

STGMA *"news you can use"* GOSPEL NOTES



Volume 23
Nov-Dec 2015

STGMA CHURCH SPONSORS...

STGMA is proud to spotlight churches who have sponsored us in the past and welcome our new ones. We encourage the Members and Associates to continue to recruit your church/Pastor as well as others in your area to be a venue for the gospel to be shared in song. Remember, the scripture charges us to plow the fields together. One plants, one waters and God gives the increase!

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STGMA FOUNDED 1999

STGMA welcomes our newest Sponsor Church...Grace Community Church located in the heart of Houston!

Thank you, Pastor Rick Minett for opening your doors to us!
Their website is www.gracehouston.org.



Additional Church Sponsors

Cowboys for Jesus
Fischer, TX



(continued on page 3)



From the ***President's Desk***

Greetings,

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over. It is a privilege to say that STGMA is growing! We are gaining new Sponsor Churches and welcoming back some previous Members just in the last few weeks. As we move into 2016, we anticipate even more growth. It's an exciting time!

As a Christian, we're commanded in Mark 16:15 to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature". With no time to lose, we must increase our efforts in every way possible. We recognize that with growth comes change, however, our mission remains the same: To spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through music and song. The efforts of STGMA to accomplish this have been sufficient up to this point but I believe we can all agree that there is always room for improvement. After much prayer and seeking direction from the Lord, the Board and Officers have chosen to implement the following improvements.

- 1) Beginning January 2016, we will have a concert every other month (for a total of 6). The Board is working to determine the churches that will participate. There will be a maximum of three (3) Artists at each event. We will be asking each church to host the event on the 4th Saturday of the month if at all possible. Once the dates and churches are confirmed, we will contact our Artists regarding availability. Each concert will be on a love offering basis distributed equally among the Artists (soloist, duo, trio or group).
- 2) Convention is tentatively scheduled for April and more details will be provided at a later date so Artists can "save the date". You will NOT want to miss this one!
- 3) We have reduced the STGMA fund-raising to one event only. It will be held sometime in the fall and additional information will be provided once the details are finalized. We are open to suggestions for how to raise funds (i.e., auction or other community participation ideas).

With the momentum growing and excitement flowing, I can assure you that your STGMA Board and Officers are working very hard to strengthen our relationships with current sponsor churches as well as introducing STGMA to additional churches so we can build a bond with them. If you have a church that you think we should contact, let us know! The more churches we can connect with...the more opportunities you may have to minister!

Until next time...

Floyd

MORE SPONSOR CHURCHES...

Oak Ridge Baptist Church - San Antonio, TX



Beacon Ridge Baptist Church - Austin, TX



Del City First Church of the Nazarene - Del City, TX



Immanuel Baptist Church - Kyle, TX



First Baptist Church - Schertz, TX



Live Oak First Baptist Church—Live Oak, TX



Southside Baptist Church - San Antonio, TX



**La Vernia Christian Teaching Center
La Vernia, TX**



We also recognize Ashley Road Baptist Church in San Antonio and Kirby Baptist Church in Kirby. If your church would like to be a Sponsor Church, please ask them to contact us. We'd be honored to work with them to spread the gospel to their community! Music is a tool that crosses all language, social and economic lines...and this is not just music but the Word of God! Contact a Board Member with any questions.

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New Members




STGMA is so excited to welcome back our good friends, **The Bethels**. This ladies trio will bless your heart with their family harmony and sweet spirit.

Although they offer a variety of gospel styles, their personal favorite is Southern Gospel. The current group consists of Donna "Bethel" Fontaine, Deanna "Bethel" Morgan and Wendy Showalter (who is Donna's daughter and Deanna's niece).

The Bethels have recorded two CD projects titled 'Come and Sing' and 'I Still Believe.' Some of their most popular songs have been "What a Gathering", "He Chose This Valley", "Homecoming" and "Fall Towards Calvary."

Be sure to check out their Facebook page or visit www.thebethels.org!




STGMA
South Texas Gospel Music Association


presents
An Evening of Gospel Music

Saturday, Nov. 28 • 6 pm



Live Oak First Baptist Church
11560 Toepperwein Rd, Live Oak TX 78233



Billy Miller





Clifton Jansky

Carey Headrick

Free Admission - Love Offering
For more information,
contact Fay Gassner at 830.217.4290

STGMA
South Texas Gospel Music Association

presents
An Evening of Gospel Music

Saturday, Dec. 5 • 6 pm

Kirby Baptist Church
5114 Old Seguin Road, Kirby TX 78219



Megan Cox



Jacob Austin Band




Joyce Emily

Free Admission - Love Offering
For more information,
contact Fay Gassner at 830.217.4290



About STGMA

We have many folks in the Association that have joined and never really had an opportunity to have the purpose of STGMA explained. So, here is an overview.

STGMA has three ways to support our mission statement “to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through music and song.”

1. The first way is to contact our Sponsor Churches (through the Pastor and/or Music Minister) and coordinate one or more singings each year. They agree to host at least one as a Sponsor Church.
2. We encourage Members (singers, musicians and other supporters of gospel music) to come together in one accord to worship the Lord and minister to hurting hearts and lost souls.
3. STGMA is not a booking agency, however, our most effective way of supporting the ministries of our Members is to (whenever possible) assist in connecting performing Members with Sponsor Churches when they have events in the San Antonio and surrounding areas.

In other words, Sponsor Churches will be encouraged by the Board and Officers to view the information about all our Members on our STGMA website, select who they want to invite to special events held at their church and then contact STGMA directly to coordinate the specific details such as determining the date/time. Once the date is confirmed, the performing Member will need to email all the information about the event to Christine to get it announced on the STGMA.org website schedule.

A love offering from the participating Church will go directly to the performing Member and will no longer go through STGMA simply because we no longer want to limit what God wants to do to bless your ministry. The STGMA Board will be your biggest prayer warriors and will strive to consistently follow the leadership of the Spirit in determining the path forward.

Keep praying for each other as we follow His lead!





I asked Christine if we could post some of the pictures and write a little blurb about our Good Ole Gospel Cruise for the newsletter. I had a blast y'all! This was my first cruise. Lots of friends and acquaintances on board. My daughter, Regina, flew in from Phoenix to go with me. We had a wonderful relaxed time. No cooking, no cleaning, no laundry and oh yes ladies, no dishes to wash. That's my idea of a vacation. Of course "The Cherry on Top" was the fantastic Gospel music. I'm thinking Alaska next summer. Maybe you can come along. Blessings to all!



Fay

What a great blessing to travel on the Good Ole Gospel Cruise... The singing and the fellowship with such wonderful Christians. Thank you Floyd and Christine for our wonderful vacation.

- Darlene Harrison



Our 1st Good Ole Gospel Cruise is now history. What a glorious time of fun, food and fellowship with old and new friends. The concerts with Hearts of Grace and Appointed By Grace were a wonderful time of singing, sharing and ministry as our people were able to reach out to other passengers who wandered in to hear the music. Even on Tuesday when the ship was a-rocking and a-rolling, we experienced God's divine presence in our midst. We are so honored to have been a part of this awesome event and look forward to coming together again on the high seas.

In His Service,
Appointed By Grace



Hearts of Grace enjoyed singing once again with Connie Maynor!

Having the opportunity to join the Good Ole Gospel Cruise was a blessing for Darlene and me both. The singing, the worship and the fellowship was more than one would ever believe on a cruise ship. Meeting with new people, making new friends and fellowship was a great joy and a blessing. Just to do all this with no chores, phone calls, no meals to fix...just you and God and friends, what more could you ask for? I truly thank Christine and Bro. Floyd for all the time and hard work put in to make this cruise a great success!

- John Harrison



I have cruised several times, but singing with Hearts of Grace on this one was by far the most pleasurable time I have had. It was nice to have a group of other Christians to visit with and share your stories. Floyd & Christine made this cruise extra special with their gifts, kindness & support with any questions or concerns. I loved that we had Christian activities but they did not over book us...so there was time to relax and enjoy the cruise.

- Marsha Fisher





MINISTRY MOMENTS



There are so many times that Hearts of Grace has the opportunity to pray with folks who are hurting and we have been blessed to lead many to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. No greater feeling than walking someone into the blessing of having Heaven as their home one day after awhile. Christine and I hosted the 1st Annual "Traveling with Grace" cruise to Mexico last month featuring Appointed By Grace and Hearts of Grace and were blessed to have 50+ guests onboard. We have participated in cruises for over 5 years, but this was the first as an extension of our ministry. Here is an example from Christine about one opportunity God gave us during the trip.

Folks, I can't even begin to tell you all the 'God Moments' we experienced during the six days we were on the ship, but I'd like to share this one encounter in particular. We were on the Triumph and Carnival has a rule that a 'Private Function' sign must be placed outside the door when small group events are held. What that basically means is that we could not 'advertise' the singing in the Carnival brochure they leave in each cabin nor invite folks to come, but if they came in...we didn't have to ask them to leave. So, as we stepped up to sing the first sea day, a couple came to the door. They saw the 'Private Function' sign, looked inside but turned to leave. But God had a different plan. Though we had not originally intended to sing it, Floyd started the music for Beulah Land and the lady stopped. She opened the door and they both made their way to a seat. I noticed she cried through nearly every song so I approached them when we finished and introduced myself. She introduced herself and her husband and said she "made a wrong turn" but heard her favorite song and had to come listen. I said "No, you made the right turn!" She had just had surgery to remove a tumor from her throat and been diagnosed with trachea cancer...it's very rare. She was going back to the doctor after the cruise so they could determine the path forward because no one was quite sure what to do. She explained that she had been saved for about nine years and her husband for just 4 months. Without skipping a beat, I asked if she would mind if we prayed for her. She said, "Please! I really needed this today." I gathered several folks together and Floyd along with my Mom prayed Heaven down. It was so anointed. We exchanged email addresses and phone numbers because I wanted to hear the doctor's plan for treatment. Our final two singings were on Friday heading home but on Thursday night, our Carnival Representative called our cabin and asked Floyd if it would be okay with us to remove the 'Private Function' sign so anyone could attend! Yep...they called us! Only God could do that...He allowed us to find favor with them and blessed us with a full room of folks listening to the Word in song! Our hearts are full and we are grateful to be vessels God is using. How has He used you through your ministry? Blessings... cjs :)

Let us hear from you...email your **brief**
"Ministry Moment" to Christine.

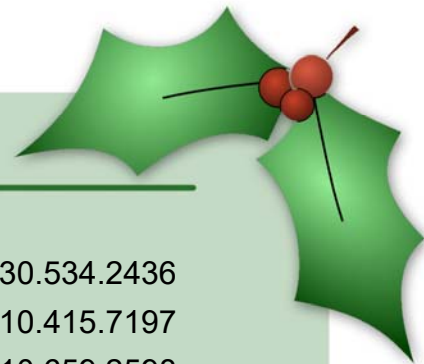
Floyd

Hi, friends! We have a brand new look to the website! As I got ready to send out the newsletter, the entire site crashed and we were forced to move in a different direction. It's not complete but I am working on it daily to get all the information on there and to enhance the Member (Artist) section with song clips and contact info. By the way, I cannot put everything about everybody on this site so we will be referring Church Sponsors to each Members' website. If you don't have a website for folks to find out even more about you... I highly recommend you get one set up immediately. If you need help, let me know! I'll work with you to get something within your budget that will help promote your ministry to our Sponsor Churches and others!

As for song clips...If you had songs on the STGMA radio, I was able to make clips because the permission for use had been already resolved. If I do not have a song for you, I will be contacting you shortly! We want to make our website the best tool we can offer to honor the Lord and support your ministry efforts. Please help us help you by keeping your information up-to-date so folks can reach out to you!

Blessings... **Christine Scott**

STGMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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The South Texas Gospel Music Association, Inc. is a Christian Association Incorporated under the non-profit act and is qualified under Section 501 (C) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and all contributions made to the STGMA, Inc. are tax deductible.

We are on the web...
www.stgma.org