



Make a Joyful Noise To the Lord!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Psalm 98:4

Many churches today have empty choir lofts, closets with dusty choir robes, and file cabinets with abandoned choir anthems. The traditional church choir of previous generations seems to have lost its voice in recent era of worship within the church. Even for churches that wish to have a choir the challenge is further compounded by the fact that many smaller churches lack the necessary resources and participants needed to conduct a choir.

The Central Michigan Free Methodist Church (CMFMC) can attest to many of the aforementioned challenges! CMFMC has a rich history of music ministry that at one point did include a church choir, but in recent years had disbanded. Further, members that once used to sing were either no longer a member of the congregation, passed away, or had accepted ministry positions that did not allow for them to regularly participate in a choir. I am the Director of Worship Arts at CMFMC and currently studying in the Master of Arts in Music & Worship at Liberty University. As part of my studies I was given the opportunity to develop a worship program that encompasses my unique desire to see my community worship as one corporate body....

Upcoming Events

- July 19-26 Family Camp
- August 19-22 SCAMP Camp

Publication Info

Submission Deadline:
The 1st of each month

Publication Date:
The 15th of each month

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.... This may sound exciting, but I assure the task was somewhat daunting and terrifying! With the support of senior pastoral staff, a Co-Director of Worship Arts, and five other churches in the community the Central Michigan Community Worship Choir was created. The choir was founded on my philosophy of worship to skillfully combine Biblical truth with music in an attempt to open others hearts to the love of God and help them devote their will to His purpose.

The choir spent every Sunday from February until April meeting together and rehearsing music, defining worship in a variety of contexts, exploring different Christian musical genres, and worshipping corporately through devotions and prayer. A central theme that was highlighted many times includes the questions: "Why are you here and what is your goal?" Are you here because you love to sing? Are you here because you want to sing new music or you're longing to explore new praise and worship music? Are you here to glorify God and see him exalted? Are you here to help reach a community that desperately needs Jesus?

My job as a Worship Director is to help move people's hearts, both the church and the un-church toward the truth of God, toward the wonder of His grace and help each of us respond to the truth of who we are in His presence. Music, creatively chosen, thoughtfully expressed, and musically prepared in a relevant way can be a part of helping our community do so. We never know the deep hurt and sorrow that those within our congregations and community harbor. The universal language of music and truth of Christ's love can help meet that sorrow and share a message of hope and a message of peace.

As a Worship Director my goal was to help unite a variety of my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ from multiple denominations and skillfully blend their unique worship preferences to create a choir with a passion for reaching their community through music. On April 19, 2014 five churches combined to lead the central Michigan community in a night of worship through the production: Arise My Love. Nearly 300 people were present for this evening of worship on the first night of the production and many other churches noted after the production that they would like to join in should another production be scheduled.

The amazing news is that we have officially out-grown the church in which we held our first worship concert; we will be looking for a larger space for our next production. Combining multiple congregations also opened the opportunity for individuals to utilize their God-given talents to glorify him in ways their current areas of ministry may not allow. We were able to work with other skilled musicians, music educators, vocalists and even an individual who is gifted in sign language. Some of these individuals come from very small churches and even a new church plant where God is growing their congregation, but their congregation size is not yet at a size where they're able to fully use their gifts or God is utilizing them in another area of ministry in their home church.

An exciting first endeavor to God's leading upon my heart has created a sustainable model upon which future worship programs can be orchestrated....

(Article continued on next page.)

Central Michigan Community Worship Choir

Photo taken by:
Amber Jones Photography



....Community Worship Choir participants unanimously stated they would like to be a part of another production and as previously stated other churches have expressed an interest in joining in as well. This reminds me so much of the beloved old hymn, "Little is Much When God is In It". I had no reason to be fearful of undertaking such a calling, but that is human nature is it not? Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. What area of ministry is God calling you to participate in today? Maybe it's an area that is not yet in existence! Be faithful to this calling that God has laid upon your heart, He will bless your endeavor far more than you ever imagined possible.

-Ryan Mallo

If you or any members within your congregation wish to be a part of future worship programs through the Central Michigan Community Worship Choir please contact CMFMC at: 989-772-2414 or e-mail

Grandma of Murdered Toddler Thanks Pastor

Anna Schemke-Bell, a member of Rose Lake Free Methodist Church where John Proctor serves as pastor, lost her 14-month-old grandson Payton Lee Disbrow in December of 2012 under very tragic circumstances. On Monday, June 2, Payton's mother Brittani Grabon and Brittani's live-in boyfriend Cole Gilde were both sentenced in Missaukee County in Payton's death. Grabon was sentenced to a minimum of 25 years for felony murder and Gilde to a minimum of 35 years for second degree murder.

Anna testified in front of Judge Fagerman before each sentencing. She also had worked with detectives and had been an active part in the investigation into Payton's death from the beginning.

In her remarks to the media after the sentencing took place, Anna credited Pastor Proctor with giving her strength, counsel, support and guidance through this entire ordeal and how Pastor John also helped her to deal with her anger over the death of Payton and to rely on God's grace.

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www.fmcnorthmich.org



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Welcome to North Michigan

Welcome, I am blessed to be serving as the Superintendent of the North Michigan Conference USA. Based on the foundation of forgiveness and connectionalism God is leading us to build His Kingdom in at least three key ways: Developing Pastors and [local church leadership](#), vitalizing every church, and beginning a church planting movement in Michigan.

T.O.T.E.S. MINISTRY

(Touching others through everyday supplies)

Every once in a while the Lord will lay something on your heart, either simply something to say or maybe something to do. A few months ago, as a church, we watched our Bishops speak about reaching out to the community. Pastor Jason was the first to put this in action by gathering members together and shoveling driveways for 3 different homes. He was pleased to see people show up; it would have been a long day without them. They shoveled the driveways and blessed the homeowners, who were able to return to a clean parking spot and walkway. While on my way to work one morning I was praying and trying to think of a simple but effective outreach ministry. The Lord gave me T.O.T.E.S. Ministry, after pondering the idea and driving my coworker crazy it finally came together. That night we happened to be having a "Couples Movie Night" at the parsonage, with my husband encouraging, I explained my idea to the pastor. He seemed intrigued and asked if I could address the congregation that following Sunday. Let me tell you, if it's a God thing it will happen fast. I was given the idea on Fri and was presenting it on Sunday. Just one month from then we were delivering our first Tote. Each month we pull a family name, only the people leaving the tote on the porch know who is receiving it. As of now we have been able to bless three families and are praying for many more. Here's how it works.....I encourage you to pray for and about this ministry, maybe you could bless your community with it.

T.O.T.E.S. Ministry

(Touching Others Through Everyday Supplies)

Items needed for Ministry

1. Big Tote (located in a neutral area)
2. Bible and other information about your church (with tote)
3. Each family to bring one item from home-per week (taxable or nonperishable to place in tote)
Taxable exp: toothpaste/detergent, nonperishable exp: canned vegetables, noodles
4. Spare change from your purse or pocket (bucket with tote and special offering once a month)
SPARE CHANGE-PENNIES, NICKELS, DIMES, QUARTERS (used to replace tote and bible)
5. Family name and address in community who could use a little extra help (write on slip and put in bucket near tote, all families are kept anonymous)
6. A church family with the love of Christ to pray over the tote/family (weekend when family will receive the tote)

Please add the T.O.T.E.S. Ministry to your daily prayers....we could be bringing someone to Christ through a simple and effortless task.

²⁷ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.

²⁸ Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back tomorrow and I'll give it to you"—
when you already have it with you. Proverbs 3:27-28

Cindi Clark (Boyne City Free Methodist)

Are you ready for Family Camp?

Family Camp kicks off with FAMILY FUN DAY on July 19th! For information on registering for Family Camp check out: mantonchristiancamp.org

SPECIAL EVENT

FAMILY FUN DAY

JULY 19, 2014

POOL OPEN: 1 - 4 PM
ACTIVITIES: 4 - 6 PM
PROGRAM: 6:00 PM

MUSIC

Kids Games

Popcorn

SIGN YOUR KIDS UP FOR BIBLE SCHOOL!
SIGN UP FOR VARIOUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK!
PLAN ON ATTENDING THE PROGRAM!

* INTRODUCTION OF WORKERS * THEME OF CAMP
* GO OVER THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

JARED HALL, ILLUSIONIST, TO FOLLOW PROGRAM!

BIBLE SCHOOL

Bible School at Family Camp 2014

Kevin and I (Shila) are so excited about this year's theme



"Bee Transformed"

Our lessons will be all about David and how God transformed him into becoming a man after God's own heart. We will spend a week doing crafts, singing songs and learning about bugs and how they are transformed too. We can't wait to see how God uses Bible School to help form and transform the lives of the children who come to Bible School during family camp at MCC!



Kevin and Shila are members of The Springs Church in Cedar Springs, Michigan. This is their 8th year of directing Bible School at family camp.

PIG ROAST & POTLUCK



Sunday, July 20, 2014

Manton Campground Pavilion
Immediately following morning worship
Bring a dish to pass!

**** Suggested Donation of \$2.00 per person ****

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