



N E W S L E T T E R

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June

2012



ADMINISTRATOR AGENDA

Pastor Dennis D. Campbell
D. Min., M. Div., Central Baptist
Theological Seminary
B.S. Degree SDSU
Bob Jones University 2 years



Mrs. Tresa Hugg
B.S., MBBC
Teaching Music/Band since 1995

MUSIC MAKES A MARK – GOOD OR BAD

The Lord gave us a wonderful climax to the end of school. The Evangelistic Tour was fantastic and memorable, with many opportunities to minister, souls saved, the wild game we saw, and the tremendous hospitality of the Bob & Cindy Rasmussen family. Then we had a positive-spirited Awards Banquet, followed by the graduation of Emily Moeller and Joshua Hasbargen on June 3rd, with special speaker, Dr. Cary Flinck.

Now we look forward to next year. It appears the devil is working hard to close down Christian schools. It will take 30 paying students to keep the budget in the black. On the plus side, last year was a tremendous year in the church with the attendance being the best in years, and the income one of the best in history.

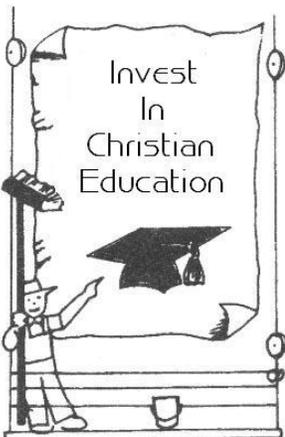
You can support the Local Church and the Academy by praying that we might have 30 students next year, and then help us to recruit!

This year I had the privilege of Christmas caroling with my 3-year old and our kindergarten and first graders, along with four other adults. This is not something new for me, because I have gone for at least the last 16 years; but I had a unique experience this year. We sang in several dining halls at elderly care centers; and it was a joy, as always, to see the smiles on their faces and hear them join in the familiar carols. One man, however, called me over when we were finished and said, **“I want you to know this is the first time I have really enjoyed a group of carolers. You looked sharp, but more than that, it was the music, so beautiful and clear... I want those carols.”** I have thought much about this man and the impact the music had on him. Our culture is so saturated with “pop” music that “good” music was a stark contrast and hence made a difference for the Lord Jesus, Whom we were representing. “Pop”, “Rock”, “Jazz”, “Country Western” and a handful of other styles that simply please the flesh have infiltrated not only the world but also our churches and Christian Colleges.



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There is a difference between the music of our current culture and music that is God honoring. Music that is God honoring should be majestic, awe-inspiring, something deeper than just the physical and emotional. The music should match the message we are trying to



***Christian education
doesn't cost, it pays
eternal dividends!***

convey through the lyrics. For example, our Jr. and Sr. High students are singing two songs in which the words match very well to the message. The first is **“My Sins Are Gone”**. This song is a very light and happy piece which matches the message that my sins are gone, under the blood of Jesus, removed as far as darkness is from dawn. The second is **“A Flag to Follow”**. This song has a strict tempo, very much like a march. The message of this song is that everything I sought in this life I found in Jesus – the Life, the Truth, the Way – and I will take a stand and follow Him.

Is musical style simply a matter of preference, or does music itself convey a moral message? I would like to share some thoughts from men of the past. Aristotle wrote in 350 B.C., **“Music represents the passions of the soul...if one listens to the wrong kind of music, he will become the wrong kind of person... it has the power to form character.”** In Music and Philosophy, Athen-Griechenland Plato taught in 400 B.C., “In order to take the spiritual temperature of an individual or a society, one must mark the music.” Confucius wrote in 500 B.C., “If one should desire to know whether a kingdom is well-governed, if its morals are good or bad, the quality of its music will furnish the answer.”



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Aristotle, 350 B.C.

Let us look at some more current thoughts on the influence of music. Dr. Howard Hanson – Educator, Composer, Conductor, and Director of the Eastman School of Music states, “Music is made up of many ingredients and according to the proportions of these components, it can be soothing or invigorating, ennobling or vulgarizing, philosophical or orgiastic. It has power for evil as well as good.” On the *Barbara Walters Special* (aired 3/29/94), *Cheetah*, a rock magazine, was quoted as saying, “If people knew what today’s pop music was saying, not what the words are saying, but what the music itself is saying, they would ban it, smash all records, and arrest anyone who tried to play it.” Rock artist Frank Zappa stated, “Rock music is sex. The big beat matches the body’s rhythm.” There are many other quotes from rock musicians stating that rock music depicts the sex act. Is it any wonder that our culture is filled with adultery, fornication, and abortion? **I submit to you that the style of music we listen to**

and that we use as a means of worshipping God does matter! God’s Word states in Isaiah 5:20, *“Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil...”* Psalm 36:1,4b says, *“The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes...he abhorreth not evil.”* **Many Christians today believe that music should be a means to draw the world into the church to hear the gospel.** God said that we are to *“go into all the world and preach the gospel”*, not have the world come into the church. God created music as a means for us to praise and glorify Him, not to please the flesh.

In Ex. 32, Moses was upon Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments from God. The people seemed to have no personal relationship with God and didn’t know what had happened to Moses. They went to Aaron with a new way to worship. Aaron may have thought, **“Well, at least they want to worship!”** He disregarded the object of the worship and their method of worship. Remember, they were given the Ten Commandments orally in Ex. 20 – *“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”* *“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images.”* They made images of gold – Ex. 32:5, 6, *“And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord. And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt-offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.”* The Lord told Moses he needed to go down to the people, and God’s anger waxed hot! God would have destroyed them if Moses had not besought the Lord to show mercy.

As Joshua and Moses came down from the mount, Joshua said to Moses, *“There is a noise of war in the camp.”* Moses said, *“It is not the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear.”* When they got closer, Moses saw the golden calf and the dancing (sensual dancing – a result of the style of music), and Moses was angry too. **How angry God must be as He looks down today** and sees so many worshipping in their own way with music which is sensual and for physical pleasure.



We should never use a worldly mode to draw the world to Christ. I John 2:15 states, *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”* Shelly Garlock Hamilton makes a good point in her article “Is Music Neutral”. “If godly lyrics are added to sensual music, the sensual music can change the meaning of the godly lyrics. Just as you can say the name of Jesus in love and respect, you can say the name of Jesus in cursing. The way you say it, your tone of voice, determined by your attitude, changes the meaning. You can say, “That’s great!” and sincerely mean it; or you can say, “That’s great!” with a sarcastic tone of voice and completely change the meaning of the words. If music is not neutral, there can be music that, by the way it speaks, is not worthy or fit to be combined with godly lyrics. **The ungodly music will change the meaning of the godly words.”**

Missionary Steve Anderson stated, “Just as the rockers of our time would never dream of using traditional, well-ordered music so much a part of corporate worship for centuries as their vehicle for communicating their message, we cannot use their voodoo beat noise to communicate God’s message, either to believers or the unsaved. As one who has spent years in West Africa, I can say that the voodoo beat is tame when compared to the syncopated mega-watt amplified, ‘shake your house apart’ back beat of much of today’s noise!” **I am saddened when I hear many Bible-preaching churches and colleges using music styles which include ragtime, light rock with a back beat with sensual voice slurring, and other worldly styles.** Because music is a means for us to purely worship our Holy God, we should seek to use the purest form. Psalm 40:3, *“And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.”*



“The ungodly music will change the meaning of the godly words.”
Shelly Garlock Hamilton

What should or should not characterize our music? A brief study of the history of music states that rock-n-roll and country western originated from jazz music. Jazz music, which includes ragtime, blues, and swing, is distinguished by two basic characteristics, the heavy use

of syncopation and the frequent employment of improvisation in performance. The basic philosophy behind jazz music is **“if it feels good, do it!”** This is a totally humanistic philosophy. Today there are many forms of rock music, but they all have back beat syncopation and sensual slurring. Missionary Steve Anderson stated, “Our Music must be different than the world’s music because music is a reflection of what is in the heart. **Christian music should reflect joy, peace, order and plan.** The world’s music reflects restlessness, sensuality, depression, and disorder.”

Let us make a difference for Christ in our world by having music that is a pure means of worshipping our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

COMING EVENTS	
Camp Joy (Bible Camp for Teens) Sun-Sat	June 24/30
Camp Chetek (Elementary Bible Camp) M-Sat	June 25/30
All-church 4th of July Picnic , Wed	July 4
Vacation Bible School, 7-9pm Mon-Thurs	July 9-12
Teen War: Army vs. Navy 6-9pm M-F Gr.7 & up	July 23-27
Set Free Program: overcoming habits/addictions Every Friday 7-9pm	



**VACATION
 BIBLE SCHOOL
 7-9PM ~ JULY 9-12th**

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 IS FREE**

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