

May 20, 2021

To: Our Lake Church family
From: Pastor Jim & Debbie



“MUSIC that MATTERS”

Music is very important to us all. Whether you realize it or not, music has affected YOU more than you might think. For example, every movie you watch, has music. Background at least, or sometimes songs are in the forefront. Most of us enjoy music at Christmas time and other holidays and music “gets us in the mood” when we do. And then there are the commercial jingles, the “bumper music” before your favorite radio/TV shows and so on.

Christian music has touched lives too and some songs we still sing and love today have been around for centuries.

Think of the hymns we’ve recently covered in this series:

- **It Is Well with My Soul**
- **Amazing Grace**
- **Great is Thy Faithfulness**
- **Be Thou My Vision**
- **How Great Thou Art (May 23)**
- **Holy, Holy, Holy (May 30)**

These songs – and hundreds of others – have helped shape us in our walk with, dependence on, and trust in our Heavenly Father. Once we’ve received His Son Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior the Holy Spirit can also use good music to remind us, teach us, comfort us and guide us. What an amazing God!

But again, we have a CHOICE. What we listen to – in our conversations, our newscasts, our choice in movies and music and so on - MAKES a difference. What we READ makes a difference. What we THINK and SAY makes a difference. (And often what comes out of someone’s MOUTH is a tell-tail sign of what they’ve been listening too.)

Let me ask: *HOW DO YOU FEEL?* Not just health-wise, but emotionally and spiritually, right now?

You can IMPROVE how you feel – in part – by CHOOSING to listen to “Music that Matters.” Not just my Sunday messages in this series (though they would help), but by choosing to listen to good music that inspires, uplifts, helps and points us in the right direction! (Our Heavenly Father)

Debbie and I, just last month, subscribed to the GaitherTV channel. Now, we can watch and listen to their ALL their recorded concerts (Gaither Vocal Band, Homecoming, and other Gospel Singers) 24/7. Debbie and I have now spent a number of evenings playing Cribbage while a Gaither Video is playing and we’re watching and listening and FEELING joyful, encouraged and uplifted – as we focus our attention on Almighty God through the music. (What a great way to end the day!)

Now obviously I’m not suggesting our taste in Christian music is yours, but you get the idea. Remember... the louder the negative voices of the world, the MORE EFFORT it will take for us to keep our heads “above water” and maintain the right focus.

You might remember one of my “adages” I’ve said in church a number of times: ***“Any DEAD FISH can float downstream. It takes a LIVE ONE with determination to swim against the current.”***

Our nation – once highly committed to God and the Word of God – seems headed in the wrong direction. And this didn’t start with last November’s election – it’s been moving that way for decades. Today, fewer people go to church percentage wise than at any time in our country’s history. The majority still say, “I believe in God.” But I wonder which God they mean. *“Our God has given us the Ten Commandments, the best moral code ever. Do you mean that One?”*

The Lake Church is here to help you, your neighbors, your family and friends.

THANKFULLY, our Heavenly Father – through the Holy Spirit - will help us keep the right focus, BUT we have to do our part too. CHOOSE WISELY and remember to:

***Rejoice Always
Pray without ceasing
In everything give thanks.
For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.***

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV

~~~~~



### ***And speaking of Music...***

In Psalm 100, it says ***“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”*** It doesn’t mention sopranos, altos, tenors or basses! So, even though we may be

low in some of those details, we're considering a return of the choir in a limited capacity... if we can get the participation.

I'd like to consider practice on the last Thursday and singing the last Sunday of each month. If we didn't have to commit to every Sunday... perhaps **YOU** might join us! If you think you'd be willing to be a part of our new-and-limited choir, send me an email or give me a call .... and we'll work on making that **"joyful noise"**!

*"To get greed and despair off their throne,  
The world needs more love to be shown.  
To solve what is dire is like singing in choir:  
One simply can't do it alone."*  
- Christopher M. Brunelleschi

*Susan York*  
Music Director  
susan@lakechurch.org  
760-214-1364

~~~~~

Message from the Board Chairman

The Board of Directors has been busy lately running the business of our Church. Fortunately, we have a wonderful staff who fulfill their duties easily, joyfully, and with enthusiasm. We have engaged more technical help for the online services and the website. Wait until you see how the website changes over the next few weeks... I know you will be impressed. Eventually there will be an app that can be downloaded on your phone or tablet that will give you direct access to our website at any time, from anywhere. Also, please note, that the Church phone number no longer rings an office phone. It goes directly to a cell phone carried by Karen Bonosoro. Karen can then answer calls at the time they come in, answer any questions or relay any messages. Don't hesitate to call if you want... Karen loves it.

Of course, this is all made possible by your generosity. Donations have been steady enough and generous enough to allow us to make these improvements. The Bible tells us that God loves those who give freely. There must be a lot of love coming to all of us... we all pray it will continue.

God Bless and thanks again,
Art Pedersen,
Board Chairman

