



Fox Theaters: A New Adventure

by Dennis Shogren



In the fall of 2016, Wes Hanson, a long-time supporter of Christian Edition's music ministry, came to me with the idea of having a "free" concert at the historic Fox Theatre in Hanford, California. I put "free" in quotes because we all know that using a commercial venue, especially an historic venue like a Fox Theater, is not free, but Wes told me that if we committed to come to Hanford, he would "make sure that the cost of the venue is covered so anybody that wants to come hear Christian Edition, can!"

Wes Hanson's enthusiasm was irresistible, and his financial commitment a true blessing! So not only did we commit to the Fox Theatre in Hanford for April 22, 2017, we also booked the Fox Performing Arts Theater in Riverside for March 4, 2017. Frankly, I had no idea what I had gotten us into . . .

I had been to several concerts and plays at the Riverside Fox Theater, but attending concerts and plays does not an expert make when it comes to things like lighting, and staging, and curtains, and entrances, and exits, and spot lights, and . . . the list seemed never ending. I didn't even know the right questions to ask.

But Michael and Lori Spencer did; Chris and Diane Sheridan did; Paulette Nelson did; and Carole Derry-Bretsch did. It was amazing to watch as the entire CE family took on the challenge of putting a program together for a venue such as this. Many others also generously gave specific help, but special thanks go to these folks.

Carole helped tremendously with getting the word out on her social media.

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Meet the New Member

by Darryl Wheeler



My name is Darryl Wheeler, and I have been singing all my life. Dad used to call us all to family worship every morning and evening by singing. When we had family get-togethers with aunts, uncles, cousins, and our grandparents, we would have worship with everyone singing together, most often around the piano. The Awakening Chorus was nearly always the highlight of the worship!

As a young teen, my piano teacher, Mrs. Chrisman, also used to give me voice coaching. As my voice started to change, she would push me to keep singing the high notes to keep my range wide. In my later teen years, I sang duets with Dad for church or Sabbath school. After college we both joined the Loma Linda University Church Men's Chorus in the summers when I was home from school for Campmeeting Southern California style.

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Freedom Singers Doug Riley, Jake Losen and Simon Ivascu performed with Christian Edition at the Fox Theater, Riverside.

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She and Paulette helped reach out to other artists who might share the stage with us in Riverside, resulting in The Freedom Singers agreeing to sing with us. Immense thanks go to Simon, Doug, and Jake for their contribution to our evening. Simon's amazing testimony along with great southern gospel music was a splendid addition to the evening. Beyond that, they are just terrific guys to hang around with.

We were also joined by cellist Steve McHan, bass singer Patrick Wolfe's brother-in-law, who enriched "Ancient Words" with his vibrant and sonorous interludes. We haven't heard those parts since the original recording was made. What joy it was to hear the song take on new life with the addition of the cello!

I learned from Michael that a "run sheet" for church service really doesn't cut it for a three-hour concert. Thanks for the rescue! Michael and Lori made the stage come alive with just the right lighting to go with the music. Lori made sure the sound and lighting were perfect, as she always does.

Special thanks go to Chris and Diane Sheridan, and especially to their daughter-in-law Lindy. Lindy put together the introduction video that introduced CE

to audience members who didn't really know us, and she also found pictures to project with our songs that enhanced the message of each song. Chris and Diane (especially Diane, let's be honest) were of immense help because of their vast experience with stage productions—countless hours, and amazing talent. Thank you Sheridans!

Approximately 600 guests joined us at the Fox Theater in Riverside, and a similar number attended at Hanford six weeks later. Long-time friends and new friends joined us for two amazing evenings of worship through music. We may not know until we walk those golden streets we sing about in "Jerusalem," the full impact of "Ancient Words," or the message of "Jesus Saves." On behalf of everyone in CE, we will never forget the Riverside and Hanford Fox Theater experience of 2017. Thank you, Wes Hanson, for a great idea, and for making it all happen!



Top: Director Calvin Knipschild solos on "Bound for the Kingdom."
Bottom: Accompanist Michael Spencer at the Fox Theater, Riverside.

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The church that was home for my young family, had a men's chorus that I was able to sing with for a few years before we moved. Later I would join the Loma Linda Men's Chorus full time, take a break for schooling, and then join again after graduation. I chose to take a break again when my youngest daughter wanted to join Pathfinders and I wanted to join the club with her; unfortunately, they met on the same night as men's chorus practice. Throughout these years, I always enjoyed the music of Christian Edition and thought that it would be great to sing with a group that good!

Last year I was talking to my friend, Clarence Brummett, about the high quality of music and blend that Christian Edition always has. I speculated about what they did and wondered if what they do could be done any place else, and with any other styles of music. Clarence said "Why don't you come to one of our practices and ask Calvin your question directly?"

I thought it would be fun and interesting to attend rehearsal, so I rode along to the first Friday night practice in January of this year. I was welcomed by many

friends, and by the members of CE I had never met before. My Pacific Union College friend, Craig Vendouris, asked me if I was going to come back for the next day's Sabbath afternoon rehearsal, so I did. I was impressed with the spiritual atmosphere and prayer time at every practice! When the accompanist, Michael Spencer, asked if I was going to come back for the next set of weekend rehearsals, I said I would, as long as they would have me.

I started coming to every practice, and almost every concert, for the next six months. Trying to learn about 100 songs from memory has been a big challenge for me. I feel comfortable with most of them now, and the others are coming slowly. I know I miss an entrance or two at every worship service, but with God's help and Calvin's patience, I think I will get them all soon!

I hope that everyone who worships with CE can feel the joy I feel with the songs we sing! I think my favorite so far, "God Wants to Hear You Sing," tells the power of Christian music to raise human spirit and witness to others about the great God of Song that we can call a friend.



Marquee at the Fox Theater, Riverside in March.



Marquee at the Fox Theater, Hanford in April.

Jesus, the Light of the World

by Carole Derry-Bretsches



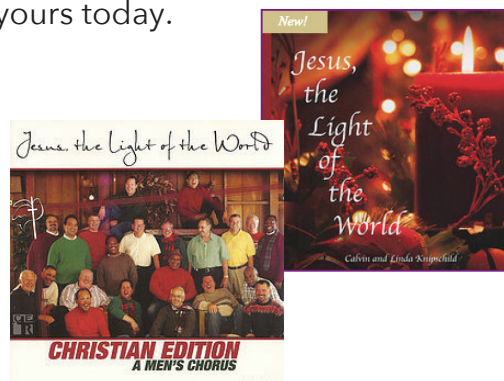
Christmas has come and gone, but it's never too early to start thinking about a stocking stuffer for next year.

Usually Calvin Knipschild, Christian Edition's Director, has an inspirational message in each edition of CE News Notes. In this edition, we are sharing something a little bit different. Calvin and his wife, Linda, have written a book to complement the Christian Edition CD, *Jesus, the Light of the World*.

There are twelve chapters in the book to go along with the twelve songs of the CD, one for each of the twelve days leading up to Christmas. Each chapter is designed to be a devotional thought using a song from the CD, along with an original poem by Linda's father, an original prayer written by Linda, and accompanying

scriptures. The book also features an original writing from Calvin's close friend and fellow teacher, Daryl Benson.

Focused on the real reason we celebrate Christmas, this book is an excellent way to share with a friend or neighbor what Christmas is all about. As a special, the book and CD sell for only \$20.00 (\$32.00 if purchased separately). All proceeds go 100% to Christian Edition's music outreach ministry. Go to www.christianedition.com, click on the Store tab, and get yours today.



Pastor's Corner

Resonate: A Sounding Board for the Tuning Fork

by Pastor Gary Gifford, Ph.D.



As you probably know, Christian Edition (CE) is a musical ministry that shares inspirational music interspersed with thoughtful, spoken words to audiences in many locations each year. We find that to maintain our energy to continue to share, we need to have our spiritual batteries recharged on a regular basis. As a part of the recharging process, and in connection with our all-day rehearsal and evening Annual Business Meeting, we CE pastors, myself and Pastor David Taylor, Ph.D., have been encouraged to invite a speaker to set the spiritual tone for the day and help us continue the process of recharging our spiritual batteries. Last year, we invited Pastor Steve McHan from Loma Linda to speak to us. Pastor Steve's musical interest and ability, combined with his pastoral background, gave him a helpful understanding of who we are as CE

members, and what content would be helpful to us as we seek to minister through music.

Pastor Steve spoke to us helping us organize our thoughts around the musical idea of "resonate." He reminded us that there are many metaphors that are appropriate as descriptors of the Christian life. Many of these metaphors relate to our senses: the sense of taste – bread of life (John 6:35); living water (John 4:14); taste and see (Psalms 34:8); salt (Matt. 5:13); the sense of sight—light of the world (Matt. 5:14); the sense of smell—fragrance of Christ (2 Cor. 2:15); the sense of hearing—praise (Luke 2:20) and joyful lips (Psalms 63:5).

Pastor Steve then made the slight transition from the sense of hearing to the concept of sound. He spoke of fundamental sound, of timbre, of melody, of harmony, and finally of

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resonating sound. Steve said that sound is heard. Sound is molecules vibrating, put in motion by an energy source, but the molecules put in motion also have energy. Just as light is energy, so also, sound is energy. God is the energy source. His spoken words provided the energy for the creation. Words like renew (Titus 3:5, Rom. 12:2); grow (Eph. 4:15); and live; all give evidence that God is indeed the energy source. "God's energy," said Pastor Steve, "is like a tuning fork. You strike a tuning fork and it vibrates, but its vibration is not heard until the fork is touched to a resonating chamber." God is looking for a resonating chamber through which he can deliver a part of His energy.

Pastor Steve had many musical instruments on the stage in front of us which he used as visual and audible aids. He talked about how buzzing the human lips provide the energy that sets brass instruments vibrating and resonating. Likewise, humans blowing on reeds

make the reeds buzz and the clarinet or bassoon resound making music. String instruments have their strings buzzed by a bow, or pick, or finger, and their sounding boards resound, with the energy the string conveyed.

At this point in the presentation, Steve struck the tuning fork on a hard surface and let us all try to hear it. To our ears, it was totally silent. He then touched the base of the tuning fork to the bell of a tuba and we all heard it resonate on a specific tone. Steve held the fork on several different instruments and immediately we could hear the resonating sound. Steve then indicated, "Christ wants to be in us (Col. 3:3) and have us in Him" (I Cor. 15:22). He wants us to have such a close relationship with Him that His voice will become our voice and, called by Him, we will resound His message and music to the world. That was a motivating idea for me as a member of CE.

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Touching Hearts and Souls

by Chris Sheridan



The music of Christian Edition moves me every time we sing. The arrangements, lyrics, and harmony deliver the message of God's love for us directly to hearts and souls. The easiest way I have focused to minister outside of concerts is to hand out the group's CDs. Some of the reactions I have received include the following:

"We're on the road again heading back home to Wyoming and have had a chance to really listen to, enjoy, and sing along with the CD you gave us. I can hear the songs with my heart. Thank you!"
– Rosie G., Caspar, WY

"I listened to the CD, *P.S. . . . Please Sing*, on the way home from work last night, and again on the commute in today. The music is gorgeous and touched me. I did not have the normal tension from nasty traffic. I got home and back to work with a sense of calm and peace. Thank you so much for sharing it with me."
– Carmen T., Montebello, CA

"I listen to a CD every night as I fall asleep. The pain I'm in subsides listening to you guys, and I have been able to cut back on my pain meds! The music and message of God's love is so beautiful."

– Pat S., Syracuse, NY

"Thanks for the CD. It is spectacular. This is what God's throne room must sound like!"

– Father Nathan H., Riverside, CA

"Thanks so much for the new CD. I listened to it driving home to San Diego. You guys are really good and your beautiful harmonies touched me in a way I didn't expect. Thanks again!"

– John O., Chula Vista, CA

"I heard you live at the Fox Theater in Riverside and just had to buy a few CDs."

– Wendy E., Murrieta, CA

"Thanks for another wonderful concert. It's always a blessing for us to hear such gorgeous music proclaiming the gospel's message. You guys are the best!"

– Chuck V., Corona, CA



Calimesa, California, Campmeeting in August

Pastor's Corner

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Steve reminded us of the importance of the message contained in "God Wants to Hear You Sing," by Rodney Griffin.

God wants to hear you sing
When the waves are crashing round you
When the fiery darts surround you
When despair is all you see.
God wants to hear your voice
When the wisest man has spoken
And says your circumstance is as
hopeless as can be.

That's when God wants to hear you sing.

This song indicates that we resonate (vibrate in parallel) with God when we sing songs of praise to Him, especially if we give this praise to God while experiencing despairing, hopeless circumstances. This song indicates "God Wants to Hear YOU Sing."

Then Pastor Steve questioned, "What happens when we praise God together as in CE?" He helped us think about the birth of Christ and the melody of the Gospel sung by the angels at His birth. He reminded us that the music of that night resounds through time and to the ends of the earth by referencing the words of Ellen White.

"No one born into the world, not even the most gifted of God's children, has ever been accorded such demonstration of joy

as greeted the Babe born in Bethlehem. Angels of God sang His praises over the hills and plains of Bethlehem. 'Glory to God in the highest,' they sang, 'and on earth peace, good will toward men' (Luke 2:14). O that today the human family could recognize this song! The declaration then made, the note then struck, the tune then started, will swell and extend to the end of time, and resound to the ends of the earth. It is glory to God, it is peace on earth, good will to men. When the Son of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings, the song then started in the hills of Bethlehem will be re-echoed by the voice of a great multitude, as the voice of many waters, saying, 'Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth'" (Revelation 19:6, 1SM 250).

Making cheerful melody in our hearts to God will take the place of bitterness and mourning. According to White, "It is our privilege to carry with us the credentials of our faith—love, joy, and peace. When we do this, we shall be able to present the mighty arguments of the cross of Christ. When we learn to walk by faith and not by feeling, we shall have help from God just when we need it, and his peace will come into our hearts. It was this simple life of obedience and trust that Enoch lived. If we

learn this lesson of simple trust, ours may be the testimony that he received, that he pleased God. Then instead of mourning and bitter repining, we shall make melody in our hearts to the Lord. "In the world," says Christ, "ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (HS 133.1).

Pastor Steve reminded us of God's power resonating through the corporate energy of the Christian community as he quoted Ellen White. "God's servants do not all possess the same gifts, but they are all His workmen. Each is to learn of the Great Teacher, and is then to communicate what he has learned. God has given to each of His messengers an individual work. There is a diversity of gifts, but all the workers are to blend in harmony, controlled by the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit. As they make known the gospel of salvation, many will be convicted and converted by the power of God. The human instrumentality is hid with Christ in God, and Christ appears as the chiefest among ten thousand, the One altogether lovely" (AA 274).

CE members and guests were energized by Pastor Steve's presentation of the high level of pleasure provided to God by the singing human voice. "The human voice that sings the music

of God from a heart filled with gratitude and thanksgiving is far more pleasing to Him than the melody of all the musical instruments ever invented by human hands" (E. 506.4).

Toward the conclusion of his presentation, Pastor Steve shared a comment that summarized not only his thoughts, but also the ministry purpose of CE "Speak as He would speak, act as He would act. Constantly reveal the sweetness of His character. Reveal that wealth of love which underlies all His teachings and all His dealings with men. The humblest workers, in co-operation with Christ, may touch chords whose vibrations shall ring to the ends of the earth and make melody throughout eternal ages" (MH 159.3).

As we journey beyond that day, may we carry with us a new understanding of ourselves as a sounding board—an instrument through which Jesus can let His energy flow so that we may be able to resonate, to be excited, to vibrate His message of love and heavenly music to others, so that they too may be "in Him" and have "Him in them," and resonate with Him beyond time.

Thank you, Pastor Steve, for recharging our spiritual batteries!



Michael Spencer and Carol Derry-Bretsch combine efforts on the piano.



Baritone Chris Klebba solos on "Midnight Cry."

Calendar

ALL LISTED CHRISTIAN EDITION REHEARSALS ARE OPEN TO OUR FRIENDS AND ARE HELD AT SAN GABRIEL ACADEMY ELEMENTARY LOCATED AT 5550 MUSCATEL AVENUE IN SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA.

CONCERT TIMES OR LOCATIONS MAY CHANGE. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM A CONCERT BEFORE TRAVELING LONG DISTANCES. (SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HAS BEEN ABBREVIATED TO SDA.)

JANUARY 2018

- 19 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 20 Saturday 10:45 A.M. Concert**
Norwalk SDA Church
 12191 Firestone Blvd.
 Norwalk, CA 90650
 (562) 863-0614
- 20 Saturday 4:00 P.M. Concert**
Fullerton SDA Church
 2355 W. Valencia Dr.
 Fullerton, CA 92833
 (714) 525-4561

FEBRUARY 2018

- 9 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
Men's Chorus Festival
Loma Linda University Church
 11125 Campus Street
 Loma Linda, CA 92354
 (909) 558-4570
- 10 Saturday 9:00 & 11:45 A.M. Concert**
Men's Chorus Festival
Loma Linda University Church, featuring –
 • Bay Area Men's Chorus
 • Christian Edition
 • Heralds of Hope
 • His Voice
 • The William Chunestudy Men's Chorus
- 10 Saturday 5:00 P.M. Concert**
Men's Chorus Festival
Loma Linda University Church

- 23 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 24 Saturday 3:00 P.M. Rehearsal**

MARCH 2018

- 9 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 10 Saturday 3:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 24 Saturday 11:00 A.M. Concert**
Redding SDA Church
 2828 Eureka Way
 Redding, CA 96001
 (530) 243-1461
- 24 Saturday 5:00 P.M. Concert**
Palo Cedro SDA Church
 22585 Silverlode Ln.
 Palo Cedro, CA 96073
 (530) 547-4777



CE NewsNotes

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Schedule Note

The concert week from March 24-31 will consist of visits to churches and Fox Theater venues from Northern California to Southern California.

Please check our website, christianedition.com, for more current tour information.

CE NewsNotes Newsletter

To receive newsletter via email, please send your name, email address, and zip code to info@christianedition.com.

To receive a copy via regular mail, please email your name and address or call toll-free to 877-433-4846.

*Thank you
for worshipping with us!*

CHRISTIAN EDITION MEN'S CHORUS

Director	Baritones
Calvin Knipschild	Chris Klebba
Accompanist	Bruce Powers
Michael Spencer	John Reader
First Tenors	Chris Sheridan
Henry Murray	Keith Smith
Rob Peterson	Craig Vendouris
Basses	
Francis Recalde	Clarence Brummett
David Taylor	Leonard Fletcher
Second Tenors	Gary Gifford
Paul Wilcox	Ken Holland
Fred Miller	Gary Mattison
Russ Nelson	Patrick Wolfe
Dick Sample	
Dennis Shogren	
Mickey Smith	
Darryl Wheeler	

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