional Thanksgiving feast with turkey and all the trimmings. I'm so thankful to be able to gather with my family and share our lives as we talk about what is happening and laugh together. We always take time to go around the table and say what we are most thankful to God for, over the past year. It's a time of gratitude and love." – Lorraine Walker, acting editor of SGN Scoops www.sgnscoops.com



"I am thankful for the gift of life our son, John, gave to his daddy on Father's Day weekend 2008. My husband, Paul, was dying with End Stage Renal Failure. He needed a transplant to survive. Twenty-seven-year-old John stepped forward and was a perfect match. He became our family's MVD—Most Valuable Donor. Since his kidney transplant, Paul and I have been blessed with three sons-in-love, one beautiful daughter-in-love, and eight perfect grandchildren. A day doesn't go by without our family thanking the Lord for giving us Paul a little longer." – Dixie Phillips, vocalist, writer www. phillipsandphillipsmusic.com/



"I am grateful for the gift of eternal life. Jesus Christ gave His life so we could have our sins forgiven and live eternally with Him in Heaven. What an amazing gift! But He didn't stop there. He blesses my family and I continually, each and every single day. I am so thankful to have a loving dad and grandma. What a joy to have family who love me unconditionally. We love to spend Thanksgiving at home, enjoying the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, along with a turkey dinner and all of the trimmings. Thanksgiving is all about family. Most of all, I am grateful to be a part of the family of God!" – Jennifer Campbell, vocalist, writer http://www.jennifercampbell.net/

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It's a beautiful autumn morning at the Rhoades household and I'm sitting in the home office without a creative thought in my brain. I confess I've been struggling for the past few days; waiting for a little inspiration and some grand words to share with you for this special season of gratitude. But what can I say that hasn't already been said?

Oh, don't get me wrong - I've got plenty for which I am thankful: Family, friends, a warm home, plenty of food, a job and a church...yep, got them covered. I'm just going through one of those times and you can probably sympathize because you've been there a time or two. Some may call it a "dry season of life", writers may refer to it as "writer's block", and theologians may describe it as "waiting on God." Whatever the context, it can make us uncomfortable, even anxious, depressed, or worried. We begin to question our motives and abilities and we even begin to question God Himself.

A few years ago, my wife attended a women's conference and shared a speaker's comparison between God and a GPS. He's constantly giving us directions, course corrections, and pointing out the special attractions and places where we can be fed, but there are times in life when we reach the straight stretch and we travel

it for miles without hearing a word. No "recalculating" required; no instructions necessary. It is in these moments of silence when we simply need to trust our GPS and maintain current course and speed.

Perhaps today, you too are experiencing a straight stretch on the journey of life. Perhaps you think you've lost touch with that still, small voice inside. Perhaps you fear you've lost some creativity, some skill, some inspiration, or some extraordinary perspective. Perhaps it's okay. Perhaps you're on the right course and there's no recalculating required. All you need to do is simply remind yourself of God's promises, trust His directions, and patiently wait for the next set of instructions.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I'm thankful for the ordinary. I'm thankful my bearing is straight and true. I'm thankful for this straight stretch of the journey and this moment of silence and nothingness.

"My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him." Psalm 62:5

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Triumphant Homecoming By Robert York

Nearly 1,000 folks gathered at the Music Road Hotel Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, recently for the Triumphant Quartet Anniversary Celebration 2014. Scotty Inman, Eric Bennett, David Sutton and Clayton Inman are multi-award winners, with their smooth quartet style attracting fans from all over. These fans came from as far away as New York, Indiana, Washington, California, Michigan and Canada. Some

even came from Pigeon Forge!

The Celebration lasted three days with five different events, including three evening concerts and two morning concerts with a worship service. After Triumphant sang on Monday morning, the folks were blessed with a message from Rev. Anthony Kendell. Anthony is Eric Bennett's son-in-law and a great preacher. Eric brought the message on Tuesday morning after Trium-



phant sang. The Sunday evening concert brought great music from Triumphant Quartet and 'bust your belly' laughing with Aaron Wilburn.

D.W. Southard is Triumphant's new instrumentalist. He is a great musician and plays several different instruments. He played a great piano piece with David Sutton on the harmonica. On Monday and Tuesday, D.W. picked up the guitar and Triumphant Quartet gathered around and sang, "Walk With Me," "God On The Mountain" and a few more songs.



Monday and Tuesday nights the crowd was filled with fun and laughter from Tim Lovelace. Tim has many great stories and told several of them including his classic 'Gymnastic Story'. You have to hear him do it live to get the full experience; a repetition of it here would spoil the effect, so we won't retell it. Tim's wife and family joined him at the concert on Tuesday.



David's dad, Denny Sutton, also joined Triumphant for a song each night.

Other special guests included Sandy Weiss who arrived on Tuesday. Sandy was the general manager of the Louise Mandrell Theater and helped Triumphant Quartet get their start there in October 2002. She was also the first booking agent that they had and often sang with them at the Theater. Eric invited her onto the stage to sing that evening. Sevierville Baptist Church Choir accompanied Triumphant on a few songs. It was also great to see Clark Beasley, Executive Vice President of the National Quartet Convention, at the Celebration one evening.





Triumphant's homecoming was a wonderful time and filled with lots of music from the Quartet. With five different sessions, I only remember hearing a couple of songs repeated during the whole event. They might have forgotten a few words to some of the old songs, but I think they did every tune that they have ever recorded.

Triumphant Quartet has already scheduled their Anniversary Celebration for next year, on October 4th and 5th, immediately following the National Quartet Convention. The Celebration will return to the Music Road Hotel Convention Center. Make plans now to stay over in Pigeon Forge for a couple of extra days and come out to hear Triumphant. You can call Triumphant's office and order your tickets for 2015. Visit www.triumphantquartet.com for contact details.





In 2008, I recorded, "I Know How to Say Thank You" (by Barry and Suzanne Jennings) on my debut CD. It is a beautifully melodious song, reminding us of the everyday things we should be thankful for. Fast forward to Facebook in 2014... many friends were nominated to do "The Gratitude Challenge." They were to list three things for five days that they were thankful for. I, too, was nominated and accepted the challenge.

As I began to compile my gratitude list, I was astounded by how many things I really do have right here, right now. Yet, so often, it seems, we tend to focus our eyes on things in our lives that we cannot see and do not have. The focus shifts from the eternal to the temporal and we sense lack. This leads to discontentment. The apostle Paul instructed his disciple, Timothy, against this: "Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content." (I Tim 6:6-8).

How many of us are truly content? During this time

of "thanksgiving," I found this exercise to be very helpful. It helped me to see that I have many blessings, gifts and even attributes that far outweigh the things I may lack or think I need. My gratitude list is as follows:

- 1) I am thankful to be alive. (Eph 2:5)
- 2) I am thankful God sees a purpose in me and has a future for me. (Jer 29:11)
- 3) I am thankful that His mercy does, in fact, endure forever. (Ps 107:1)
- 4) I am thankful that when I am weak, He is strong. (2 Cor 12:9)
- 5) I am thankful I am loved. (Jer 31:3)
- 6) I am thankful I can hear music. (Ps 118:14)
- 7) I am thankful that I am forgiven and accepted. (Eph 1:1-14)
- 8) I am thankful to be given wisdom and knowledge

through His word. (Phil 1:9, 2 Tim 2:15)

- 9) I am thankful for His gifts. (James 1:17, Rom 12:3-8)
- 10) I am thankful for faithful friends, a faithful practice and faithful ministry following. (Luke 16:10, Gal 6:7)
- 11) I am thankful for family members put in my life to grow me and especially thankful to those who believe in the name of the Lord as Savior. (Prov 27:17, Josh 24:15)
- 12) I am thankful for prayers. (James 5:16)
- 13) I am thankful for travel experiences. (Ps 37:4)
- 14) I am thankful for continued healing, joy and peace. (Is 53:4-5, James 1:2, John 14:27, Psalm 103:1-5, Phil 1:6)
- 15) I am thankful...that... He is. (Ex 3:14) Selah.

I challenge you to do this (and to research the above Scriptures)... it was a very healing and humbling experience for me! And, thank you, to my friend who nominated me!

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6)





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Paul's Journey is honored to be considered by the SGM fans to be one of the top 5 New Traditional Quartet's in America.











Tim Parton bursts back on to the Southern Gospel scene in a new role as part of the newly formed Jim Brady Trio!

Tim Parton was barely into adulthood when he broke into Southern Gospel Music. That didn't prevent the pianist from performing with many of the industry's legends even before he turned age 30.

"I always thought my mom and dad were calling these groups and begging them to take their son on so he didn't move back home," Parton jokes. "They've been amazing opportunities. I don't feel like I've done anything to deserve any of it. I just did what I do and what God gave me to do. I've just been so blessed to be *on the program* as they say. It is overwhelming.

"I can't believe that I'm 44 and that I have been in it 25 years. I was 18 when I started and joined the Lesters. I left high school early. Traveling with the greats like Brian Lester, Brock Speer, Mark Trammell, Tim Riley, Scott Fowler ... you learn things about living that help you cope with life. It has so little to do with the music when it's all said and done."

The Lesters, the Speers, Janet Paschal, the Mike Speck Trio and Gold City were among the artists that Parton performed with early in his career. He admits to learning a lot ... though most of that education deals with greater matters than music in his estimation.

"Life isn't about your career," Parton explains.
"Life is about living. Traveling down the road day after day for weeks at a time with people who know what it's like to leave home, you do what you were born to do.

"I've lost a lot. (What I've learned) is not even something I can put into words ... other than to say it's life lessons and how to live life."

Life will be taking a turn for Parton in 2015 as he completes the Jim Brady Trio. The threesome will also be comprised of Jim Brady and his wife Melissa Brady. Jim has been the baritone singer for the award-winning Booth Brothers for the last 12 years.

"It's like a kid waiting for Christmas," Parton says of his excitement level. "It's (two) months from this point until January 1. I'm just going to take a day at a time.

"There are a lot of things we have to prepare for."

However, unlike his past groups, Parton won't be seated in this new ministry ... at least not often. He's not the trio's piano player. He'll instead be a vocalist.

"I'm looking forward to a new challenge," Parton points out. "It will be fun. I have enjoyed the spontaneity in the jobs I've had. God has been more than faithful."

Parton's desire to sing has gradually increased. "I had a couple of jobs offered to me by notable quartets this year," Parton says. "It was not difficult for me to turn them down with them just being piano positions.

"I released a solo vocal project a little over a year ago, and that just opened my eyes to stepping out from behind the piano and finding out how fun it was singing. To turn (the piano-playing jobs) down was no big deal. When I got the call from Jim, I knew ... that's the job. He said, 'We're going to get you out from behind the piano.' I have honestly tried to talk him out of me doing the part. He and I are the same range. I thought he might need someone to knock it out of the park. We're just going to work around that. That's what I love about Jim and Melissa. They are so gracious. It's a genuine respect for each other's talents."



Parton has been acquainted with the Bradys for many years. "I've known Tim for a long time, since he was with the Lesters," Jim shares. "We go that far back.



I've followed Tim, and we've been friends for a long time. Most recently, he was with Legacy Five and we worked together on the Jubilee stuff. He produced some of that, so we kind of reconnected. I do a lot of producing, and I've used him on piano. He's a great producer himself."

Jim actually contacted Parton about the position. "When we started and were praying about this, we started finding what we needed," Jim says. "I'm familiar with him as a solo artist. It felt natural. He had shared with me one time his desire to sing more. I said, 'Ah, his piano is a given. His singing is something we want to do more.' I called him and checked his desire, and God started putting it in place.

"'He said, 'This is something I've been looking for. I would love it.' I knew God was putting something special together."

Jim and Melissa didn't explore any other options. "When I announced I was exiting the Booth Brothers, we had a ton of people contact us," Jim notes. "We probably heard from 100 people. We didn't audition one person. We knew Tim was the guy."

While Tim provided harmonic blends while playing piano for Legacy Five, many became aware of his vocal ability when he was featured on "God's Been Good."

"Scott (Fowler, Legacy Five's group manager) was so kind to make that the title song of the album," Parton said. "I sang that song at one of their Celebration events in Nashville. It was just kind of an off-the-cuff situation. I had recorded a track for that song for a group. The song was written by Sue Smith and Belinda Smith.

"It just kind of happened. It became my signature song ... only because that's the only song I ever sang. It's kind of cool to have that included in every concert. I'm not a groundbreaker. It's fun to explore that different aspect. That was the impetus for my solo project."



Parton's solo project – *Finding My Voice* – was released in 2013. "That came as a result of doing demos and stuffing them in my file to maybe someday sing," Parton explains. "I did it. When I do some solo concerts, it allows me a different facet."

Parton has had approximately 50 solo concerts since leaving Legacy Five. He's been involved in many different facets of music ministry since that time, first working with Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) before doing studio work, demos for Daywind Music, contract work and also filling in as a vocalist with both the Liberty Quartet and Freedom Singers.

"It would be like an actor pigeon-holed into one genre, or movie or role," Parton says. "I've never talked to anybody in the music industry about being in that (vocal) position. There have been glimpses of it. Every group I have been with it, I have added a fifth part or a

fourth part.

"I'm not saying that I'm God's gift to singers, but if the door opens, I am open to going through it and giving it my all."

Jim adds, "I think people are going to be pleasantly surprised. Tim is so warm. He's so approachable. He's an all-around nice guy. They've heard him sing, 'God's Been Good,' but he has such a great concept of chords. He can blend in the harmony. He can sing a solo too, but I think the thing that is special will be the blend that he can help create."

That close blend is a goal of Parton entering this new endeavor. "I have learned a lot from the groups I've played for," Parton notes. "I want it to blend. Jim is a great blender. Jim and Melissa already have a family thing going on with their voices."

The threesome performed together for the first time at a chapel service during the week of the National Quartet Convention, singing, "That Sounds Like Home To Me."

While some may expect that Tim will be seated behind the piano during the majority of the Jim Brady Trio's concerts, that is not expected to be the case.

"Melissa plays (piano), and there's going to be so many staging opportunities for us to pull off," Parton points out. "The variety will be huge.

"Going into a situation where the carpet is laid out for us with Jim's connection with the Booth Brothers, we already have such a head start."

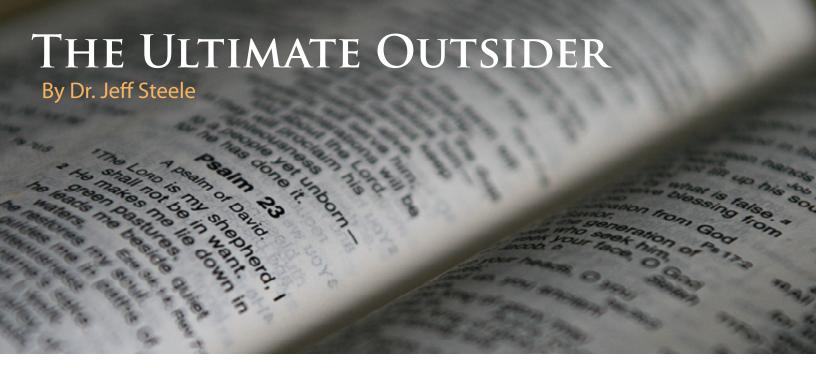
The Jim Brady Trio has signed with Daywind Records and expects to have its debut project in hand when it debuts at the Legacy Five New Year's Eve Celebration on January 1, 2015. The group will soon be appearing as one of the guests on the television program "The Music City Show" as well.

Parton is also teaming up with Melissa for a duet piano project.

Even the infancy stages of getting the Jim Brady Trio's ministry off the ground has been exciting for Parton.

"For me to have another opportunity now at 44 – it's the same career, but it's the second career chance at the same career – it blows my mind," Parton emphasizes. "I think my parents called Jim and told them they were worried I may have to move back home ... I'm just proud to be on the program."

For more information on the Jim Brady Trio visit http://www.bradyhousemusic.com/



I read an article recently that discussed the very real problem in Middle Schools and Junior High Schools with cliques. We all know what cliques are. They are a group of friends who band together and are a lot more concerned and excited about who they can leave OUT than who actually gets INTO the group. The article said kids were heartbroken and many of them actually contemplated suicide because of being left on the outside looking in.

I know how these kids feel (as do many of you) because we have all been "outsiders" at one time or another in our lives. All of us have had the experience of not being included in a group of which we really wanted to be a part. Many have felt the sting of being the last one chosen when sides are being determined for a pick-up game on the playground.

Adult men have sat in my office and wept at the remembrance of such times from their child-hood. Being an "outsider" is painful and the vast majority of us have felt it at one time or another.

I want to talk to the outsiders. I want to offer you encouragement in the form of Hebrews 13:12. Here's what it says: "Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered *outside* the

gate."

Maybe I'm the only one but that verse

blesses me. It says that Jesus suffered outside the gate! You know that's the place where

so many of us live, on the outside looking in.

The good news for every outsider is that Jesus is the *ultimate* outsider. He was not an award winner. Jesus was never voted *Most Likely To Succeed* by His classmates. When you think though about all the souls in Heaven because of what He accomplished, it seems like He did succeed.

The religious crowd left Him out. He was the King of Kings but He was the King of the Outsiders! I say HALLELUJAH because I'm one of them.

Jeff, what do you mean Jesus was the ultimate outsider? He was an outsider when He was born. After nearly nine months of care with the same OB/GYN his mother had to leave and go outside the jurisdiction of her "baby doctor" all the way to Bethlehem for Jesus to be born. They had to go there because there was a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed and they had to be registered for the taxing in the city from which they had originally come.

When they arrived they said, "...it's time for the baby so let's at least find a decent inn in which He may be born." They were told there was no room for them in the Inn. Outside of the city where Mary's doctor was practicing, outside the Inn and then they bedded down in a stable where animals took shelter. A stable! This was outside the place where any normal human should be born, but that's all right because this is no normal human. This is the incredible God-man. He is 100% man and

100% God. As much God as though He was not man and as much man as though He were not God. At His birth Jesus was a real "outsider."

In His raising, He was an outsider. In Mark 6 we read an account of where Jesus got to go back to the town where He was raised and preach. I had a chance to preach in

the church where I was raised once on a Sunday morning. I was already scheduled to preach in a much smaller church for the morning and evening services but I couldn't pass up the chance to preach in the church where I grew up. I called the smaller church and explained that I could come Sunday night but had something come up for Sunday morning.

While I was thrilled to be preaching at my home church where I had been raised I must confess to a more carnal motive. My home church was much larger and in addition to the "honor" of it all I thought "boy, when they pass the plates for the love offering it ought to be a lot better than the offering at the smaller church which I had cancelled." I preached one of my "sugar stick" messages and when it was over they handed me an "honorarium" of \$25.00 because that's what they had budgeted for their Sunday morning speaker.

I went and preached at the smaller church that night and they passed the plate and took up \$379.22! If I had kept the date with them on Sunday morning I probably could have retired off the collection! I never forgot my experience preaching in my "home church" to the "home folks."

When Jesus went back to preach to the people who had watched Him being raised there, Mark says they talked bad about Him. They said things like "who does He think He is, isn't He the one that was a carpenter when He was here, isn't this Mary's son?" It even says that they were offended at Him and that Jesus couldn't do any mighty works there because of their unbelief. See? Even in the town where He was raised Jesus was an OUTSIDER.

In His life He saw the birds with their nests and the foxes with their holes and each evening they both would return to their dwelling places. He said, "the Son of Man has no place to lay His head". Again He was an OUTSIDER.

At His death He was crucified as one of three criminals. Even in death He was OUTSIDE the mainstream.

At His burial Jesus had no life insurance and no burial policy. He was a Funeral Director's worst nightmare. There was Joseph of Arimathea, a wealthy man who had secretly become a follower of Jesus and he donated his family's tomb so this Outsider could be buried.

But this is where the ultimate outsider became an insider. For three days He was INSIDE a grave. But Matthew 28 reports that on the morning of the 3rd day after

He was crucified He became an outsider again when the stone was rolled away from the opening of the grave and He emerged on the OUTSIDE; triumphant over death, hell and the grave!

He's still on the outside. In Revelation 3:20 He says "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice and open the door I will come in and have supper with him and him with Me." Many preach that this is a personal invitation, but it is an invitation to the Church, the Church that has allowed the entrance of worldliness to push the Maker and Lord of the church to the OUTSIDE.

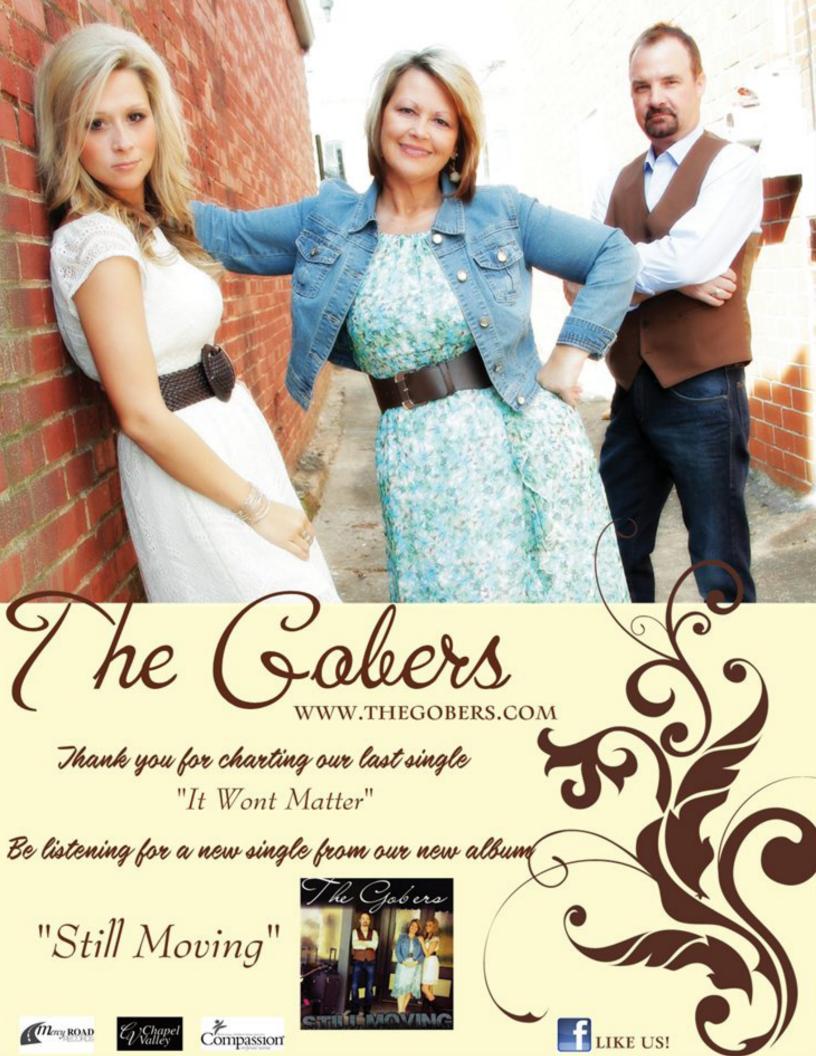
There is no sadder picture than the Lord and Maker of the church knocking for admittance OUTSIDE the door of His own place. The miracle is that after being pushed out He still wants to come and He will come in if we will open the door.

So that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, Jesus suffered OUTSIDE the gate. He was the Ultimate Outsider so that we would never have to be OUTSIDE.

The Ultimate Outsider says "Come now let us reason together. Though your sins are as scarlet they shall be as white as snow. Come unto me all of you that labor and are

heavy laden and I will give you rest.." Because Jesus suffered outside the gate we never have to be outsiders. We can be insiders because of the Ultimate Outsider.

Photo Courtesy of *CQ*



HOME FOR THE Holidays By Lorraine Walker

As the weather gets cooler and we start to bundle up, our thoughts turn to home and the upcoming holidays. Thanksgiving and Christmas seem to run together as we take time to meet with family and friends, to celebrate the many gifts of God and also His greatest Gift: His Son, Jesus Christ.

One thing that is always present during these weeks is food, or more specifically, comfort food. We asked some of our artists and friends what kinds of food they enjoyed around the holidays and we know they are going to make you ready for the traditional feasts as well. If you want the recipes, please contact the person who submitted the dish title.

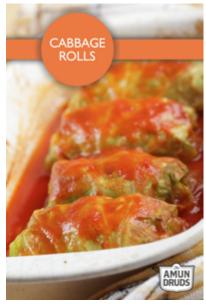
Without further ado...get ready to enjoy some great cooking as SGN Scoops goes home for the holidays! Jay Parrack and Vocal Event. Jay's favorite is Turkey Salad from Steve 'n' Jan's BBQ. Darren's favorite is dressing.



Bubba doesn't list a favorite so we can only guess that he likes all dishes equally. www.facebook.com/pages/Jay-Parrack-and-Vocal-Event/140018069469560



The Amundruds, Gospel music artists, show us their cabbage rolls. "Our Grandma, our mom's mother (Nana) used to make this often at Thanksgiving." http://www.theamundruds.com/





Abby Paskvan, soloist. "Here is a picture of the turkey I cooked last year for my family. We usually have about 40 people for thanksgiving at my parent's house. I love to cook so I was in charge of one of the three turkeys we cooked to feed everyone!" www.abbypaskvan.com/





Kelly Nelon Clark who sings with The Nelons as well as writes for SGN Scoops, recently baked a batch of biscuits, a favorite at the holidays and all year long. She shares her pictures with us here.





Miles Pike, soloist. He and his family like Chocolate Cappuccino Cheesecake. www.milespikemusic.com/





Amber Nelon Thompson of The Nelons, says: "Out of everything they make at Thanksgiving, my whole family will tell you I love macaroni! I know, crazy right? But it's my absolute favorite." kellynelon.com



Danny Sinacori, soloist, says, "My favorite Thanksgiving dish is my wife's stuffing that she makes with macadamia nuts and apples. Chris does it every year." www. facebook.com/sinacorimusic



Barry Shadrix, of the Shadrix Trio submitted Sweet Potato Souffle. Picture by Barry Shadrix. www.shadrix.net



Vonda Easley of Hope's Journey and writer for SGN Scoops enjoys shrimp for a festive occasion. She sent us a lovely picture of a platter full of the delicious seafood.



Lorraine Walker, Acting Editor of SGN Scoops...my favorite is the Yule Log. Pictured is our creation from last year. www.sgnscoops.com



Jennifer Campbell, soloist and writer for SGN Scoops, shows us a few of her family's favorite Thanksgiving treats. Pictured is a lovely plate of delicious food and also a nice piece of pumpkin pie! www.jennifercampbell. net/music.htm



Aaron Perkins, sound technician with The Taylors and vocalist with Aaron Perkins Ministries, tells us: "My favorite Thanksgiving dish is my wife's apple pie! It's the best!" aaronperkins.weebly.com/about-aaron.html





Paige Givens, vocalist and writer with SGN Scoops,

tells us: "My favorite holiday food is peanut butter balls. My husband and I make them together every year and they're great, even though we had an unfortunate incident the first year we were married: we put three bars of paraffin wax in the chocolate sauce instead of the recipe's 3/4 of a bar! Needless to say, they were a bit waxy and stuck to everyone's teeth! You could've lit those things up as candles! They are now a crowd favorite though!" www.paigegivens.com



Dean Adkins, Gospel Music historian and writer for SGN Scoops, is shown in this picture carving his favorite holiday food: turkey!



Bev Byrd, assistant for SGM Radio, sends us a picture of a favorite at all of her family get-togethers: Hashbrown Casserole.



Phil Foster, writer with SGM Radio website, sent us a picture of his favorite treat during the holidays. It is a rare bird indeed. www.sgmradio.com

And with that, we will end our buffet of Thanksgiving and Christmas food and trust you have enjoyed this feature as we go home for the holidays!



1st Sunday Each Month March - December, 2014 2 p.m.

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I honestly believe we take ourselves way too seriously most of the time. I read a book a few years ago called, "Unchristian," and the author pointed out things that church people often say that really make no sense to someone who does not go to church. Over the years, church people have developed their own terminology. Sometimes those church-sounding phrases, when broken down, can actually mean something a lot different from what we think they mean and sometimes may not make sense at all. I would like to focus on my own top 10 funny things that you hear or see done in church that you will not hear or see done anywhere else.

Drumroll please.....

10. While closing a public prayer, many people will say, "Lord, lead, guide, and direct us."

Ever since I was a little kid sitting in church, I often wondered what the difference was in leading, guiding and directing when it came to God's leadership in our lives. Isn't this like saying, "Lord, shine, illuminate, and brighten our path?" Sometimes I think we pray out of repetition and don't even think about what we're saying. For example, if I wanted my employer to give me a raise, I wouldn't go in and say, "Boss, I'd like for you to pay me more, give me a raise, and increase my salary." Maybe I'm the only one who notices or thinks about these things, but sometimes I have to laugh.

9. "We'll be praying for you."

Now don't get me wrong, I appreciate anyone who will

genuinely pray for me. But immediately after a concert or service, there is always a certain percentage of the people who are in a hurry to get out the door. They have some situation or circumstance that make them too busy or not interested in talking with anyone. Jesus could manifest Himself in physical form during that event and they will not be distracted from getting out of the church as soon as someone says the last "amen" to the closing prayer. Nothing moves them enough to make them remotely interested in anything you may offer on your product display, or even to introduce themselves, but as they rush by you to get to the door, they'll say, "we'll be praying for you." Do I believe they will pray for me? Probably not. I just want to give those folks my card and say, "Please put my card in your bible with your prayer list so you won't forget to pray for me." Chances are, if nothing happened that night to move them enough to speak to anyone in their own church, or me, they will probably forget my name before they get to their car, let alone by the next time they pray.

8. "This next song is number 79 on the charts right now."

Now artists, before you get mad at me, I beg you to stop and think. Have you ever heard a secular artist announce where their song is on the charts beyond the top 10? No, I can tell you that you have not because anything beyond that in the secular world probably means the audience isn't hearing it enough to be familiar with that particular song. I'm not saying that your song isn't being played, but I just want to put things in perspective. If this isn't funny to you, you may need a bigger bus to haul that ego around.

7. "I don't claim to be a singer, but you all pray for me while I do this next song."

Enough said! I don't claim to be a mechanic and that's why you'd better not let me under the hood of your car.

6. "I was so sad to hear about brother Harold passing away. I'm taking them baked beans, so why don't you bring some potato salad."

I think this may be a southern thing, but I love it. Comfort food!

5. "We don't like entertainment, we like ministry!"

When I've heard people say this, I ask them who their favorite singers or preachers are and what it is they like about them. Most of the things they tell me they like about them have to do with how they deliver their music or message. Those things are all elements of what is done to hold people's attention. That is the entertainment value of anyone's presentation. These are all very good qualities and characteristics of any singer or preacher.

Without them, they wouldn't be able to hold anyone's attention long enough to get their message across. The ability to hold someone's attention by entertaining them is a gift and is not a bad thing. It is a good quality that God can use as long as the message stays true to the gospel.

4. Singer or preacher to the soundman: "I hear some feedback, can you fix that?"

The master volume goes to 0. Problem fixed!

I'm always amazed at how so many churches put so little emphasis or money toward the quality of the sound of their services. We have the greatest message in the world and we ignore the means by which it's heard. Even some of the larger churches will spend tens of thousands and install some of the best gear and then they'll appoint a volunteer to run it. That volunteer is more than likely an accountant or salesmen and knows very little about running the sound. As a singer, I can tell you that the most valuable guy on the road is the guy that runs your sound. Your presentation can be strong or crumble depending on their ability and knowledge. If you are a small but growing church considering paid positions within the staff of the church, pay your pastor first and then pay a qualified sound tech to make sure you can clearly understand and hear what he has to say.

3. "I sit in this pew every Sunday. I even leave my bible here every week to save my seat!"

I guess people don't realize they are telling on themselves. If their bible sits in their pew all week long, it never gets opened until Sunday rolls around. If you ask them why they don't leave their coat there to save their place, they would tell you, "I might need my coat."

2. "How many would rather be here than the best hospital in town?"

That is right up there with, 'How many would rather have Jesus than Ebola?'

1. "You all listen to the words of this song and not how I sing it."

This has to be one of my all time favorites! When I hear this, I just wish they would put the words up on the screen and let us read them. That way we can focus on the words and not have to hear what has been apologized for in advance.



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Music Reviews for November by Sandi Duncan Clark

Even in the southern states the leaves are beautifully gold, brown, red, and green and polished off with the native evergreens and pines, as we greet the holiday season of 2014. I sometimes struggle to know where time has gone but the changing seasons are a true blessing!

Two of my favorite holidays are coming up and I'm so looking forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas! While we should give thanks every day, the Thanksgiving holiday brings home the real thoughts of just how blessed we truly are.

The music this month is some of the best I've heard...but I say that every month, don't I? And yet it's true because the music touches my heart in so many different ways. I hope you will seek out the information in each of the reviews, make contact with the artist and get a copy for your music collection. You will be blessed.



GOSPEL COLLECTION, Volume One

Ray Stevens

Gaither Music Group

Producer: Ray Stevens

In the late fifties, Ray Stevens became popular in all fields of music, and still excites listening audiences today. While most of his music hit the top of the secular charts from the '60s through the '90s, no matter when Ray would produce an exciting piece of music, all fans would clamor for the product. His concert performances, videos and television shows contributed to a great fan base. While his songs crossed most musical boundaries, it was always positive and entertaining and his stage material was clean.

This new recording is a compilation of 12 Christian/Gospel songs, a number of which are church hymns. For a gentleman in his mid-seventies, his voice remains clear and strong. The album begins with an awesome version of "Swing Down Chariot." Music

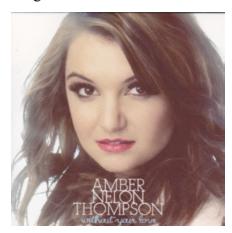
tracks and arrangements are wonderful and while it is a spiritual, it also has grand orchestration!

Just the music intro on "Shall We Gather At The River" encourages the listener to enjoy and sing along! "Dry Bones" follows and is impressive. The percussion in the tracks helps us "count down" the bones in the song.

"Farther Along" slows things down and touches the heart with the message of hope and rest. Great song choice for this recording! A combination of "Have A Little Talk With Myself," which he wrote, and the well-known "Have A Little Talk With Jesus" is unique and Stevens pulls this off in solid fashion.

His smooth vocals and elaborate music tracks ensure this recording will be enjoyed many times over. Other songs on the play list include medleys of "The Old Rugged Cross/Rock of Ages" and "Old Time Religion/When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder." You'll sing along on "Amazing Grace," "Turn Your Radio On." Two ballads finish up this great album: "The Preacher And The Bear," and "If Jesus Is A Stranger, (Check Your Circle Of Friends)." These two have a little comedy but have a strong message.

Check your local Christian bookstore for a copy of Ray Stevens' *Gospel Collections Volume One*. This recording is a Gaither production and would also be available through Gaither Music.



WITHOUT YOUR LOVE

Amber Nelon Thompson

Daywind Records

Producer: Jason Clark

Without Your Love is a four-song extended play project from one of our industry's most talented young ladies. Amber Nelon Thompson comes from a legend-

ary family in Southern Gospel music, and her first solo recording offers a shining example of her vocal talent and exciting ability to deliver a song.

Amber has been part of The Nelons for most of her young life and knows the industry well. Her experience allows strong feeling on "What Do You Say," a ballad written by producer Jason Clark. The message is clear; when things happen, words often fail us and we are at a loss for comments, but God is always there.

"Grateful" has a country arrangement touting how blessed we are and our need to share our thanks for everything. This song is well suited for this young lady.

The title song, "Without Your Love," written by Jason Clark and Joel Lindsey and is my favorite on the recording. A cameo with Joseph Habedank, another gifted singer, contributes to the interpretation of this ballad. It should definitely play on Gospel/Christian radio as well as any positive Country station.

"Falling" has a beautiful violin intro leading into a serene reminder of God's love for His children. The words are amazing... 'when we see life falling apart, You see life falling into place.' What a wonderful reminder! You may have your own copy of *Without Your Love* by phoning 678-764-6315.



WELCOME HOME

Joseph Habedank

Daywind Records

Producer: Ricky Free

Following almost a decade singing with The Perrys, Joseph Habedank has without a doubt forged a huge following in Gospel music both as a singer and songwriter. *Welcome Home* is his debut solo recording released with Daywind Records. Joseph wrote/co-wrote

the 10 songs for the recording and you'll find a wonderful variety of music. Ricky Free produced and arranged the songs, as well as provided percussion on the music tracks.

"Welcome Home" is a peppy, upbeat tune with exciting, uplifting words. I was humming this tune over and over and you'll be pattin' your foot along with the music. I love the superb brass on the music tracks!

Joseph moves right on to another rousing song, "Begging For Change" with a smart hookline...the chorus says: "Begging for change but not the kind you can spend..." What a blessing!

Every song has an endearing message for everyone, and I promise you'll hear just what God has for your need. "Big Enough," "Wonders With Water," "Now I Know Him" and "Beauty Of The Blood" are all just what you need to help you realize just how much God loves you and what He can do for you! Amen!

"When The Lights Go Down" echoes how every pastor, singer, teacher or missionary must feel about their service for the Lord. We all must just realize that we are humans, saved by the grace of God, and it's only by God living through us that we are His redeemed: 'when the lights go down and the stage is empty,' He is there!

You MUST have this recording! You will thrive through the blessings here. Contact Joseph through his web site; www.josephhabedank.com



THE OLD COUNTRY CHURCH

Mike Scott & Friends

Rural Rhythm Music

Producer: Mike Scott

This album will be a favorite of all bluegrass gospel fans, with Mike Scott playing banjo, Bryan Sut-

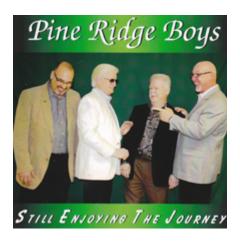
ton on guitar, Tim Stafford on guitar, Aubrey Haynie playing mandolin, Rob Ickes on dobro and Ben Isaacs on upright bass. Actually, Mike noted this as a project of Appalachian Gospel Instrumentals.

The song list has a number of well-known Gospel songs, known both in the Bluegrass/Mountain Music world, Southern Gospel as well as Country music. Each has been sung and performed on every Bluegrass stage and these gentlemen play each one to perfection.

Mike Scott's note on the CD insert explains his love for this music: "I was born and raised in the Appalachian Mountains of East Tennessee. I first heard many of these good old Gospel songs in "The Old Country Church" where I grew up. Sunday afternoons with dinner on the ground is a wonderful memory of fun, friends, food and fellowship. This was just a way of life at our house too...To this day, I still love to have these gatherings and fellowship in the same way...playing the same songs!"

Several of the songs are my favorites, however each song on the playlist brings back many memories. "Will The Circle Be Unbroken," "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," and "When The Angels Carry Me Home" are three good ones. Others are "The Old Country Church," "Pass Me Not," "When The Saints Go Marching In," "Where The Soul Of Men Never Die," "I'll Fly Away," "Where The Roses Never Fade." "Precious Memories," "Victory In Jesus," "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" and "I Saw The Light" round out the instrumental.

These songs are well suited for Country Gospel/ Christian Country/Bluegrass Gospel radio. To communicate with Mike Scott, visit www.mikescottmusic.com.



STILL ENJOYING THE JOURNEY

Pine Ridge Boys

Independent

Producer: Art Bain

The Pine Ridge Boys are definitely a dynamic quartet and this new recording is exciting proof of this! Here are ten of the best quartet songs on *Still Enjoying the Journey* and you'll enjoy each one.

Art Bain is one of my favorite producers and certainly knows great quartet music. He has given Larry Stewart, Wayne Shuford, Duane Rizzo and Ivory Luke a solid package. Song selection, music tracks and arrangements are well suited to this quartet's vocal talent. I've been singing along on every song!

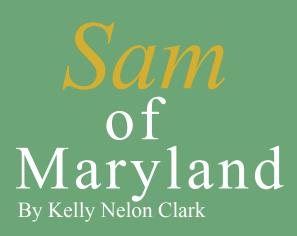
"It's A Wonderful Change," written by Greg Day, is an exciting piece of quartet magic with smooth vocals and the perfect rhythm for toe-tapping and singing along.

"Sailing Away," a very familiar song, is one of my favorites. I guarantee you'll never hear it done any better! Larry Stewart delivers one of Diane Wilkinson's masterpieces: "He Is Mine." "I Rest My Case At The Cross" fills the heart with joy and the quartet sings it with great pleasure for the listener.

A "hot" fiddle intro kicks off "He's So Good To Me" and Ivory Luke does a great job on "Oh What A Savior." "Well of Grace" brings this recording to an end and you'll definitely play it again to experience the blessings once more.

Contact the Pine Ridge Boys at 770-315-3001 for a copy for your Gospel music collection.





In our travels, we meet so many interesting people and I always love to hear their stories. Mr. Sam was at a concert one weekend and invited us to his restaurant. As we ate, he began to share some of his life story. He had a lot of tragedies in a short timeframe of his life. Enough trials to make a person want to give up; but not Mr. Sam.

At the age of six years old, both of his parents were killed in an automobile accident. He and his older brother and younger sister then lived with his grandparents. At the age of 14, they also passed away. He really wasn't sure what would happen next but an aunt in Maryland took him, and his grandmother's sister took the other two children. Sam's aunt raised him and put him through college.

I asked him if he ever felt sad about losing so much and he said. "No, I've always been an optimistic kind, with the glass half full. Plus everywhere I went I always felt loved."

There were two things that struck my heart about his story. First of all, that it matters how you react in life to its blows and punches. And secondly, that love will get you through a lot of things.

I can't say that in my situations I always stayed positive, but I did know the Lord could handle everything I was going through and His love covered me too!

Maybe you need to know that someone loves you! God cares about your life, your health, your mind, and everything else that pertains to you. You are not alone! He goes before you, behind you and walks beside you!



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WALANDER By Dan Duncan

The music of Melanie Walker has been used of God to touch lives around the world for over 15 years. Her songs have graced the national charts in Country Gospel radio, and she has been seen every week worldwide on network television.

A real country girl at heart, Melanie was born in Marion, Illinois, and was raised in West Frankfort, Illinois. She still lives in the house in which she grew up. Her grandmother took her to church where she learned of God's great love. She committed her life to Jesus Christ at the age of five and has never wavered from that commitment.

A Sunday School teacher and his wife were instrumental in launching the musical ministry of Melanie Walker. They began traveling together; he preached, his wife played the music and Melanie sang. She sang Country Gospel from the very beginning.

Melanie had heard the music of such artists of Walt Mills and The Days (writers of the hit song "The Midnight Cry") on a Christian television network. The Days had just released a great new Country Gospel album. When she heard it, Melanie said, "This fits! That's the sound I want for my music!"

She received an invitation to sing on the TCT

Christian television network. Melanie traveled with a live band, but the artists who sang on the networks used soundtracks. She searched and searched for Country Gospel soundtracks, but was unsuccessful in finding any. She actually went into the studio and recorded her first album in order to have soundtracks with which to sing on television. She soon became a regular on TCT, singing on their partnership programs.

One day, the founder of the TCT Network, Dr. Garth Coonce, asked Melanie if she would be interested in having her own TV show. God had opened a door and Melanie stepped right through it! Her show was named "Come On In." It debuted in 2005 and has continued to run for 10 years. This program features the music and teaching ministry of Melanie Walker.

During those years, radio stations all across America began playing Melanie's recordings. In a very short time, she achieved her first number one song. Success in the national charts has continued until this day. Melanie has had a total of 10 number one songs, with many others appearing in the charts. She has recorded a total of 10 albums, the last three of which were recorded in Nashville, Tennessee at the famed Bradley's Barn studio, which was owned by the legendary Owen Bradley.

A second television show was developed and launched, which was a concert series called "Sessions." This one-hour program featured many of Melanie's friends as musical guests. "Sessions" had a very successful three-year run on the TCT Network.

Melanie Walker has been honored with a great number of awards for her work in the Christian music industry. She has received a total of nine awards from the International Country Gospel Music Association (ICGMA). They include Female Vocalist of The Year, Gold Cross Female Artist, Crossover Artist of the Year, Duet of the Year (With Marty Raybon) and TV Show of the Year four times. She was also inducted into the ICGMA Hall of Fame. She has been the recipient of numerous ICM Awards, including several Female Vocalist awards, and soloist awards. She was named Entertainer of the Year by the Country Gospel Music Guild.

Melanie Walker is an outstanding singer, Bible teacher, television hostess and writer. Her hard work has produced one book. She has received a Doctorate of Divinity from St. Thomas Christian College in Jacksonville, Florida.

Melanie is presently serving as president of the Music City Christian Fellowship. This organization is best known for producing "Sunday Morning Country" in Nashville. She is working together with Lynn Fox of the Fox Brothers in producing this year's show. The show is scheduled for June 7th, 2015 at 2:30 pm at the Grand Ole Opry House. Music City Christian Fellowship has produced this show for 35 years, each year inviting country music artists to sing and share their testimonies.

Melanie is quick to acknowledge that every good thing that has come into her life has come from God above. She states: "I want to thank Garth and Tina Coonce, who have trusted God enough to allow me to be a part of the TCT Television ministry. Garth and Tina care about people knowing Jesus. I love being a part of the TCT family, and seeing what God does through that ministry."

"It's been a wonderful journey, with so much more to come! God has already done exceedingly, abundantly above all that I could ask or think in my life. I want to thank Him for each opportunity I have been given."

Find out more about Melanie Walker on www. melaniewalker.com

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Quick Tips To Stay Fit Over The Holidays By Laurette Willis, CHC

"I am the bread of life" John 6:48

Those words really put holiday overindulgence into perspective don't they? Perhaps the overindulgence we could enter into this Thanksgiving and Christmas is filling up on the "bread of life" instead of the bread of this world; after all, Jesus was placed in a manger (a feeding trough!) as a baby.

When we think of the bread of this world, do you think of physical bread? It can be that as well as what I call the *soul* junk food of this world. I'm referring to many of the things that pass for *entertainment* these days.

Sorry to be meddling, but you know what? I discovered that when I fill up on the world's junk food through my eyes and ears, I also seem to want to satisfy my mouth with the world's processed junk foods for my body.

Isn't that a bizarre connection? Makes sense though, right? When I'm taking in less *life* through the Word into my spirit, my discernment and choices in other areas of my life aren't as clear or focused.

Here are some physical and spiritual tips to sail through the holy-days with joy!

Eat small, frequent *real food* meals

In order to keep from over-indulging and regretting it later, eat small, unprocessed snacks every three to four hours instead of only a couple of huge meals and processed food snacks.

Eat food that IS food (vegetables, fruit, dairy, eggs, meat), instead of a lot of ingredients put together in a factory. Keep away from gluten and fried foods. You will feel so much better, I promise! This will also

boost your metabolism, especially when combined with exercise.

Pick a *Scripture Snack* each day

Fill up on *real* soul food! Pick one "Scripture snack" to chew on each day. Today your "snack" from the Word can be the verse at the beginning of this article where Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

Throughout the day go back to that Word and ask the Lord to give you new revelation on it. You will notice your focus becomes clearer; you will make better choices in a number of areas and you will feel satisfied on the inside (not stuffed and numb from overindulging the flesh as we've done so many times before).

Paint your plate

Paint your plate with food, that is! Experts say that a colorful plate leads to better health. Don't opt for a plate that's beige and yellow-brown with just turkey, potatoes and stuffing on it. Add greens and red vegetables like tomatoes, bell peppers, carrots and red cabbage for a colorful, flavorful plate!

Make time to exercise during the holidays

Many gain weight during Thanksgiving and Christmas, but you don't have to do so! Exercise helps, but most of us have very little time to exercise at this busy time. The solution is to work exercise into what you are already doing.

Here are some ways you can do just that!

Wear a Pedometer

One of the easiest ways to monitor physical activity is to wear a pedometer. Most experts recommend 10,000 steps throughout the day. You may discover you walk more (or less!) than you thought. Here are some tips for getting your steps:

Take a walk with your family after dinner (can be a short one if it's cold!)

Take the stairs whenever you can.

Walk in place when on the phone.

For added resistance, wear small ankle weights. *Do Short Workouts Throughout the Day*

Studies show that short workouts throughout the day can be just as effective as longer workout sessions. Fit two or three 10-minute sessions in each day. Make half of your sessions strength-training or resistance-based and the other half cardio-based (such as running in place).

Exercise During In-between Times.

Instead of just waiting in line at a store doing nothing, do calf raises—and meditate on a Scripture Snack. Stuck in traffic? Tighten abdominal muscles, and then take a deep breath and exhale with a "Hallelujah!" Here are some more quick tips:

Do push-ups against the kitchen counter while waiting for water to boil

On hold on the phone? Do some leg raises, or bicep curls with a light weight.

Do 25-50 jumping jacks in the morning to "This is the day the Lord has made! I will rejoice and be glad in it!" And you'll find you will be glad in it!

Get on a rebounder (mini-trampoline) while watching television.

Do relaxing stretches (such as PraiseMoves!) before bedtime and meditate on the goodness of the Lord, preparing you for sound sleep.

More Practical Tips

In addition to ensuring your heart and mind are full of the Word, here's how you can spearhead the movement in your family to a healthier Christmas and 2015:

Make a difference in someone's life. Focus on one or two people you are going to get to know better over the holiday. This can be a member of your own family, a friend, a neighbor, perhaps even someone at church who needs to be with a family at Christmas (why not yours?).

Don't skip meals. Even if you think you may be eating more over the holidays, don't make the mistake of skipping meals so you can "stock up" later.

Drink plenty of water. Stay well hydrated. It will also ensure you eat less. We often reach for a high-calorie snack when our body is really crying out for water.

Go to Habakkuk 2:2-3 ("Write the vision and

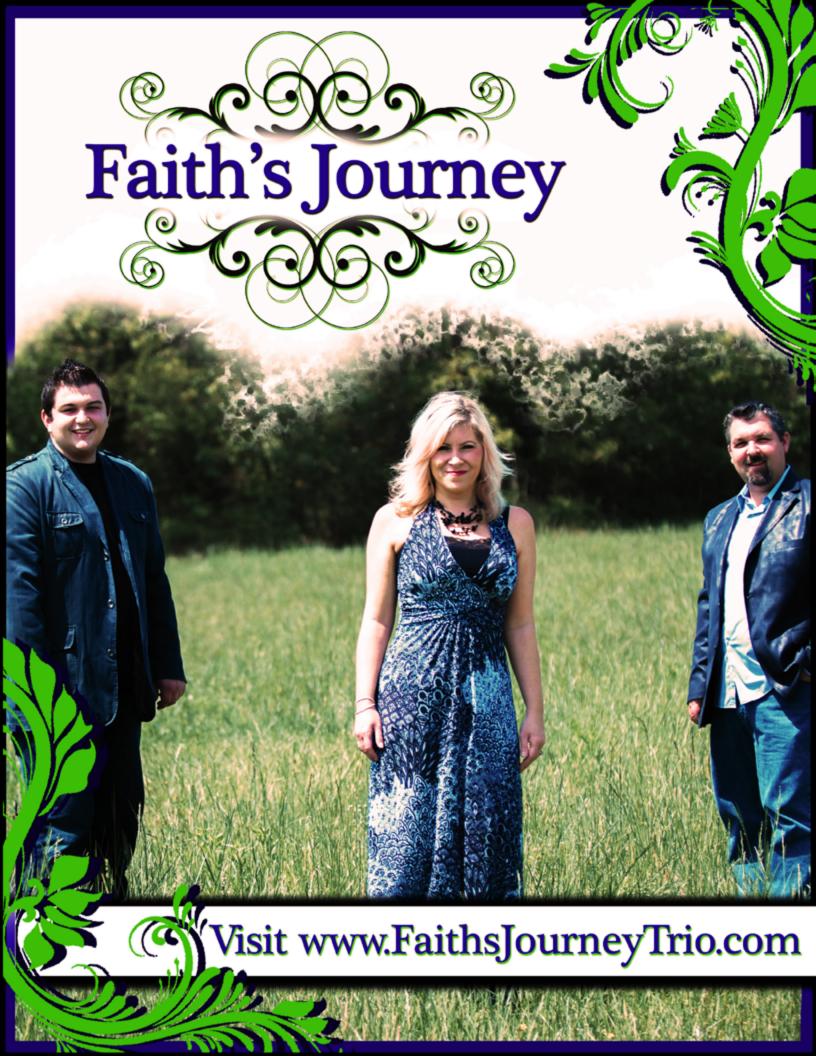
make it plain..."). Prepare for 2015 by asking the Lord what you can do differently this coming year. "Lord, what great things do You want to do through me, Lord, that I may give You all the glory and be a sign and a wonder in this world? "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven," as Jesus said in Matthew 5:16.

Above all, stay focused on making sure your spirit is well fed. You will sail through the holidays and into 2015 with your heart full, your mind clear and your body full of energy as a fit witness for Christ. He is able to do "exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us" (Eph. 4:20).

Let's believe Him for it – and share our victory with others this holiday season.

Christian Fitness Expert and Certified Health Coach Laurette Willis is the Director of PraiseMoves Fitness Ministry with DVDs, Training, and Classes by Certified PraiseMoves Instructors on six continents (http://praisemoves.com/ http://praisemoves.com/ http://praisemoves.com/







BY ERIN STEVENS

Family legacies are what help to define us; they are the stuff of life, so to speak. The old saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" still stands true today. Such is the case in the household of the Webbs, a family that has carried out the call of God on their lives for 35 years. This month, our attention is drawn to the young lady of the house who shoots a pistol, makes a mean Southern-style breakfast, and enjoys a classic 'I Love Lucy' episode, all before she heads out on the road! Ladies and gentlemen, Hannah Webb.

Erin: At what point did you feel the call into music ministry? Hannah: As a painfully shy 13-year-old at Iowa's Cedar Falls Bible Conference, I was befuddled when the Lord called me to surrender my life to His work. Nevertheless, I said 'yes' and just three years later I joined the family on the road full-time.

Erin: What are some behind-the-scenes enjoyments of Hannah Kathryn Webb?

Hannah: I am definitely an old soul. I love antiques, my Victrola, 50's fashion, old hymns, 'I Love Lucy' and Ella Fitzgerald. I'm convinced I was born in the wrong era!

Erin: Many tuned in to see your appearance on The American Bible Challenge. What are some highlights from the filming experience?

Hannah: Along with going to Los Angeles and meeting Jeff Foxworthy, the most memorable part of the whole experience was taping our introduction segment. When our casting director found out I enjoy hunting, I was asked to shoot my pistol for my personal introduction. Unfortunately, the "blonde beauty queen shooting a GLOCK" segment didn't make the cut, but it was a blast!

Erin: As a partner of Compassion International, share a little bit of your heart for this powerful ministry. Hannah: My heart was broken, twice, when I experienced

poverty in 2008, while in the Dominican Republic, and again in Haiti 2013. When I realized what a bright light Compassion is, and how many millions of lives are changed, my passion for this organization was ignited. I sponsor two little girls and have the privilege of watching them grow up. I encourage anyone reading to pray about sponsoring a child. Visit www.Compassion.com/HannahWebb

Erin: What is the Scripture verse you live by? Hannah: Acts 20:24: I consider my life worthless unless it is



fulfilling the task that has been placed before me – the task of sharing the good news of the Gospel.

Erin: If there was one moment in life you could relive, what would it be?

Hannah: Without a doubt, back on the Miss North Carolina stage, performing my Jazz talent "Blue Skies" by Irving Berlin. Jason Webb produced an updated Ella Fitzgerald arrangement for me, which ended up winning a Miss NC talent award! I was on cloud nine.

Erin: As we quickly approach the holiday season, most folks are unaware of what goes into a production like your family's annual Christmas show at Shipshewana. Tell us more about it and how it came to be?

Hannah: When Re'Generation came off the road and went in-house at Disney in 1983, Derric Johnson created "The Glory and Pageantry of Christmas." For five years, my parents performed in this production that drew tens of thousands of people during the Christmas season. We had the opportunity to take the same concept to the Blue Gate Theater in Shipshewana, IN for the past seven years. The simple, yet astounding arrangement of this production creates a worship setting that never fails to leave one speechless. We are so excited about releasing our new Christmas project that contains most of the music in "The Glory and Majesty of Christmas."

Erin: Is there a specific opportunity you had to share your

faith in Christ while involved in the Miss America pageant? Hannah: The Miss America Organization was a completely different platform of ministry for me. Each time I went in for an interview, I was faced with questions about my views on homosexuality, abortion, politics and how I would be a Christian in a position that requires neutralism. Instead of choosing political correctness, I chose Biblical correctness, while I did my best to imitate Christ each time I stepped out.

We're living in a world where we need to be ready to give our opinions on today's controversial topics, without compromising our faith. 1 Peter 3:15 tells us to "Always be ready to give an answer." Consider every day as another opportunity to tell your story, share your testimony and be a shining example for folks to follow. No, you may never have the chance to stand on the Miss America platform and give your answer; but take a stand, and make your job, your school, even your local Starbucks your own personal platform to shine for Christ. Thanks to the lovely and gracious Hannah for chatting with us today. Until next month, Scoops fans...

And that's my take on it.

Be sure to visit The Rick Webb Family's website for more information on Hannah and about their new Christmas project at rickwebbfamilymusic.com



Holiday Hustle or Holiday Hope By Jennifer Campbell

Can you believe that it is already the month of November? Soon the holidays will be history and the New Year will be in sight. At times, it seems that the holidays come and go in the blink of an eye. The year goes by so fast that it becomes a monumental task to eat up the candy corn before Christmas, the candy canes before Valentine's, and the chocolate hearts before Easter. Simultaneously, the stores stock the shelves with ghosts and goblins of Halloween and the decorated trees and nativity scenes of Christmas. Sandwiched right between the two are a few lone scarecrows and a bounty of cornucopias.

Thanksgiving is a holiday that often gets overlooked amid the medley of holiday cheer. Let's face it: Thanksgiving and Christmas are two of the best holidays on the entire calendar. So, don't rush through the holiday hustle; stop and savor each and every moment of holiday hope!

In its simplest terms, the word 'hope' means to desire something with anticipation. In contrast, the word 'hustle' can even mean to manhandle something! Think about it. Do you want to anticipate the holidays or handle them roughly, pushing them along? It is my prayer that we can avoid the hustle. Instead, it is my hope that we can anticipate the holidays as a child anticipates Christmas morning when they finally have the chance to unwrap the gifts underneath the tree. Whether you are 8 or 80, the Christmas season still holds the same meaning as it did when you were a child. Sure, you

may have finally figured out that Santa Clause doesn't really slide down the chimney to deliver gifts during the night. And you may have decided that Frosty didn't really come to town one day. But there is one Christmas story that never grows old. It is not based on fiction, but on reality. And it is truly the greatest story ever told.

Jesus Christ came to this earth as a baby in a manger. He was not born in a palace or a hospital, as most kings would be. Instead, the King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords was born in a stable in Bethlehem. Jesus was born of a virgin, visited by shepherds and wise men, adopted by Joseph, a carpenter. God chose to have His

Son come into the world with humble beginnings. But He knew that Jesus would grow up to be the Savior of the world by giving His life for you and me. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus loved you and I so much that He journeyed from a manger filled with hay to a cross where He shed His blood to save us from our sins.

During this holiday season, remember to thank Jesus for loving you so much that He gave all He could give. He could have called ten thousand angels, but He stayed on the cross so you could have a personal relationship with Him. But He didn't stop there. He continues to bless you with family, friends, food, and so much more. This Thanksgiving, as you sit around a table piled high with a perfectly carved turkey, succulent stuffing and fluffy mashed potatoes, topped off with a slice of pumpkin pie garnished with a dollop of whipped cream, remember to take time to give thanks.

Give thanks for your family. Give thanks for your friends. Give thanks to God. Slow down and take time to anticipate each holiday with hope. Hope for a joyous celebration. Hope for family and friends gathered around. Hope from the greatest gift of all: Jesus Christ. Don't shuffle through the holiday hustle; fill your heart with holiday hope!

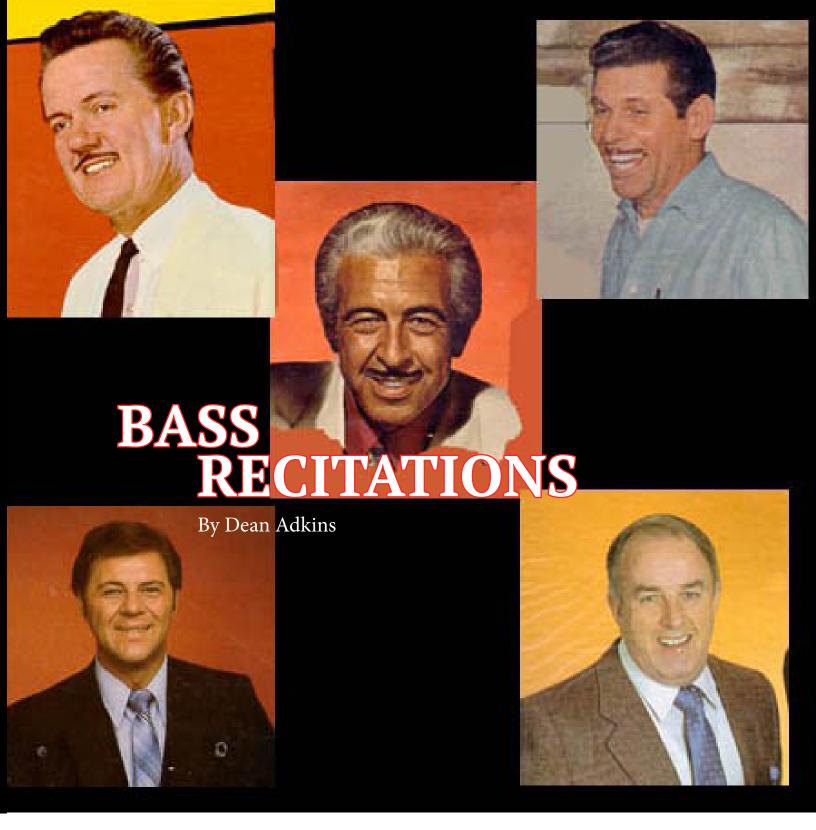
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"Should you go first, and I remain ..." is the beginning of the recitation accompanying "Beyond The Sunset." Anyone who watched George Younce as he recited this to his wife on a recent video could feel the depth of his emotions. Who can forget J.D. Sumner reciting "Old Man Death" not long before his own death?

The bass recitation was once a common addition to most quartets' programs and was also a part of many of their recordings. In fact, a statement on one of the Cathedral's early albums indicated that they would try to

include a recitation on each that was produced. There is something about that deep resonant bass voice that can elicit an emotional response. There have been recitations by other quartet members, e.g., lead (Jim Hamill), baritone (John Matthews), but my preference is the bass.

Billy Todd, when he was with the Florida Boys, stirred many hearts on Sunday morning via the Jubilee with his rendition of "Beyond The Sunset." Later Buddy Liles of the Florida Boys did "The Apple Tree Song" and "IOU's to Mama." When he was a member of the Dixie

Echoes, the Old Gospel Man - J.G. Whitfield - would recite "Father's Table Grace" and "Brother Ira."

George Younce was one of the best and also one of the most prolific. "The Touch of The Master's Hand," "Beyond The Sunset" (mentioned previously), "Steal Away," and "Brother Ira" were part of his repertoire. The live recording from Atlanta by the Cathedrals included "Forgive Me When I Whine." George's "I'm A Sick American" was also very moving.

When Bob Thacker was with the Harvester's Quartet, he would do "Mama Sang A Song" (which was also popular in the country market at the same time). He also had a great styling of "Father's Table Grace." Bob Thacker was one of those singers who didn't get the publicity of some others, but he was a tremendous bass.

London Parris could rattle the speakers with his low notes but on his recitations his voice was much higher. He didn't sound like one would expect from his singing, but his country dialect seemed to add realism to his recitations. London would do "Little Boy Lost," "He Took My Place," "This Is Our Land" and one of my favorites, "What Then."

Probably the most prolific at this was J.D. Sumner. Some of his recorded recitations were: "Back Home," "Mammy's Boy," "Sunday Meetin' Time," "Steal Away," "Lord It's Me Again," "Who Will Take Grandma," "Papa's Banjo," "The Three Nails," "Going Home," "My

Prayer," "The Farmer and The Lord," "Thimble Full of Memories," "23rd Psalm" and "Thinking Out Loud". Of course his premonition of his own passing seemed to be evident in "Old Man Death."

"Now back in south Georgia, when I was just a lad ..." is the beginning of "Little Boy Lost." When performed by "Chief" (James Wetherington), one can feel the urgency in the little boy - lost, stumbling in the darkness. Chief had a way of communicating that allowed the listener to become a part of his recitation as in: "Mother's Prayers Have Followed Me," "Sunday Meetin' Time," and "Prayer is the Key to Heaven." The last time I saw the Statesmen with Chief was not long before his death at a concert in Charleston, WV. One of the highlights was when the lights were turned down and a single spotlight would be on Chief as he recited "The Common Man." In his white suit and with his elegant gray/white hair, he was resplendent. One would have to be dead or an atheist not to be moved by his eloquent styling.

Are there any bass recitations today? A few can be found. Ed O'Neal of the Dixie Melody Boys did "I Love To Tell The Story" on a project several years ago. Why are there not more? My thoughts are this: it is difficult to do and that style is passé. But for me, there is nothing that compares to the deep resonant bass reciting a moving poem/chorus.





It's evident when listening to music by Canaan's Crossing, attending one of their terrific concerts, or talking personally with their members, that they strive to keep their worship of the Lord the main focus of their music ministry.

Fourteen years ago, in 2000, one of Canaan's Crossing's founding members, Tim Maze, got together with his friends Tina Miller and Andy Wilks for a fun night of playing the strings and singing their favorite songs. This music session turned into the start of a journey into the Gospel music industry and a new group was born. The music of Canaan's Crossing blends traditional Bluegrass roots with progressive Bluegrass strains, while mixing in some Southern Gospel style and even a little Contemporary Christian feel to create a sound and experience that is uniquely their own.

The band has received several nods and awards, including a nomination for Album of the Year at the 2004 Dove Awards. In 2006 and 2014, Canaan's Crossing was nominated for the Traditional Gospel Group of the Year by SPBGMA, which was followed by a record deal with Song Garden Music Group. The group was

also given the award for Song of the Year with their song "Dying to Live" at the 2011 Front Porch Fellowship Awards (National Quartet Convention), along with the New Artist of the Year award. In 2013 and 2014, they were nominated for Bluegrass Artist of the Year at the Diamond Awards. With their success growing by the day, group member Tim Maze is making sure that he always remembers Who brought him to the stage in the first place.

For Tim, singing was a part of his life from a very early age. "I first had the opportunity to sing at my home church, Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church. I was about four years old, so I don't remember anything other than standing on the piano bench while my mother played. The song was 'Little is Much if God is in it'." Tim went on to sing with his mother and a family group when he was 11.

"We never were really considered to be on the circuit although we would sing several times a weekend. For an 11-year-old boy just wanting to play football in the yard on Sunday afternoon, you couldn't convince me we were not on the circuit!" After singing with the family group, Tim began playing bass guitar for the Galileans Quartet at the age of 15, and also spent time singing with the Singing Ambassador's Quartet in the '90's.

Throughout his singing career, Tim has sought to keep his focus and the audience's focus on the Spirit of the Lord. He still strives to have a Christ-like attitude no matter what event he is working at. Tim says that humility is the key to keeping this attitude. "Be humble. Staying humble keeps you willing to listen. Be teachable. If you can let other people teach you whether they are older or younger than you, you will continue to succeed. Nobody knows everything so be open to new trends and avoid the 'I haven't done it like that before' attitude."

Since the group's beginnings in 2000, Canaan's Crossing has undergone growth and change. The group now consists of six members. Tim describes what each member contributes to the group with pride. "Tina Miller is featured on many of our songs. She is not only a great fiddle player, but she has one of the most pleasant voices I have ever heard. The bluegrass world took notice of her earlier in 2014 when she was a SPBGMA nominee for Female Vocalist of the Year. Andy Wilks plays guitar and is another featured vocalist. Andy is one of the most dependable people you will find and he is so very pleasant. He does whatever needs to be done no matter if it is working on the bus all night or driving it all night. He is just a real trooper. Damion Kidd is our dobro player and I would put him among the top dobro

players out there. He is really unbelievable."

Canaan's Crossing has recently gained some younger members who bring tons of talent to the stage. "Collins Miller, son of Tina Miller, plays banjo. He is the 2013 Alabama state champion and only 16 years old! Joshua Black plays guitar. He is an 18-year-old senior in high school and is as fine of a Christian youth that I have been around in a long time," Tim continues. "Earlier this year, I turned my bass playing duties over to Jacob Moody. I've watched Jacob grow into one of the most flexible bass players I have ever heard. He is 17 years old and is the current Alabama bass champion."

"All I do is sing and emcee. I am having the time of my life and I feel like we have the best band we have ever had. The feedback from people has been phenomenal. I can't believe I am surrounded with such great talent."

The group has had incredible experiences of the Holy Spirit throughout their career, seeing souls saved and lives changed. They've also had a few mishaps along the way! "Before we purchased a bus, we were pulling a trailer," Tim says, "and I was walking backwards down the ramp of the trailer with a load of equipment when I fell off into a beautiful shrub in front of the church where we were performing. The next year when we played there again, the bush still had a big hole in it the size of my body!"

Whether their experiences have caused laughter, excitement, or even tears, Canaan's Crossing has kept their eyes on their main goal of making music: worshiping the Lord and ministering to listeners. "Our greatest desire for our ministry is to be able to provide Christian entertainment for those who come to see us and let them see the light of God shining through us," Tim says.

Canaan's Crossing's newest album is called *Words* and features many great songs, including the song "Somebody's Blessing," which was co-written by Kenna Turner West. "Tina did a superb job singing the song. I don't think I have heard her deliver a song as well as she did when she recorded that one," Tim recalls. The album can be found on the group's web-



site, www.canaanscrossing.com, and also downloaded on iTunes.

When asked about his own role, Tim replies,

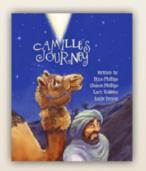
To learn more about Canaan's Crossing, visit their website or follow them on Twitter (@Canaan's Crossing) and Facebook. For booking, email bookings@canaanscrossing.com.

When you do visit Canaan's Crossing, whether it's through their online sites or in person, you will soon find out that they are striving to keep the "main thing" the main thing, as Tim Maze says. "We pray to never forget Who we represent and Who we are singing about"



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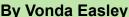
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Both musicals are available from www.guardianangelpublishing.com!

DJ SPOTLIGHT

Ron Foster





Ron Foster is the host of the Sunday morning Southern Gospel Jubilee at WZZK 104.7 in Birmingham, Alabama. I recently ran into Ron and asked him some questions. Here is what he had to say.....

Vonda: Tell us Ron, what is your favorite thing to do other than being a DJ?

Ron: My favorite thing to do, other than being a DJ, is promoting Gospel concerts, which I've been doing for about 10 years. I also enjoy collecting Southern Gospel music memorabilia.

Vonda: Who is someone that was a mentor to you growing up?

Ron: I grew up listening to the legendary DJ Wayne Wallace on the radio. I've loved Southern Gospel music my entire life, and little did I know that I would one day have the opportunity to follow in Wayne's footsteps and have a career in radio playing gospel music. Wayne was my mentor and my close friend.

Vonda: I see your son sings too! Tell us about him and tell us: did he get it from you?

Ron: Yes, my son, Austin, is 19 years old and he has been blessed with an abundance of talent. He is a Gospel music recording artist, and has had songs make the Singing News chart, which is quite an honor. Austin is also a pianist. He is a sophomore at Samford University as a Vocal Performance major. I guess Austin did get his



musical abilities from me. I have sung for several years and have also recorded a couple of projects, one that was produced by Tim Greene at his Loft Studios. So Austin has been exposed to music his entire life.

Vonda: What is your favorite place to eat?

Ron: It's hard to choose a favorite restaurant but I guess Outback would be first on my list. Second, would be Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, on days when I'm feeling really rich!

Vonda: If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Ron: I have always wanted to visit Israel, and hope to be able to one day. In fact, I've thought how cool it would be for me to be in Israel at the time when Christ returns.

Thanks so much Ron Foster for allowing us to put you under the DJ Spotlight for SGN Scoops.

Be sure to listen to Ron every Sunday morning on Southern Gospel Jubilee at WZZK 104.7, 6:00am to 11:00am CST. WZZK streams live through http://tu-nein.com/







Have you ever been inspired by one of your dreams? Have you been spurred into action from something you felt you were meant to pursue? More than 40 years ago, Paul and Jan Crouch had a dream, a vision for something that would one day send out the message of hope in Christ all over the world.

In 1970, Paul and Jan leased airtime on a single UHF station in California that had one show, Praise The Lord. In 1973, the Crouches, along with Jimmy and Tammy Bakker, purchased a station and Trinity Broadcast Network was born. Praise The *Lord* is still the flagship program for the network. Crouch shares in his autobiography, Hello World! that the network was so weak it nearly went bankrupt after just two days on the air, which led to the first of TBN's well-known telethons. Then known as the Trinity Broadcasting Systems, TBN quickly grew from UHF stations to cable outlets and then to satellite and internet live stream distribution. Jim and Tammy Bakker departed and started their own network in Charlotte, North Carolina, which folded in 1987.

Headquartered in Costa Mesa, California and with studios in Irving, Texas; Hendersonville, Tennessee; Atlanta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; and Orlando, Florida, TBN is currently the ninth largest broadcaster in the United States. TBN carries the Gospel to more than 100 million US households and reaches over 75 countries where its programs are translated into 11 different languages today.

In the early years, TBN was on top of the technology of the times, taking advantage of the fact that many people would not step inside the walls of the church, but they would turn on a radio or television set at home and watch a Christian program. Televisions were first manufactured for home use in the 1930's. By the 1950's, televangelism was growing and audio-visual technology was being developed as a powerful tool with which to share the Gospel message. There were others who took advantage of this captivating new technology. Bishop Fulton Sheen was a radio evangelist for 20 years before he started a weekly, televised broadcast called, *Life Is Worth Living*. Bishop Sheen was one of the pioneers who found commercial success

through televised broadcasting of Biblical messages. Other pioneers included Virginia Fagal, who



began Faith For Today, sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist denomination; Rex Humbard, who delivered a powerful message from Cathedral Of



Tomorrow in Ohio in the 1960's; and Pat Robertson, who started a small bandwidth UHF station called the *Christian Broadcasting Network*, which he later developed an anchor show for called *The 700 Club*.

Marcus and Joni Lamb had a vision for televised ministry, as well. In 1984, the Lambs purchased Channel 45 in Alabama. In 1990, hoping to reach a broader audience, they relocated to Dallas, Texas. By 1997, their dream was realized

when they launched *Daystar*. The growth was exponential, reaching hundreds of millions within the first 10 years and still growing strong. In 2007, TBN purchased the bible-themed adventure park *Holy Land Experience* in Orlando, Florida for \$37 million

With exciting advancements in technology, the ability to reach new households is still growing. *Sky Angel* is a cable provider, similar to U-Verse, Charter or Time Warner; however, *Sky Angel* provides more than 80 family friendly, faith-based networks to its viewers. Web-based video viewing and streaming video are powerful tools to reach people who want to view from their computers, tablets or even smart phones. TBN offers a 24-hour live stream of its network.

Viewers can peruse the website and view previously-filmed episodes from the extensive archive list. TBN's website lists many offerings from praise and worship to movies to news and world events.

In 1994, Trinity Music City USA, took ownership of the former mansion and gardens of coun-



try music singer <u>Conway Twitty</u> near Nashville in Hendersonville, Tennessee. The nearly 33-acre complex attracts thousands of visitors every week, and includes the 1500-seat Trinity Music City Auditorium, which hosts TBN-produced concerts, dramas, seminars and special events. The auditorium is the birthplace of Country Music Television (CMT). Admission is always free.

I was able to attend the taping on June 17, 2014, hosted by Joseph Morgan from Celebration of Life Church in Hendersonville, Tennessee. Joseph and his wife, Yolanda, shared their powerful



testimony that reduced me to tears as they talked about loving their son through his trials and claiming victory over his battles as he returned to ministry, forgiven and healed.

The entire evening was filled with inspiring stories from Pastor John Caples, Pastor Jonathan Miller, Pastors Terry and Sharon Bell, Author Rebecca Nichols Alonzo and musical guests, Daron Farmer and The LeFevre Quartet. I left feeling exhilarated from a wonderful evening of worship and powerful testimonies of God's amazing grace and healing.

Twenty years after acquiring the property, Trinity Music City in Hendersonville, TN offers something for everyone in the family to enjoy, from free tours and free movies, to shopping in the Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh Gift Shop. Tours run daily, Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00am and 2:00pm and take you through the Recording Studios, Television Station and Auditorium, as well as the former mansion and gardens of Country Music legend, Conway Twitty.

From November 1, 2014 to January 15, 2015, Trinity Music City turns into Trinity Christmas City! Over one million lights twinkle throughout Trinity Christmas City. Visitors can stroll through the exquisitely decorated gardens, while they listen to the beautiful Christmas music playing throughout the park. The lights and the babbling brook ending in a quiet pool of water with a beautiful water fountain, provide a serene experience for all to enjoy. This year, on select nights (Fridays and Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas), Trinity Christmas City will offer free Horse and Carriage rides throughout the property from 5:00pm to 8:00pm, courtesy of Sugar Creek Car-

riages.

Technology is still rapidly changing all around us, and there are many methods of communication that did not exist years ago. There are both positive and negative sides to that coin. For our young people today, sources of media can be a very confusing and disorienting place from which to obtain information. Fortunately, there are many sources of Christian media that are growing stronger each day. Take a moment to go online and visit the website for Trinity Broadcast Network today at www.tbn.org. You will find many encouraging, Bible-based messages and a variety of wonderful music and you can enjoy it all from the comfort of your own home. To learn more about Trinity Music City, you can visit their website at http://trinity- musiccity.com/ or call (615) 822-8333 for reservations.



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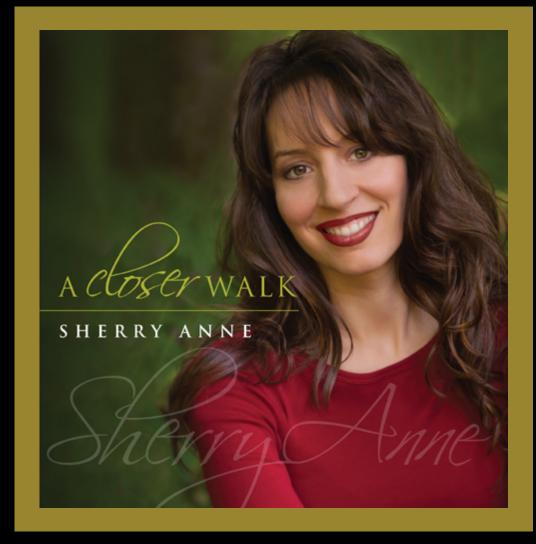
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Sherry Anne Releases A Closer Walk



By Paige Givens

Sherry Anne has released a new CD entitled *A Closer Walk*. The project gets its name from one of the tracks included on the collection, "Just A Closer Walk With Thee." According to Sherry Anne, the project also gets its title because her sincere hope is that listeners will develop a closer walk with the Lord through listening and experiencing the songs about His forgiveness, mercy, love, and healing.

Sherry Anne describes herself as "a hearing and speech impaired chiropractor-turned-gospel singer." *A Closer Walk* is her third CD release, produced by Nick Bruno at Mansion Entertainment Studios and Sunset Boulevard Studios, in Nashville, Tennessee. "It was such an incredible privilege to work with so many great musicians, vocalists, and engineers," says Sherry Anne.

Among the talents included on the project are Steve Dady (tracking engineer), Kevin Williams (acoustic guitar), Kelly Back (guitar), Dan Needham (drums), Mark Hill and Matt Pierson (bass), and Nick Bruno (piano and vocals), as well as vocalists Gus Gaches and Joyce Martin Sanders.

The 11-song collection includes some timeless favorites, like a medley of "I Can't Even Walk" and "Precious Lord", as well as some new songs, like the beautiful ballad "To Be Forgiven." Sherry Anne wrote the lyrics to the song "Singing This Song To You" and Nick Bruno wrote the music. Sherry Anne reflects, "It is a personal worship song that attempts to pay gratitude and respect for all the Lord has done for us. John Mathis, Jr., of Mansion Entertainment produced a music video for the song that I will be releasing in the next month along with

the CD!"

John Mathis, Jr., has nothing but good things to say about the project. "Sherry Anne has lived a life filled with more than her share of obstacles to overcome and through that she has come to know and share the gospel through her life, her speaking, and in song. I think this new project, through the time, effort, and diligence from Sherry and her producer Nick Bruno, has given her another tool to go out and spread the message that although life gives us ups and downs, there is good news and encouragement through Jesus Christ. This project was from Sherry's heart. She puts so much of her heart into what she does, and I know it will translate into the hearts of those who hear it! I'm excited for her and can't wait to hear the stories of those it touches!"

Producer Nick Bruno is also enthusiastic about the release of the project next month. "Sherry's CD is one of the most rewarding projects I've recently produced. Her heart for ministry and reaching people where they are hurting is reflected in the list of songs. Every song was carefully and prayerfully considered and we took extra time with this part of the recording process. I had a wonderful team to work with and the end result is a CD that is musically sound, commercially viable, and ministry driven. Of course Sherry is an amazing vocalist and a pleasure to produce."

Visit Sherry Anne's website to order your copy of this anticipated new CD, *A Closer Walk*. Go to www.sherryanne.com today!

Photograph courtesy of Sherry Anne

This
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could be
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Contact Rob At

Rob@sgnscoops.com





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www.williamsonsmusic.com



In the field of Gospel music, there are many groups and artists that travel the highways and share the Gospel of Salvation through song, but once in a while a unique individual with a special anointing to touch hearts comes along. When Quinton Mills steps to the microphone to minister, you will sense the awesome presence of the Lord. Quinton Mills has the ability to reach across the walls that many have built through pain, hurt, and just life's ups and downs, and relate to them the message of hope through Jesus Christ.

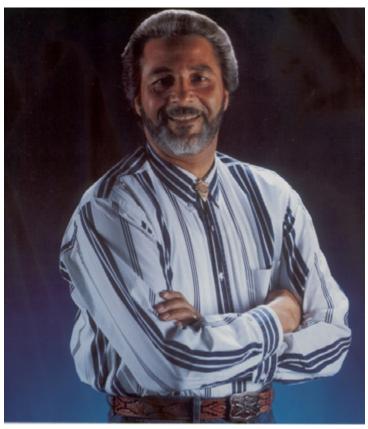
Quinton himself has lived a difficult life, one full of drugs, alcohol, and rock music that led him down a path many have also found themselves on. This life experience comes through as he conveys just how tragedy led him to find Christ as his Source of grace and mercy.

Grace, Quinton states, is the pillar of his relationship with Christ and it still brings trembling to him when he thinks of how far he had strayed from God. Once saved, he began to sing in church and says that it felt good to give back to the community. People began to invite him to their church to sing and a ministry was born. From singing in his home church to traveling

worldwide Quinton Mills is not only a powerful singer and songwriter, but an evangelist as well.

I can tell you from being in service with him that his music touches the very soul of the audience from weeping to rejoicing with the goodness of God's grace. The audience responds to Mills because he has the ability to relate his personal life experiences through the songs he has written. He never thinks twice about leaving the program for the evening and stepping down to minister in the altar to a lost or hurting soul. This willingness to minister is what makes Quinton Mills a very unique person.

Quinton Mills has been singing for 42 years and preaching for 32 years earning his Doctorate in Theology 10 years ago. Although most know him as a singer, Mills is a very powerful minister who conducts revivals and preaching dates throughout the country. He states that his main goal in ministry is to "give hope and inspiration to the downtrodden and infuse faith in the Christians for the journey ahead; reminding them that Glory Land is just in sight." Although he is most widely known for singing, he is just a comfortable behind the pulpit preaching when invited.



Quinton's signature song, "I Found A Lily In My Valley," was written from an experience where a very downcast lady was at the altar during a revival Quinton was preaching. The pastor ministering to the lady told her, "I don't care what valley you are going through, Jesus will be your lily in that valley." Quinton states that something about those words began to stir inside, and after service in his room alone, he prayed that God would reveal what he wanted him to do with that thought. The song, "I Found A Lily In My Valley" was written in just a few hours. This urging of the Spirit is the way great songs are born, which carry the anointed message of God with the ability to reach the soul of a person. Most of Quinton's songs are written from personal experiences while others come from something he may hear someone say. Although, "Lily In My Valley" is his favorite song that tells of his personal struggle and finding the glorious presence of Christ, many have stated that they feel it was written just for them. Other songs such as: "Windows of my Soul," "Potter's House," and "He Put It There" are favorites of his that uplift the spirit of others and they are all songs of experience.

Many have influenced Quinton Mills throughout his life and ministry. Charles Johnson who recently passed on to his reward was one who influenced Quinton because he was "real" and "anointed" states Quinton; "After all, the anointing breaks the yoke." He states, "I wouldn't dare try to minister on my own accord. I want people to be blessed and feel the presence of God while I'm singing." He also said that Kenny Rogers had influenced his style with the raspy sound of his voice, which helps deliver a song with passion. Kenny Hinson is another great man that influenced Mills' style.

Quinton Mills is a very versatile singer, able to cross over different styles from Southern Gospel, Soul, and even Beach music and Bluegrass at times. "He Put It There" ranked number twp on the Beach charts, which is considered Soul. Quinton feels that it is important for a soloist to be versatile to appeal to a wide audience.

The main thing Mills would like people to know about him, is that he is just a down-to-earth guy who is thankful that God is allowing him to enjoy the journey by helping others. This attitude of servanthood fuels a fire inside Quinton, and I can tell you from being in service with him on several occasions that he truly has a heart for the people and will minister to them as long as the Spirit leads.

Mills has been very busy in the studio these days and has a new project out entitled Broken Promise Land, which is a calling of America back to God. Quinton states that he thinks the songs he has written on this latest project are some of his best yet. "Cross In My Pocket" comes from a simple homemade cross a young girl gave him during a concert in appreciation for his music that helped her through some tough times. Quinton clipped this simple cross to his collar during the recording session for this project. "God Is Getting Restless On His Throne", "My Head Is In The Clouds," and, "I Think I Saw An Eagle Cry Today" are just a few of the songs you can look forward to on his new project, Broken Promise Land. James Payne of Nashville, Tennessee, said of the new project: "I had the privilege of hearing Quinton perform many of these songs on TCT TV and the calls poured in from around the world." Ellis Manley of KJIC Radio Houston, Texes, said that it is Quinton's best project yet.

Quinton would also like to give credit to his wife Pam and son Gabriel who have always been a great support to his ministry by traveling with him. Pam now travels full time since Gabriel's graduation from high school. Gabriel is now at USC studying Environmental Engineering.

Quinton Mills has spent his life singing and sharing his love for the Lord. His journey continues in *Broken Promise Land*. For more information, please visit: quintonmillsministries.com/.



THE JORDAN FAMILY BAND

MAKING THE CHOICE TO SERVE GOD

by Paige Givens

"And if it seems evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

When Josh and Randa Jordan decided to follow their Father's call into the music ministry with their three young sons, the decision required sacrifice and some change. Eventually, however, the choice was an easy one to make. The Father's call is always the surest. His way is always the best way. As the Jordan family has seen, when we choose to serve God, we get to be part of a plan that is much bigger than ourselves.

Josh and Randa Jordan grew up in Georgia. Their families had a friendship, and although there was a fouryear age difference between the two, Randa had her mind made up that she and Josh were meant to be together. As they got older, Josh started to agree. "I told my Mama one day that I loved Randa's hair and thought she was such a beautiful young lady. She came visiting my sister from time to time at our house and occasionally she took it upon herself to help my Mama tidy up my room. On one occasion I remember her leaving me a card in my room after she had cleaned it. The front of the card read, 'Guess Who Loves You?' and when I opened it up it simply read 'me' with Randa's initials." The rest, as they say, is history! Josh and Randa began dating and married in the fall of 1998. They have been happily married for 16 years this month. In their 16 years of marriage, the Jordans have added three boys to their family: Hutch, 14,

Alex, nine, and Grant, who is seven years old.

Both Josh and Randa grew up singing. Randa began playing the piano and singing in local churches with her family, the Morrison Family, at age five. Josh grew up singing with his family as well and played in bluegrass, country, and gospel groups throughout his teen years. After marriage, Randa, Josh, and Randa's brother Wesley formed Latter Rain Trio and traveled extensively in the southeast until 2007.

After taking some time off the road to work in the local church ministry with youth and students, Josh remembers the series of events that worked together to bring the Jordans to where they are today. "In 2009, a couple of weeks after my dad passed away, we were on our way to church listening to the radio. The DJ on the station played The Inspirations' song, 'Dealing With Gold'. God sat down in the van with us right then and began a healing process that would spread throughout the entire family. Hutch and Alex, then just nine and five years old, wanted to learn the song and sing it to my mom, their Nana. We learned it and sang it to her at her church and then at our church. It became a staple song for us that people really loved to hear us sing, knowing what we had just come through. Each time we would sing it, someone from another church would be there and want us to come and sing at their church...and then another church and another church....and it just kept growing. God began to fill the date book so fast that we honestly

couldn't keep up! We wanted to capture the boys singing these songs with us at such early ages, so we jumped in the studio and made our first CD in 2010, and God has grown it from there."

Since that time, the Jordans' ministry has certainly grown. Just this past year, they sang in the morning regional showcase for the National Quartet Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and were added to the Main Stage show that night. Josh says, "We didn't dream it would happen and definitely couldn't have dreamed of the response that was given to our family! It meant so much not only to me and Randa, but it left a lasting impression and has given the boys an all new drive and excitement."

Each family member, regardless of age, plays an important role in The Jordan Family Band, as Randa explains. "Hutch plays drums, electric guitar, bass guitar, banjo, acoustic guitar (live and in studio), and has co-written a couple of songs with Josh. He mostly sings harmony vocals. He loads, sets up equipment, and takes care of many duties for the family. Alex plays mandolin, bass guitar, and acoustic live with the family. He is also a perennial crowd favorite with his big lead and harmony vocals! Grant has just recently joined the family on stage singing, although he has treated listeners to a couple of surprise vocals on some of our CDs.

"Earlier in the year, we had the privilege of taking in Keenan Atkinson, the son of our longtime friends Ricky and Paula Atkinson, to live with us and travel full time with us. Keenan is 17 and handles many things for us at home and on the road, including loading, setting up, taking care of products, washing and cleaning the bus, and playing acoustic on stage with the family. I play piano on stage and sing lead and background vocals for the family. Josh also plays bass guitar, acoustic guitar and mandolin as well as singing whatever is left!"

Traveling and singing with the whole family has challenges, but Josh and Randa count the rewards far greater. "I think the most challenging situation right now is the boys' schedule. We still have them in a private school and trying to plan days and hold days for certain bookings takes a good bit of pre-planning. Randa and I have traveled with other groups and have seen the huge sacrifice that families have to make when a dad, mom, or spouse has to be away a great deal of time. We count it a blessing from the Lord and a great joy to be able to travel with our boys, who are not only traveling with us, but also serving with us and seeing lives changed through the work of God."

Randa weighs in on her interesting position of being "outnumbered" on the road. "Traveling with one man and four boys - well, five boys - what crazy and funny thing has not happened?" she laughs. "We wear the 'western look' when we perform and we've had times where things were left behind at the house and Hutch may be wearing Nike tennis shoes while everyone else is in boots, or Alex may be in an Under Armor shirt while



everyone else is in snap button western shirts. There is NEVER a time when everyone has a belt on, especially the big buckle belt!"

With all of the challenges, laughter, and even tears, that come with an entire family devoting themselves to the music ministry, the Jordan family would still choose to follow God on this path if they were choosing all over again. Josh recalls the crucial point when the family had to make a decision between local church ministry and a broader ministry. "We prayed, we fasted, we cried, and we sought help from several of God's men that we felt we could trust to pray with us and advise us with our decision. It was a pivotal point in our ministry. Then after I removed myself from the equation, stopped letting people and circumstances cloud my decision, and turned to God for complete direction, it was clear and evident



what we were supposed to do. God has since opened up doors and avenues that only He could open. God has been so good!"

The Jordan Family Band's song "Thanks," written by Marie Ward Duked, was just released as their first national radio single. They are also releasing a new CD this month called Better Days. "We wrote eight of the 10 songs on the album and definitely feel it is carrying us in the direction that the Lord intended," says Josh. The project also features guest vocalists The Morrison Sisters, Randa's brother Wesley, and Dailey and Vincent's Darrin Vincent, who contributes his voice on the bluegrass number. "When He Was Giving His Life". The song "Where He's Already Been," an especially moving song complete with choir and orchestra, was written by Josh and Randa

during a particularly emotional time in Randa's life.

"It is not an album that is restricted to one audience and that's what we want. We cut our music tracks at Crossroads Studios with the help of Jeff Collins, Tony Creasman, Jeremy Medkiff, and David Johnson. Our dear friend Mike Pillow at Lamp Music Group in Whitesburg, Georgia, did our mixing and editing."

To order The Jordan Family Band's new project or to find information on booking, visit their website at www.jordanfamilyband.com, or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thejordanfamilyband.

Photograph Credits: Jordan Family Band at the National Quartet Convention, courtesy of Bryan Elliot. All other pictures courtesy of Wesley Morrison.



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JANUARY

20 - 25 VICTORY VOYAGE

FEBRUARY

- 3 8 BILL BAILEY'S WINTER SOUTHERN GOSPEL CONVENTION BRADENTON AREA CONVENTION CENTER, PALMETTO, FL
- 13 15 SOUTHWEST GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL
 GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY ARENA, PHOENIX, AZ

APRIL

22 - 26 SINGING IN THE SUN MYRTLE BEACH CONVENTION CENTER, MYRTLE BEACH, SC

MAY

- 5 7 Branson Gospel Convention
- 8 10 JEFF & SHERI EASTER HOMECOMING
- 12 17 GOSPEL MUSIC FAN FAIR-SOMERSET KY
 CENTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONVENTION CENTER.

JUNE

- 18 21 Memphis Quartet Show Cook Convention Center, Memphis, TN July
- 2 5 GATLINBURG GATHERING -GATLINBURG CONVENTION CENTER AUGUST
- 6-9 Brumley Gospel Sing Cowan Civic Center, Lebanon, MO October
- 2-4 VIRGINIA BEACH GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL
 SANDLER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
 NOVEMBER
- 3-5 CREEKSIDE GOSPEL CONVENTION
 SMOKEY MOUNTAIN CONVENTION CENTER, PIGEON FORGE, TN,



A dream. That is how the premier event in Southern Gospel Music began. A man and his dream. Regrettably, in 1954 in Clanton, Alabama that visionary passed away in a tragic plane crash. His name was R. W. Blackwood, Sr. But R. W. shared his dream with others and three years after his death, J. D. Sumner, Cecil Blackwood and James Blackwood made R. W.'s dream a reality. It was 1957 when The National Quartet Convention (NQC) made its first appearance in Memphis, Tennessee at the Ellis Auditorium and though the cities and halls have changed over the years, NQC is still the event that thousands of fans congregate to each year.

This September, NQC ushered in a new era in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee where the convention spent its first year at The LeConte Center. One can find this location just off the Parkway on Teaster Lane. The Island is within walking distance (or a short tram ride) of the center and offers a variety of restaurants, shops and sitting areas where visitors can rest and enjoy the view.

Another feature is the Sky Wheel, which offers a generous view of the surrounding mountains. If one follows the path down the River Walk they will eventually find themselves at the doors of the LeConte Center. It was at these doors that NQC made history.

On Monday afternoon, the NQC Board of Directors, the City Officials and fans gathered around the entrance of the LeConte Center to perform the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. A piece of yellow ribbon stretched across the awning and wrapped around stone columns on each side. The sun blazed in full strength and black folding chairs surrounded the area. Nearly every person involved with the City came forward to the podium to congratulate NQC on the first year in Pigeon Forge. Some highlights were when the City Manager, Mrs. Earlene Teaster, genuinely began, "Pigeon Forge was built to take care of visitors; our board of commissioners elected to build this building to take care of groups such as NQC and that's just what we're doing. When they



opted to come to Pigeon Forge for this week we counted it a blessing and know that God truly blessed our city once again." Susan Whitaker, the Tennessee Tourism Commissioner, added, "Tennessee is known for its music. We are one of the global destinations for people who love music, but there's something special about the Gospel. When you sing you do something more than just have beautiful music, you change people's lives with the message that you bring."



Soon after, golden scissors were distributed among the Board of Directors and City Officials. Les Beasley and Earlene Teaster shared a giant pair of scissors in the middle and the event photographer and video crew moved closer to the center and asked them to pose while they snapped photos. Once the nod was given, scissors snapped in unison and the ribbon fell in multiple pieces. NQC had a new home...

For the rest of the week, that new home did not disappoint. Each night the main hall held 10,000 + fans and featured a mix of the nation's best artists, an assortment of up-and-coming groups and showcase winners. The evenings began with Tim Lovelace's *Fan Cam* and were hosted by some of SGM's favorite personalities such

as Karen Peck, Scott Fowler, Susan Whisnant, Michael Booth, Lauren Talley, Gerald Wolfe and many others. Though the individual happenings of each night are too numerous to recount, the afternoon showcases held in the same hall were among the week's greatest highlights. On Thursday afternoon, the Singing News Fan Awards returned to NQC for the first time in several years. The showcase began with Karen Peck and New River, Whisnants, Triumphant and Tribute entering from the side aisles in choir robes and filing onto the stage where Joseph Habedank, Lauren Talley, Jason Crabb and Brooklyn Collingsworth were singing "I've Got a Song to Sing." For the next two and half hours fans eagerly anticipated the announcement of each winner and gave their applause when their favorite won.



The Red Back Hymnal Sing on Friday afternoon featured a choir of the best voices in Gospel Music on the stage and a multitude of blending voices from the audience. The best moments from that session were Arthur Rice singing the "missing verse" from "On Christ The Solid Rock." Gerald Wolfe shared how moved he was when he first heard those lyrics as a teenager, listening to The Kingsmen.



A hymn sing wouldn't be the same without a live band, and one of the individuals that made up the band was Sandy Payton. Gerald interrupted the program to feature her organ playing on "Farther Along." She commanded that keyboard! Joseph Habedank was featured on the tune, "I Love to Tell the Story," and once again, Gerald had a story to tell. This one was recalled from the days when Joseph was a little boy and would go see

Gerald in concert and carry a handkerchief with him, just like Mr. Wolfe. When the time came to close the showcase he reminded the audience that if they enjoyed the afternoon, they will have a lot to look forward to in eternity because one day we will spend all our time singing His praises; "When We All Get to Heaven."

What began in 1957 in Memphis is still going strong in 2014 in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The bonus concert on Sunday night that kicked off the week sold out. Ticket sales for Monday night exceeded



10,000 people, breaking a record and bringing the crowd to a number that they haven't seen on a Monday night in eighteen years and Tuesday through Saturday sold out. The NQC has a strong future ahead for them. Will you make plans to be in Pigeon Forge next year? You can by visiting http://natqc.com/.

Photos Courtesy of Craig Harris





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.



Lou Wills Hildreth appears on the Gaither Homecoming Videos, and is a founding member of Texas First Family Of Gospel Music, the "Singing Wills Family." She helped pioneer Christian television as host of "Wills Fam-

ily Inspirational TV." After moving to Nashville in the sixties, she was the first woman to own an artist management agency. Lou is an inductee of the Texas Gospel Music Hall Of Fame, GMA Gospel Music Hall Of Fame, SGMA Hall Of Fame at Dollywood, and the Christian Music Hall Of Fame. She is a recipient of an Honorary Doctorate Of Sacred Music from Louisiana Baptist University. Recently, Gaither Homecoming Magazine named Lou in the "Hall Of Honor" series, and the Southern Gospel Music Guild gave her a "Lifetime Achievement Award." Lou is celebrating a 65th wedding anniversary in 2011 with Howard, and they live in Houston near son Dr. David Hildreth and daughter Kathryn Mumaw, and 4 grandchildren. Visit Lou at: http://louhildreth.com



Sandi Duncan Clark and Cliff Clark make their home in Easley, S.C. where they enjoy traveling, gardening, and the beautiful South Carolina weather. Sandi has worked in journalism for more than thirty years, and she is thankful that her love for God and Gospel music provides a great opportunity to positively impact the careers of so many in Gospel music. Email Sandi at sandi@sgnscoops.com.



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

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



Stephanie Kelley is a public speaker and owner of 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 Washing-

ton 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 HYPERLINK "http://jennifercampbell.net/blog.htm" \t "_blank" http://jennifercampbell.net/blog.htm, and a food and travel blog at http://jennifersjourneys.net Learn more about Jennifer at http://jennifercampbell.net.



Angela Griffin is an International Field Representative for Love A Child, Inc., a 501 c 3 humanitarian organization to the island of Haiti. A rich Christian family heritage guided her path to minister in song to the broken, to feed the hungry, and lead others to Christ. On December 31, 2002 she married

Tim Griffin, an accomplished Southern Gospel pianist. Tim and Angela then combined their musical talents and formed the group "The Griffin's." They have traveled throughout the Southeast spreading the love of Christ.



www.scottrhoades.net

Scott Rhoades is an Inspirational Writer, Speaker, Healer, Explorer, and Life Traveler who loves to share his experiences, life lessons, and encouragement through publication and speaking in public forums. He is an Assistant Professor of Nursing for

Indiana Wesleyan University School of Nursing's Post-Licensure Division and continues to pursue specialties in aerospace and hyperbaric medicine. He is a freelance writer/songwriter and a former radio host. To learn more about Scott, please visit his website at:

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!



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.



Dixie has been married to Pastor Paul Phillips for 35 years. The couple has been honored to serve the congregation of the Gospel Lighthouse Church in Floyd, Iowa, for 31 years. They have four grown children and four "perfect" grandchildren.

Dixie is a ghostwriter, award winning children's author, and songwriter. She and her sister-in-law Sharon won the 2012 Singing News/Solid Gospel Songwriters Search with their song "Hidden Heroes." Her favorite pastime is counting her blessings. If you'd like to know more about Dixie, visit her website at www.floydslighthouse.com or www.phillipsandphillipsmusic.com. You can e-mail Dixie at Phillips4Him@myomnitel.com.



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

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



Dr. Jeff R. Steele is a pastor, conference speaker, singer, songwriter, husband, father, grandfather and friend. He is currently the Senior Pastor at Faith Baptist Church in Cullman, Alabama. Their services are webcast worldwide; they have a weekly television program and host

an annual Jubilee each August that attracts hundreds from around the southeast. Dr. Steele is beginning his eighth year there. As a songwriter Jeff has been credited with 17 Number One songs in Christian music as well as four BMI Gold Medals for Great National Popularity as measured by Broadcast Performances. He has also been recognized by BMI as Christian Songwriter of the Year on several occasions.

The group, The Steeles was featured across the nation and was seen on numerous magazine covers, feature articles, television and radio programs during their ministry on the road. Jeff is still writes songs and articles, sings on occasion and speaks in conferences and revivals. Jeff is married to Sherry, his wife of 31 years and they have three grown children. Visit Jeff on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and at www. jeffrsteele.com.



Erin Stevens is a uniquely talented 18 year old shutterbug, singer, guitar player, writer, blogger, social networker and shooting coach. She is the owner/operator of Photos For Keeps By Erin. She also travels in full-time Gospel music ministry with The Stevens Family. Photography is her passion, and singing for Christ

is her calling. Check out her photography website www. photosforkeepsbyerin.com and her ministry website www. stevensfamilymusic.com.



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

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



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



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 photogra-

phy, portrait photography, web-site maintenance and layout. Craig has been a part of numerous awards, both collective and individual honors in the journalism field. He has had articles published in numerous newspapers and magazines on a variety of subjects, most notably in the world of sports.

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



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

David began singing at age 6 with family. In 1990, he filled in for the

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Contributors



Hannah Webb is the soprano of the Rick Webb Family and director of radio promotion and relations for Song Garden Music Group. Hannah and her family have shared the platform with noted personalities such Governor Mike Huckabee, Dr. David Jeremiah, George Beverly Shea, William Graham, Kathy Ireland just to name a few

and has made multiple network appearances with the TCT Network. Talent winner at Miss North Carolina 2013, Hannah also appeared on Jeff Foxworthy's "The American Bible Challenge" season 3. An advocate and spokesperson for Compassion International, she is completing her Business and Communications Major through Liberty University Online.



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

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

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

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

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



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

tidbits. Keep up with Lynn online at http://lynnschronicles.com or on facebook @ http://.facebook.com/lynns.chronicles



Melissa Joy Wright is a vocalist/musician/evangelist with the Southern Gospel music group The WRIGHTS. She is a wife, mother of three, and servant to the Risen Savior. Melissa is a blogger, focusing her attention on Spiritual and Physical Fitness and her passion: all things Southern Gospel! She enjoys watching her kid's activities, running, scrapbooking and crafting, and travel-

ing with her family. Most importantly, Melissa's calling is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and further Southern Gospel Music to a hurting world.



Chris Clay is an evangelist and the baritone singer for the Southern Gospel group Hope's Journey. He resides in east central Alabama with his wife Salina and daughter Cadence.



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

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



Alpha Source Media Group is lead by Candi Combs and was born out of a strong desire to support the ministers who share the gospel on the highways and byways of life. Combs says, "These artists and their families spend their days selflessly bringing the life-changing message of Jesus to crowds large and small. We want to do all we can to support them!" In 2015, Candi will have

a law degree from Liberty University and will provide a full range of legal counsel. This component will bring the highest level of support to those who also desire legal representation.



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

is to serve the Lord by inspiring others to be who He has called them to be. You can listen to her music and read her devotionals at www.paigegivens.com.