

MUSIC MINISTRY AND DRAMA

1959

From the Director of Music: Mrs. R.F. Smith, Jr. - September was Church Music Month for Southern Baptist Convention churches. PBC was "a part of that simultaneous crusade in the interest of better church music."

On the evening of September 20th, the church choir presented a song service, composed primarily of anthems learned in the past church year.

The church choir had a banquet with Mr. Joe Strowd, Secretary of the Music Department of the Baptist State Convention, as guest speaker. There was also an installation of new choir officers by the pastor.

Christmas Cantata, "A Star in the Sky," by Bruce Carleton, was presented at the church on Sunday Evening, December 13.

December 20th, at 7:30 p.m. "An Old-Fashioned Christmas," was presented by the children of the Sunday School; directed by Mrs. P. R. Jackson and Mrs. Clyde McCollum.

1960

Miss Carolyn Elam, an East Carolina graduate, became the 1st salaried Minister of Music. The Men's Chorus made its debut at the Evening Worship Service on 10/30.

1963

The Easter Cantata, "The Crucifixion," was held with guest soloists from UNC and Mr. Harvey Brown.

Betty Wilson met with the Junior Choir (ages 7-12)

1964

John Stainer's cantata, "The Resurrection", was presented by the choir as its special Easter music. The performance was given on March 22, 1964 with Miss Martha Gibbs and Mr. Joseph Turpin, students at the University of North Carolina, assisting with the solo parts.

The Chapel Choir was organized for the Intermediate Class and the Young Peoples Class, led by Harold Lowry. Mrs. Robert Johnson and Mrs. Seth Gordon arranged transportation for Mr. Lowry from Chapel Hill.

Junior Choir, ages 8-13, had 16 members.

1965

A dramatic play, "Among Thieves" was held at the church, presented by The Pittsboro High School Little Theater Group. This was directed by Mr. Sam White, Jr.

Pittsboro High School Glee Club presented a program of sacred music at the May 2 worship service.

Dec. 19, 1965-The Speech and Drama Department of Pittsboro High School presented a drama, "Dust on the Christmas Star." It was directed by Mr. Sam White, Jr.

1969

A live Nativity Scene was held in front of the church each evening Dec. 19 – 21.

1972-73

Junior and Youth choirs were active.

The youth had a living nativity scene several nights before Christmas.

1973

The Men's Chorus led the music worship on the fourth Sunday of each month. Their practice was on the Monday prior to the Sunday service. (Records indicate the chorus was still together in 1979.)

1974

Marilyn Tyndall re-activated the Junior Choir (grades 1-6) in September.

Sims Poindexter directed the Men's Choir.

Guest music -Chatham Central Choir performed the Christian folk musical, "Tell It Like It Is."

Guest music – Peace Choir Ensemble performed, PBC member Rhonda Lassiter was a member of the group.

Church organist/choir director Mike Edmondson gave a recital of organ music on Oct 13.

The Agape Players from Casselberry, FL presented the hour long play, "I Wonder," which focuses on a pagan professor debating the claims of Christ with his students.

"Arise, Shine," a multi media celebration for Christmas, directed by Mike Edmondson, used both choirs, a speech choir, lighting, drama, and other media to portray the meaning of Christmas.

1981

The Christmas Cantata, "This Holy Child" was presented on Dec. 13 and the drama, "Send Us a True Song," was presented on Dec. 20.

1982

The Christmas Cantata, "First Christmas" was presented by a community choir in the PBC sanctuary.

1986

Jeff Whiten was hired as part-time Minister of Music and Youth, effective 3/23/86.

1987

Motion passed that the church pay for organ lessons for Linda Brooks, who at the time was filling in temporarily as the church organist. (Determined later that she only wanted lessons on how to use the Allen organ.)

The Easter musical "Lamb of Promise" was presented.

"Good News" was presented by the children, youth and adults in December.

1988

Children's Choir – 5 to 10 attend each Sunday.

Dec. -"This Holy Child" was presented by the adults. The children's choir presented "A Birthday Celebration" that evening.

1989

Motion passed to hire William Ellis as part time Minister of Music and Youth to begin July 2.

Two musicians were hired, Linda Brooks, effective May 28 and Brenda Hicks, effective July 2.

New choir for preschool children; total - 3 children's choirs

The choir room was renovated in September

The Senior Adult Choir presented "Never Too Old for Christmas."

The Sanctuary Choir presented "Come to the Manger".

1990

Report from the Minister of Music William Ellis: choirs – Senior adults 24 enrolled, 18 avg attendance, Sanctuary Choir – 30 enrolled, avg. attendance -24, Two children's choirs- 25 enrolled, 20 avg. attendance, preschool choir 5 enrolled, 3 avg. attendance

Looking for volunteers to start a handbell choir

Music Makers and Young Musicians held a lock-in to work on a musical

The children's choirs presented the first Psaltery musical "Kids Praise". Thirty-two children were in the presentation. – May 20

"Kids Praise" was presented at Pittsboro Methodist Church – October 28

The Senior Choir performed "The Time of Our Lives" at Pittsboro Christian Village.

"All Over the World It's Christmas" was presented by the Senior Adult Choir.

The combined children's choirs presented "Not a Creature Was Stirring".

The Sanctuary Choir presented "King Forever".

1991

The Children's Choir presented "Kids Praise II" at a nursing home in Burlington and at our church. Sept. 21 & 29

Senior Choir presented "The Road to Christmas".

Sanctuary Choir presented "The Gift".

The three children's choirs presented "We Believe in Christmas".

1992

The Senior Choir (The Reflections) presented a musical program at First Methodist Church in Siler City –March 18.

The Senior Adult Choir did a program Dec. 13

Sanctuary Choir presented "The First Noel", The Children's Choirs presented "If I'd Been Around When Jesus Was Born"

1993

Feb - Carla Karst, internationally known Christian singer, gave a program for the youth and the congregation

Children's Choirs presented "Kid's Praise III"

A Tenebrae service, "A Service of Shadows" was presented.

Easter Celebration was given by the sanctuary choir.

July – "Exultation", a new choral choir, presented "Glory, Glory Hallelujah"

Sanctuary choir presented "One Holy Night"

PBC Youth, East Sanford, and Cumnock Baptist Youth presented a musical, "The Extra Mile," at each of the three churches

1994

Sanctuary choir presented the Easter Cantata, "Amazing Love."

May - Carla Karst, internationally known Christian singer, presented a message of praise and worship.

Dec- Sanctuary choir presented "Come to the Manger."

Children and youth presented "The Christmas Story"

1996/97

Contemporary music was introduced to PBC with the arrival of Tim Ames as part-time Minister of Music. The first musical, "God With Us", was given by the choir and the music group, PROCLAIM, from Greystone Baptist Church, Durham, NC. Northwood High School auditorium was used the first time by PBC to present two more productions under the direction of Tim Ames. The first was "A Praise Gathering" and the second was the musical, "Alleluia, the Praise Continues." The 100-voice choir was made up of singers from fifteen area churches. In 1997, "Let It Rain", a musical and youth revival, was held at Northwood High School Auditorium with youth minister Andre Vlok preaching.

1998

Motion passed (9/2/98) that Cynthia Prince be called as Minister of Music

1999

Handbell choir growing, practice in new handbell room
Praise teams being formed(July), one to lead morning worship and the other for evening worship

2000

Handbells temporarily suspended due to not enough participation (January)
The Christmas cantata went well.
Children's choir – 11 in attendance
Praise team and band started under the direction of Cynthia Prince.
Praise team practice is lively, Salisbury Street Boys given honorable mention

2001

Marilyn Tyndall started a new children's choir for those up to 3rd grade
Marilyn Tyndall worked with the five children in the 5-6 year old and 11 children in the 13 year old group

2002

Marilyn Tyndall – 18 children in children's choirs
Nursery workers are available on Wednesday nights for choir members' children.
Cameron Sipe donated a computer for the choir.
An Infocus projector was donated to church, valued at \$1720 to be used for 8:30a.m services and other programs (anonymous donor)
A 10x10 screen was donated to church, valued at \$1285, It will be permanently mounted in ceiling over choir loft. (anonymous donor)
(October) 40 persons in choir, children's choir -22
Cynthia McPherson was hired as church organist (October)
A BBQ supper was held Nov 9 with a music program presented by a gospel quartet.

2003

Cynthia Prince- Children's choirs combined and doing well
Hand bells would begin again

2004

Cynthia Prince – hand bell choir performed April 7
July 11 lunch raised \$1300 for a new sound system. Total cost of the system \$12K, funds donated to date including the lunch fundraiser: \$7137
Motion passed for the church to borrow \$5000 on the church line of credit to provide the remaining funds needed to purchase the system

2006

Motion passed to purchase a Roland Synthesizer for \$690. It has many different instrument sounds, used money from organist fund.
Motion passed that a new job description for minister of music be written to include the new responsibility to direct all music ministries of the church including choir, praise team, praise band, children's choir, youth choir, and all other music interests of church – after discussion, it was decided to rewrite the job description for full time minister of music

2007

Motion passed (10/3/07) to hire Debra Magee as part-time minister of music and worship, 20 hours/week

2009

The Pittsboro Passion Play presented at PBC sanctuary

2010

Kidz of Faith – drama and musical presentation, *Knight Camp at Rock Kingdom*, presented June 5-6
Kidz of Faith – drama and musical presentation, *A King is Coming to Town*, presented Dec. 3 & 4
Choir, Drama, Orchestra presented *O Holy Night*, Dec 3, 4
The Pittsboro Passion Play presented at PBC sanctuary, standing room only

2013

Music Ministry presented a Fourth of July musical as it had proven to be popular the previous year.
The Pittsboro Passion Play presented at Northwood High School Auditorium.

2015

Music Director Debra Magee commented that it had been a good year with the children presenting two big plays. Several children were aging out of the Kidz of Faith and there was not at that time a music program for older children and youth. Discussed with Jon Pister about ways to keep the children and youth involved and interested with music and drama.
The Praise Band performed at the NC Ministers' Wives Conference.

2016

Music Director Debra Magee: The Kidz of Faith presented a musical in June

2017

"1 Way" PBC choral group for tweens & teens, 5th grade and up, began under the direction of Jeanne Mitchell.
Christmas presentations – adult choir – *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*; Kidz of Faith and 1 Way Youth Choir- *Chris-myth Busters*

2019

Personnel Committee Report_- Mr. Paul LaRusso advised the Committee was still accepting applications for a Music Minister. Pastor Tripp informed the membership Ms. Debra Magee had given the Church a retirement date of June 30, 2019. If no replacement found, the Music Ministry Committee would fill in as needed.

Marilyn Tyndall– Senior choir and regular choir merged in September stating they needed more members.

JUDGEMENT HOUSE

2009-2017

Judgement House is a realistic walk-through drama depicting the lives of several individuals, the choices they make and the eternal consequences they face from those choices. PBC and Emmaus Baptist sponsored Judgement House from 2009-2017. This was a huge undertaking with as many as 90 volunteers fulfilling many jobs: hall monitors, registration, sound and lighting, counselors, follow-up teams, construction and props, parking attendants, hospitality, nursery workers, actors and directors, tour guides, administrative workers, bus drivers, set up and tear down crews. Some of the titles were: “Unexpected”, “Words”, “Invasion”, “Overdose”, “Shaken”, “Treasured”. The production required 12 weeks of practice and preparation.

Cumulative statistics from the last 3 years (2015-2017): Attendance 3786, First time commitments 300, rededications 259, special prayer 149

THE PITTSBORO PASSION PLAY

2009-2016

Beginning in 2009, Minister of Music Debra Magee and Drama Team Director Donna Rezen decided to add a dramatic presentation to the annual Easter Cantata music. Rezen wrote a script adapted from the Bible about the last week of Jesus’ life. The music and songs, along with a narrator told the story while actors dressed in period costume depicted the scenes. After the 2010 performances were standing room only, it was decided to move the production to Northwood High School’s auditorium in 2011. With the expanded stage, the production grew with 80+ actors, around 30 people in the choir and around fifteen people in the orchestra, as well as stage hands, technical crew, and expert seamstresses. Over 100 people from 20+ area churches were involved. After a 2015 hiatus due to scheduling issues with the high school, 2016 was the seventh and final year of the production. The total attendance was 1,015 for the three 2016 performances with an estimate that more than half in attendance were first timers.

Please note: we did not attempt to list every play, drama, cantata, or special music performance presented at Pittsboro Baptist Church.