

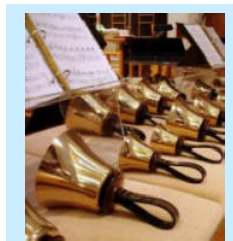


## ORGAN / ADULT HANDBELLS

The mighty pipe organ and bells pealing stir and lift us while ushering in the fall, Advent and Christmas seasons once again. I am excited to announce that I travel to Piedmont College once a month for an hour or so and meet with Dr. James Mellichamp, Provost and Vice President. Dr. Mellichamp, an extraordinary organist, is sharpening my skills and providing me with numerous creative, musical ideas. I am in the throes of preparing much music, to be sure; but some rather large, concert proportion postludes will be offered over the next several months. September 6 will feature William Walton's *Grand Imperial March* and on September 27, *Widor's Finale from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Symphony*. The remainder of the season will focus on large pieces with massive closing voluntaries offered on the last Sundays of October and November. The postludes on the Sunday before Christmas Day and Christmas Eve will feature festive arrangements of seasonal carols.

The Adult Handbell Choir is embarking upon another exciting and challenging year. The group recently received an invitation to a Gwinnett County Community Christmas service on Sunday night, December 13. How wonderful it is to be able to serve Christ here at our church, and also, reach out into the larger community of faith with our message through handbells. The Adult Handbell Choir is an extremely dedicated group. Thirteen members strong, they meet each Monday night and other times of the year for special rehearsals. Enjoy this vivacious group on the last Sundays in October and November plus December 13. If you would like to purchase a CD of the ringers, please contact Keith Jefcoat.

Serving Christ with You,  
David Keith Jefcoat  
Principal Organist and  
Adult Handbell Director



## LIVING WATERS

*The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!*  
Psalm 18:46

This scripture is a wonderful reminder from where we get our strength. The LORD is our rock. He has been so faithful to the hard work of the Living Waters Team of lead worshippers. Each week, this dedicated group of musicians rehearse, pray, study, and prepare their hearts to worship and to lead others into worship. They prepare at least five songs for each Sunday! That is no small task!

The Living Waters services continue to grow with new faces on the platform and new faces in the congregation. My heart is full of gratitude; to the musicians, vocalists, technicians, visual arts team, greeters, the facilities staff here who faithfully set up and break down each week, to our pastors who lead us, and most of all, to our Heavenly Father who leads it all. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Through all the changes ahead, let us always remember the Rock on which it all is built. God has been so faithful to Living Waters, and I believe He will hold us in His hand as we continue to grow for His honor and glory.

Michelle Alexander  
Music Ministry Assistant



## ACTS OF WORSHIP Children's Choirs

*Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD! Psalm 95:1*

The sound of children singing praise to the LORD is the most joyful sound in the world. What an exciting time now that the Children's Choirs have started again! The halls and rooms are filled with children's laughter and praise; the sounds that life abounds in this church.

This year, the children will sing songs and anthems that help them to connect to God, grow in their relationship with God, and to serve God and others. Below is a list of dates the children will sing in worship along with the song they will sing.

**Cherub, Celestial, Celebration (Ages 3, 4, & 5)** - Sanctuary & Living Waters  
November 15 - 10:55 a.m. - *God Made Our Wonderful World*

**Carol (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades)** - Sanctuary & Living Waters  
September 20 - 10:55 a.m. - *We Are Children of Our God*

**Festival (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grades)** - Sanctuary & Living Waters  
October 4 - 10:55 a.m. - *With One Heart*

**All Choirs**  
December 13 - 6:00 p.m. - GREAT Room - Church Family Christmas

Mark your calendars to hear the joyful sound of children raising their voices in worship to our Lord.

Michelle Alexander  
Music Ministry Assistant

## YOUTH CHOIR



Youth Choir is off to an amazing start. The enthusiasm is awesome. Our first rehearsal took place on August 16, and we had more than 40 participants, grades 6 through 12. It was great to see all the returning faces and lots of new ones as well! Everyone is really excited about the music and the year to come. We will be involved in several special activities in the coming months including a concert at First Presbyterian Church, our Youth Choir and Youth Bells Christmas Concert, and singing at the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

We definitely have room for more singers, so if you would like to join us, come to the next rehearsal on Sunday afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Choir/Music Room N-104. We would love to have you!

Tom Barnes  
Interim Music Ministry Assistant

## BELIEVERS BAND

**If You Don't Use It, You Lose It!**

You probably remember the Parable of the Talents. Upon leaving his home, the master gave his three servants different amounts of talents, each according to his ability. The servant who received five talents put his money to work and doubled it, as did the man who received two talents. But the third servant who received one talent dug a hole and hid the talent, out of fear.

When the master returned, he praised the servants who doubled their talents. To the third servant, he called him wicked and lazy and gave his one talent to the servant with ten talents.

If you have been given the gift and talent to play a musical instrument, I would urge you to consider using that talent again. Now is the perfect time to join the Believers Band as we begin preparing new music. I personally believe that we were given our skills and talents to serve and to return to others the gift and joy of music.

Since April 2002, I have probably asked three or four hundred people to join the Believers Band. I have heard many reasons over the past eight years for not joining the band, such as... "I haven't played my horn in 30 years," "It would take me forever to get my lip back in shape," "I don't have a horn any more," "I am just so busy," "I was never really any good," "I can just barely play the radio, let alone my trombone," and the list goes on.

The question is NOT, "Why join the Believers Band?" BUT RATHER, if you have been given the gift and talent to play a musical instrument, "WHY NOT join the Believers Band?" The Believers Band is the "only show in town" for many of us to use our God-given talent to serve the church and the community. The time commitment is reasonable. Satisfaction is guaranteed. You will make a difference!

Use it or lose it is not about losing your ability to play an instrument, it is about losing the OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!

Richard L. Petty  
Believers Band Director



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Gainesville, Georgia 30506

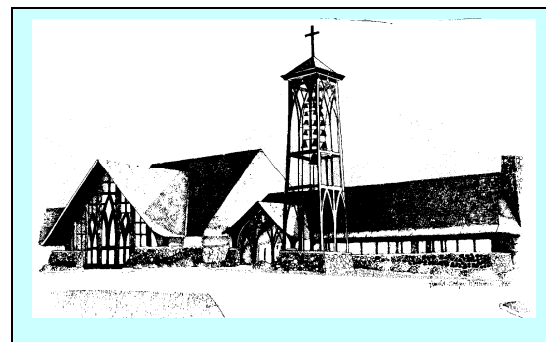
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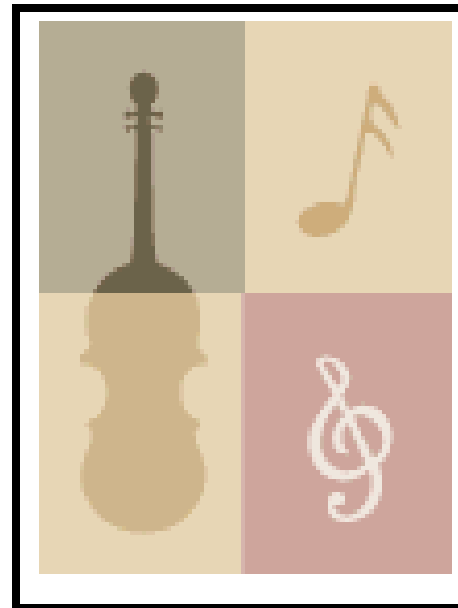


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# SOUNDINGS

A publication of the  
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2780 Thompson Bridge Road  
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*Loving and Serving God  
as We Love and Serve All People*

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September 2009

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Members of the Chancel Choir and guests enjoyed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chancel Choir Banquet in late August. With more than 70 folks present, including the Waltons and Winters, we had a great evening of food, fun, fanfare, and fellowship.

The high point of the evening's activities came with the recognition of the tenure of membership for several choir members.

Wooden crosses on colored lanyards were given in recognition of years of service, starting at five years. Each fifth year thereafter, a different color lanyard is given, until the 25th year when a pewter Choristers Guild cross is awarded.

One very special person was recognized at the banquet. Martha Stratton has been active in this church's music ministry for 70 years! In addition to singing in the choir, Martha served as organist for 47 years! What a blessing it is for all of us to know and love Martha, and to continue to serve in the music ministry with her.

Three choir members received their 25-year crosses at the banquet. They were: Dorothy Blount, Carol Sowers, and Regina Southerland. They join eight others who have been a part of the choir for over a quarter century!

One thing was evident as the evening progressed. There is a very special spirit at work among those who serve in the music ministry. The choir is an extended family, and each person feels a connection to the others in the group. There is a healthy mixture of ages and interests in the choir, but our purpose is, and will continue to be, to provide music from the heart, worthy of a gift at the throne of our Lord.

With their help, and that of the music team, and volunteer leaders, I promise to continue my dedication toward making our musical offerings worthy gifts to present before the throne of God.

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow...!*

Sam J. Marley  
Director of Music Ministries



Sam Marley & Anne George  
at Chancel Choir Banquet

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