

CE News Notes

Summer 2022 • Vol 42 The Ministry and Activities of **CHRISTIAN EDITION**, A Men's Chorus



A Note of Thanks



Despite COVID masking and spacing restrictions, CE sings good-bye to their beloved director, Calvin.

By Linda Knipschild



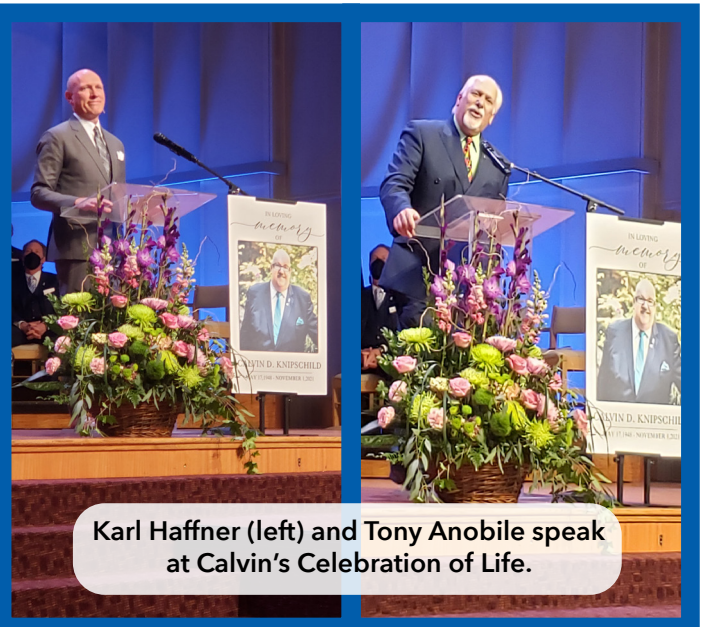
It was wonderful to see family and old friends from church, chorales, and Christian Edition sharing in Calvin's Celebration of Life service this past January. So many stories were shared combined with both tears and laughter. Everyone has told the family that it was one of the

best services they have ever seen. It took a lot of work from many people to pull it all together and I thank every one of you so very much! In lieu of flowers, we had requested that donations go to either Christian Edition, Maranatha, or the San Gabriel Academy Knipschild Family Fund to aid in continuing Calvin's love of helping others and leading others to Christ. The service can still be viewed on YouTube. Some of you may not know this, but our son Erich, and daughter DeAnne, sang the song "There Was Jesus" during the slide show. They sang this for Calvin's last Christmas, and he loved it!

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DeAnne, Linda, and Erich Knipschild at Calvin's Celebration of Life.



Karl Haffner (left) and Tony Anobile speak at Calvin's Celebration of Life.

A Note of Thanks, *cont. from page 1*

Calvin loved music ministry and always strived for perfection in all that he did. We would listen to hundreds of pieces of music to find just the right songs to fit choir, chorale, or Christian Edition. Each piece needed to have a message and a purpose. He believed that EVERYONE in the audience would have a favorite song and that one song might be what brought them closer to Jesus. That is why he spent so much time looking for a variety of

different styles that would hopefully touch the heart of all those he came into contact with. There is nothing more important than being ready to return home with our Father in Heaven, living out His plan, and reuniting with all our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. We look forward to the time when we will hear more of Calvin's music ministry sung by all who want to praise Jesus in our eternal home.

From the Keyboard

By Michael Spencer,
Director



One of the group's favorite segments in our services has been the children's corner, when we get to sit down with kids from the congregation and sing with them. This is especially true when the youngling happens to be one of our own. Throughout our many seasons together, there is a smaller, even more exclusive club within CE, to be a CE kid.

Being a CE kid means that your dad and his buddies are out on the road monthly, and that if the circumstances are favorable, you can come along to exotic destinations like Riverside or Van Nuys. It means having some good weekend friends from the group. It means you get to help haul things in from the car, hand out programs, help move the piano, and generally work by dad's side. Christian Edition is a family thing.

Eventually, as in life, our CE kids grow up, go on to college, and start lives of their own. Some start families, and it's been my deep joy to watch my old friends in recent years light up at kids' time when their grandchildren are brought forth for the song as their parents did, not so many years ago.

As our delayed 40th Anniversary season recedes in the rear-view mirror, I've reflected that anniversaries are for looking back. Looking back at triumphs and tragedies, prayer and miracles, obstacles and overcoming. Remembering faces of friends, family, and the congregations we've ministered to one service at a time. But the thing that lights up the way before us, like holding a grandchild, is what's yet to come. We can't wait to see what God has in store for us.

Looking forward, we are hard at work on a new recording, our first in several years. Calvin had laid it out before the pandemic distanced us from each other, and we are finally moving it into production. Years in preparation, we anticipate releasing this new flock of songs from our recent services out into homes and cars where we are unable to sing in person. We can't wait for you to hear it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Spencer".



Sharing 40 Years of Memories, Part 2

In our last newsletter, Christian Edition members shared their favorite memories over the years. This compilation is the second of this two-part series.

David Mitchell - Baritone (joined 2019)

I was practicing our music in preparation for Calimesa Camp Meeting and recalled the first time I heard the song, "There Is A Way," during CE rehearsal back when I first began with the group in 2019. It had a profound effect on me for a couple of reasons. First, the reaction I saw from Calvin was emotionally overwhelming, so much so that it made it hard to continue singing while tearing up (we both were!). It was at that moment I knew God had opened the door for me to sing with CE. The way I learned music was that it had to have your heart behind the words and melodious sounds to really bring the intended blessing to those listening. The message in this particular song is so timely and hope-filled, that when you listen, your heart cannot help but grow full in recognizing that JESUS is the "Way" that is being sung about. When you see me fighting back the emotion when we sing it next, you'll know the story behind why it is so touching for me!

Bruce Powers - Baritone (joined 1981 and 2009)

Finding just one memorable moment is tough because there are so many. There was our first performance at Eagle Rock SDA Church for Pastor Jim Brown in 1981—then known as the Eagle Rock Men's Chorus; the Christmas performance at the Dorothy Chandler Music Pavilion; the Friday night rehearsal at Glendale Academy where we came up with the name Christian Edition; rejoining Christian Edition in 2009; Mt. Hermon weekends; the Alaska Cruise 2011; Swannanoa Women's Prison, North Carolina, and the whole interaction with the women there, particularly when they symbolically broke their chains during the song "Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone," and the guards not letting us out until we sang for them; then finally,

the Markham Woods SDA Church when a little girl gave Calvin a big hug after the children's story. Take your pick!

Chris Sheridan - Baritone (joined 2015)

Being asked to pick one Christian Edition moment that was most memorable is almost impossible since there have been so many for me: Men's Chorus Festivals; Caribbean Cruise; Maranatha Events broadcast to millions around the world; the performances at the Fox Theaters in Riverside and Hanford; and singing "Jerusalem" with the Hoppers. How do I narrow it down?

Then, it hit me. May 19, 2018. CE sang at St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Church in Alta Loma, California. Throughout the decades, the group has sung in Christian churches of all denominations, large and small, across the country. Singing at this particular church, however, held special meaning for my wife, Diane, and me as this church was our home parish for nearly 12 years when we lived in Alta Loma.

While planning our service with St. Peter and Paul's Music Director, Audrey Donaldson, it was agreed CE would sing five songs during the 4:00 PM mass that Saturday afternoon and then provide a full 90-minute concert following the mass. At the end of the mass following the pastor's dismissal of the congregation, CE sang one last song—I don't even remember what it was—but at the conclusion, the packed church gave us a large ovation with Audrey announcing, "Well, Christian Edition just took us to church!" About 75% of the congregation, around 400 people, stuck around for the full concert and similarly, enthusiastically responded to our songs as we shared God's love through song.

Following the program-ending "Jerusalem," the crowd rose to its feet in thunderous, sustained applause as the group exited the worship space down the center aisle. The appreciative congregation had obviously been touched, as an unplanned encore brought the group back into the church for one last song and another standing ovation. The Holy Spirit works wonders and moves people deeply

when they open their hearts to the Word. Add in the Christian Edition sound to the Word and the message is clear: there is Hope and Peace through Jesus Christ!

Keith Smith - Baritone (joined 2008)

The first most memorable moment for me was the first time I officially joined CE. My first time singing was at Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center (CCC). The audience there was so appreciative and related so very well to CE. Many of the guests knew right away that I was the newest member of the group. They made me feel so special, like a rock star, or so it seemed to me. Combine that feeling along with the beautiful setting of nature in the Santa Cruz mountains that epitomizes Mt. Hermon, and this is a memory that I will always cherish.

I will refrain from much detail about other memorable moments but suffice it to say I had to contain my emotions when, as part of the pastoral team of CE, I had to give my first talk and I knew there was a DIVINE presence that I felt strongly, or the time I had to give the talk on the date of my father's birthday after he had recently passed away.

Craig Vendouris - Baritone (joined 1984 and 2002)

Asking me to pick my favorite CE memory is akin to asking a parent which child is their favorite. The first time we sang at General Conference in New Orleans; singing backup for Andy Williams at two of his Christmas concerts in Los Angeles; the first time a new song came together; my first Family Reunion concert in Orlando, 2003, and talking at length with Bob Edwards, one of my musical idols; all the road trips with Calvin, Sonny, and Chris; the intimate moments with worshipers after the Spirit really moved on their hearts; the Caribbean cruise and listening to Karl Haffner talk each day, and then spending time with him one-on-one; the fun and fellowship of so many rehearsals—all of these matter in big ways to me.

The moment I'll remember most is the first Sandi Patty concert. For us to find out she was even remotely interested in singing with us was mind-boggling, to say the least! It was like the

Green Bay Packers asking me to join them for a few plays on Sunday. We met up with her at La Sierra University Church in the fellowship hall where we warmed up. She was warm and intimate, not cold, or too important to be bothered with us. She joined us for our pre-concert prayer and we all headed to the church.

Sandi did her songs and then invited us up. We had worked hard on "Opening Praise Medley" and "How Great Thou Art" so that she wouldn't think we were a bunch of hacks, and it went even better than we had hoped. At the end of the program, she kept us up there with her for her encore, something we had NOT planned on. She invited us to sing a song none of us had practiced and probably not all of us knew, "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong, but we joined in and harmonized as best we could. It went better than well. She was available for pictures and autographs afterward and was just as warm and genuine as you would hope her to be. It all went so well that we were able to perform with her a second time a few years later. They were both amazing experiences, and I'm so glad I got to be part of them.

Gary Gifford - Bass (joined 2011)

Early in my Christian Edition experience, we were all riding a bus from California to sing for congregations in Arizona. The trip promised to be quite lengthy, so I thought I would put the time to good use by quietly reading my music and listening to an audio recording using earplugs so as not to distract other CE members as we traveled. I was strengthening my memory of the songs, and it was working; however, evidently as I rode along, the activity of thinking about the music and words was modified to humming and those around me began to hear the humming. Because the humming was so helpful in memorizing the tune, I guess I thought I should practice the words, too. So I began quietly singing the words out loud. I was doing just fine, and the music was sticking in my head, but then I heard a voice from the back of the bus. It said, "Gifford, save the concert!" So I did. Since then, humor always surfaces when someone says, "Remember the bus concert?"

Walter Nelson - Bass (joined 2017)

I will never forget the powerful message that Calvin gave to all the Men's Choral Groups gathered for the Loma Linda Men's Chorus Festival in February, 2018. It was at the Friday night rehearsal, and we were all gathered in the assembly hall of the Loma Linda Academy and Calvin reminded us that we were not performers but ministers sharing messages of hope and encouragement to a world in need. He was truly inspired as he spoke to us that night and I'll never forget the powerful effect it had on me.

The second most unforgettable moment for me, of course, was when he placed me literally front and center on the first day I was to officially sing with the group. We had two major concerts that day and I was trying desperately to keep 30 songs, their words, and their parts in my head and had no one to hide behind on this, my official CE debut. The good news was that I somehow made it through the day. We were even asked to do an encore at the end of our first concert in a large Catholic Church. The bad news was that the song they chose for the encore was one I had never even looked at, yet there I was front and center thinking "fake it 'til you make it." God got me through!

Gayle Craig - CE Newsnotes Editor/Photos (joined 2007)

Highlights of my many CE memories include the anniversary trips to Alaska in 2006 and 2011, and then to the Caribbean in 2016. So were the trips to the Pacific Northwest where I grew up and could reconnect with friends and family. It was also a highlight to go to the areas where my sons lived, and my three granddaughters could be on stage singing with Christian Edition. And I LOVED the time spent with my roommate Malisa Smith. Good food, good talks, good laughs, good times! But my favorite part of all our weekend road trips was playing golf on Saturday night. Not your typical game of golf out on the greens, but a game played with Rook cards. It was taught to me one New Year's Eve by my former boss, David Burghart, who also happens to be a former CE second tenor. Lots of fun and laughter whether it was two or three of us playing, or a crowd of seven or eight!

Carol Derry-Bretsches - Social Media (joined mid-80s)

One of my favorite moments took place during the joint concert between CE and the Freedom Singers. What an amazing night it was! What totally made the concert for me was the interaction between Calvin and Doug Wiley, of the Freedom Singers. Calvin thought, teasingly, that he should pick on Doug because everyone was going to sing a song that Doug didn't know. So, the fun began. Then when Calvin came back up the stairs, Doug took the Incredible Hulk pose and tried to block him from coming up. The audience loved them picking at each other for fun.

Malisa Smith - Tour CD Sales (joined mid-90s)

For over 20 years I have been working with the product table, and my favorite part of that volunteer job is meeting all the local people who have been blessed by the music ministry of Christian Edition. It is next to impossible to pinpoint one memory over the years because there have been so many fun bus trips, anniversary cruises, Mt. Hermon weekends, and a really cool roommate to share them all. I think my overall favorite part of Christian Edition is when it is prayer request time. We take time prior to concerts and during rehearsals to read each of the many requests that have come in via prayer envelopes or the website, plus members add their own CE family prayer requests. I LOVE being a part of praying for each request—especially the prayers that go up for all the children that sing along with Christian Edition!

Lori Spencer - Concert Site Assistant (joined 1997)

My favorite memory over the years has simply been this: All the amazing hugs! Every time we greet each other after being apart, there are always hugs from the guys, their wives, and the support staff: hugs of greeting, hugs of affection, hugs of compassion, hugs of support, hugs of comfort, and hugs of farewell. But without question, my favorite hug of all has always been the great big, all-encompassing, bear hug from our beloved director, Calvin Knipschild!

A Lesson in Christian Edition History, Part 2

By Paul Wilcox,
First Tenor



In Part 1 of the brief history of Christian Edition, there wasn't room to fit everything in but there is one event that I would like to include here at the beginning of Part 2. In the very early years of CE, we learned a lot of songs and really wanted to make an album of some of our favorites that we could share with our audience to increase our outreach ministry.

We prayed a lot about it and asked God to provide the funds needed for such an endeavor. By 1985, we had established our prayer ministry and at a concert at Paradise Valley SDA Church in National City, CA, Dave Logé, CE's Business Manager at the time, gave the prayer appeal and mentioned that we didn't have the funds for an album yet but that we believed God would provide the funds in His time.

The following day CE was scheduled to sing for the early morning worship service at the West Coast Regional Convention of the A.L. Williams Company (now known as Primerica, Inc.) at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, CA. About halfway through our last song, a gentleman jumped up on stage, grabbed the mic, and said, "Folks, aren't these guys terrific? Join me in giving them a warm welcome. It's my understanding that they don't yet have a recorded album, so I want to make a personal pledge right now—and you can join me if you like, they're a non-profit organization. I will personally contribute \$5,000 (the microphone cut out momentarily) to them for their first album." Turning away from the mic to leave the stage, the gentleman became aware of the technical glitch and returned to the mic, saying "You may have misunderstood, I am personally pledging \$25,000, not \$5,000 for their first album!" We were amazed and speechless, but we were ever so grateful and this contribution provided the funds to produce our first album, *Fishers of Men*.

The man who contributed the \$25,000 was

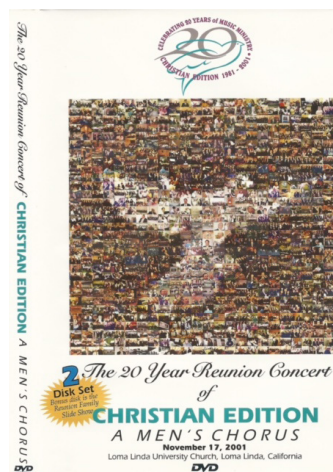
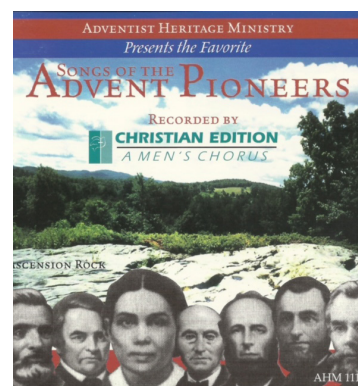
Beau Adams, then CFO of the A.L. Williams Company. Mr. Adams had stayed in his room that morning but was summoned by his wife to come down to the convention room to hear "this marvelous men's group perform their gospel music." God truly works in wonderful and mysterious ways.

In 2002 Christian Edition was commissioned by the Adventist Heritage Ministry to produce an album of songs dating from the beginnings of the Seventh-day Adventist church in the 1840s and 50s. The result was CE's ninth album, *Songs of the Advent Pioneers*, released in cassette and CD formats. Even before the album was released, CE was invited to sing for the Adventist Heritage Ministry convention at the Westin South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa, CA, to promote the soon-to-be released album. CE was also invited to sing for the CASA (Christian Association of Senior Adults) Convention at the Pomona First Baptist Church in February.

Also in 2002, Christian Edition released their second video, *The 20-Year Reunion Concert*,

which was a live recording of their 20th Anniversary concert held at the Loma Linda University SDA Church in November of 2001. It was released in both VHS and DVD formats. Christian Edition also participated in another Family Reunion videotaping at the Adventist Media

Center located in Simi Valley, CA, honoring 55 years of music ministry by Del Delker, contralto and soloist for the Voice of Prophecy radio broadcast ministry.



For spring break 2002, CE again toured Florida, traveling to Avon Park, Miami, Naples, Ft. Myers, and Forest Lake and again to the Pacific Northwest in April where they sang at Meadow Glade, Portland, Gladstone Senior Living Center, and Springfield. CE also toured Northern California, Michigan, and Colorado where they sang for Focus on the Family, several churches in the Denver metro area, and the Colorado Springs Church of the Nazarene.

The year 2002 was rounded out with CE singing for the Voice of Prophecy Camp Meeting at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, CA, the Orangewood Adventist Academy Alumni Homecoming in Garden Grove, CA, the Rotary Club International Convention at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in Universal City, CA, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Convent in Los Angeles, CA, as well as at various local churches.

2003 found Christian Edition on tour in Northern California where they sang in St. Helena, Santa Rosa, Ukiah, and Redwood Valley. They also sang at various churches in Southern California including Eagle Rock, Yucaipa, Palm Springs, Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Whittier, Westminster, and Redlands. They also participated in another Voice of Prophecy Family Reunion video-taping session held in Orlando, FL, where two more videos were recorded.

2003 was a busy touring year and in addition to the tours already mentioned, CE toured Central California where they sang at Monterey Bay Academy, San Francisco, San Jose, and Santa Cruz. Then in April, they toured Kentucky and Ohio where they sang in Louisville, KY, Covington, OH, and Lexington, KY, at the SDA Church as well as at the Gardenside Baptist Church. This was the beginning of a close friendship between CE and David Dale, the Minister of Music at the Gardenside Baptist Church.

CE sang for the 2003 Glendale Adventist Academy Homecoming Vespers service at the Glendale City SDA Church and for the CASA Convention in Glendora, CA. They also sang in a patriotic program called *Let Freedom Ring* put together by Tom Neslund at the Garden Grove SDA Church. In August they hosted David

Dale and the Voice of Praise Choir from the Gardenside Baptist Church who were on tour in Southern California. They also gave a concert at the Loma Linda University SDA Church for their Camp Meeting Concert Series that year.

2004 began with a tour through Central Florida where they sang in Ocala, Winter Springs, Forest Lake, and Zephyrhills. Then, for spring break, they again toured Ohio, Tennessee, and Kentucky where they sang at several SDA, Baptist, and United Methodist churches. They also recorded and released a tenth album, *Midnight Cry*, again in both cassette and CD formats. This album was dedicated to Michael and Lori Spencer's teenage son, Justin, who died while on a mission trip to Peru while CE was on tour in Kentucky.

When news of Justin's death reached CE in Kentucky, Michael and Lori had to immediately return home to handle the necessary funeral arrangements, which left the rest of the tour hanging without an accompanist. There were still five concerts to go so they had to make a decision whether or not to cancel the rest of the tour. Fortunately, David Dale, the Minister of Music at the Gardenside Baptist Church, was an excellent pianist and willingly stepped in to accompany the group for the remaining concerts, the last of which was at his own church on Sunday morning. There were several songs, however, that could not be performed because there was no printed accompaniment for them. Michael had arranged them and only had the accompaniment in his head.

This was a devastating event, not only for Michael and Lori, but for all of Christian Edition as well because Justin had practically grown up with CE and was dearly loved by all. It didn't take much arm-twisting to get the guys to sing for Justin's memorial service at Pleasant Hill Academy in Northern California where Michael was teaching music at the time. For this trip, Sam Valenzuela (a CE first tenor) borrowed a bus



from his church and drove the group to Pleasant Hill. The bus could barely make it up the hills and the guys joked that they could walk faster than it was going. But, the Lord blessed and everyone arrived safely.

2004 continued with concerts in Southern California as well as tours to Northern and Central California where they sang for churches of various denominations. It was also the first year of many to follow where CE was invited to sing at the Mt. Hermon Christian Conference Center in Santa Cruz, CA, for their Summer Concert Series. The setting of this conference center is in a beautiful, peaceful redwood forest, so CE was always glad to accept the invitation. They also performed a benefit concert for a dear friend of Christian Edition, Buzz Starrett, whose wife had had a very serious fall from a horse, gave a concert at the La Sierra University SDA Church, and were invited to sing for the Big Bear Camp Meeting in Big Bear, CA, that summer.

2005 began with a bus tour to Arizona where CE sang at Paradise Valley, Phoenix, Tempe, and Sun City at the Stardust Bible Church. Of course, CE also had to stop at the Organ Stop Pizza Parlor in Mesa. There was also another Central California tour with stops at Modesto, Rocklin, Placerville and Lodi at the Zion Reform Church. CE was again asked to sing for the CASA Convention, this time at the Saddleback Church in Forest Lake, CA. Other tours took them to San Diego and Thousand Oaks where they sang at SDA churches as well as at the Monte Vista Presbyterian Church, and in Fullerton at the First Evangelical Free Church.

The main event of 2005 was singing for the General Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists held in St. Louis, MO. Christian Edition performed on the main stage, the Chapel Records stage, the World Missions stage, and in a smaller hall where they gave a full concert. CE also manned a booth in the Exhibition Hall to promote sales of their albums and an Alaska Cruise scheduled for the following year. As it was the 4th of July weekend, CE enjoyed the fireworks display at the St. Louis Arch and some even took time to travel up inside the Arch to experience the view from that lofty height.

After returning from the General Conference Session, CE went on another Central California tour where they sang at the Mountain View SDA Church and again for the Summer Concert Series at Mt. Hermon CCC. Soon after this tour, they went on another Northern California tour where they sang in Lodi, Grass Valley, and at the ASI (Adventist-Laymen's Services & Industries) Convention in Sacramento. Back in Los Angeles, they were invited to sing for a Friday evening service at the Lake Avenue Congregational Church in Pasadena and prepared for another Men's Chorus Festival to be held in Sacramento. This tour took them to Roseville, the Lodi Zion Reform Church, and to the Carmichael SDA Church where the festival was held with groups gathering from the Bay Area, Bakersfield, Sonoma, Modesto, and Carmichael. The year concluded with the honor of singing for the North American Division of SDA's Christmas Special, *All Is Bright*, filmed at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, CA.

2006 found Christian Edition on another Arizona tour, this time to Yuma, where they sang at the Yuma Central SDA Church as well as at the Faith Lutheran and Grace Bible Fellowship Churches. CE was also invited to sing at the Glendale City SDA Church in Glendale, CA, and went on another Arizona tour, this time to the Phoenix area where they sang in Tucson, Paradise Valley, Glendale, and Sun City, again at the Stardust Bible Church. Back in Los Angeles, they gave concerts at the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Convent, Messiah Lutheran Church in Yorba Linda, and at the Palm Desert and Azure Hills SDA Churches.

About this time, one of the bass singers, Sonny Ines, who was a graphic design artist and had designed all of CE's albums and promotional products, passed away of complications from open-heart surgery, and CE was asked to sing for his memorial service at the Eagle Rock SDA Church. 2006 was also CE's 25th Anniversary year which was celebrated in April with a concert at the Loma Linda University SDA Church. They were again invited to sing for the Glendale Adventist Academy Homecoming Vespers, this time at the Vallejo Drive SDA Church in Glendale, CA.

Two tours to Central California had CE singing in Porterville, Visalia, Modesto, and Turlock at Covenant Village and a month later at Peninsula Covenant Church in Redwood City, Sunnyvale SDA Church and again at Mt. Hermon CCC. In July, the guys were at Martinsound Studios in Alhambra, CA, recording their

Jesus, the Light of the World



eleventh album, a Christmas album titled *Jesus, the Light of the World*. This time, it was released in CD format only. The cover photo for this album was taken at Mt. Hermon CCC in the middle of summer in a heatwave in a room

with out A/C. But, if you look at the picture, you will see that almost everyone was dressed for winter in sweaters, scarves, and jackets. They were very glad when the photo session was finished and they could get out of their winter clothes!

In September, Christian Edition gathered at the Loma Linda University SDA Church to record another video with the Family Reunion musicians and a few weeks later, CE joined the *Voice of Prophecy* and the Family Reunion musicians on an Alaska cruise that took them from Seattle to Glacier Bay, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Victoria, BC, and back to Seattle. It was an amazing tour, and, in addition to all the sites to be seen, the cruise was full of music performed on board by the Family Reunion singers, and messages by Lonnie Melashenko were enjoyed by everyone who signed up to join the VOP Family Reunion Cruise.

In 2007, CE was again on a tour to the Yuma, AZ, area where they sang at the Yuma SDA Church as well as at Grace Bible Fellowship and the Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church. Then they were off to San Diego where they sang in Bonita Valley, Paradise Valley, and Escondido at the First Congregational Church. In April they went on another Central California tour where they sang in the Clovis SDA Church, the Evangelical Free Church in Merced, and the First Church of the Nazarene in Fresno.

In May they again sang at the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Convent in Los Angeles, at their "home" church, Eagle Rock SDA, and the West Covina Hills SDA Church. In June they went on a tour to Idaho where they sang at the Idaho Camp Meeting at Gem State Adventist Academy in Caldwell, and at the Lakeview Church of the Nazarene in Nampa. Back in California, they went on a tour to Campbell, Mt. Hermon CCC, and to an invitation-only event at the Strachan home in Paradise, for the Strachan Community Concert. Later that year, Christian Edition was invited to sing for the Pacific Union Ministerial Convention at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, CA, and in September was thrilled and privileged to join gospel singer Sandi Patty in a concert at the La Sierra University SDA Church in Riverside, CA, where they sang "Opening Praise Medley" and "How Great Thou Art" with Sandi.

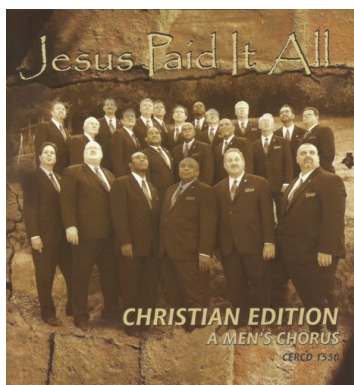
In September, CE went on another Northern California tour to Sacramento where they sang in Carmichael at the Northern California Conference Convocation at the Sacramento Convention Center, and at the Arden Church of the Nazarene. They were again invited to sing at the Maranatha Volunteers Convention that year in Tualatin, OR, where they also sang at the Hoodview Church of God.

In November, Christian Edition participated in another Men's Chorus Festival at the Carmichael SDA Church and were joined by four or five other men's choruses from all around the state. They also sang at the Slavic SDA Church in the Sacramento area.

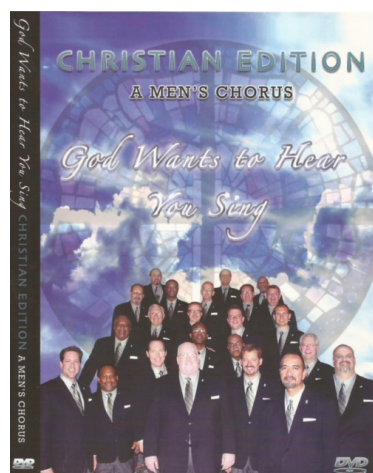
2008 found CE doing several local concerts but they also found time to do two Northern California tours back-to-back. The first tour was to Placerville, Paradise, Yreka, Mt. Shasta, and Redding. The next weekend they were at Fairfield, Lodi Fairmont SDA Church, and again at the Lodi Zion Reform Church. In May they were invited to sing at the *Voice of Prophecy* Vision Builders program in Indian Wells, CA, and again sang for the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Convent.

In July, CE was at Sunnyvale SDA Church and again at Mt. Hermon CCC for their Summer Concert Series. They also were back at Martinsound Studios to record their twelfth

album, *Jesus Paid It All*. This album was released later in the year, again only in CD format. In August, Christian Edition was invited to participate in a Men's Chorus Festival in Moreno Valley at the CrossWord Christian Church. They also sang at the Sky Valley Resort in Desert Hot Springs and had a retreat weekend at Pine Springs Ranch.



2009 started out with another Arizona bus tour with stops at the Organ Stop Pizza Parlor in Mesa, and concerts at Mesa Palms, Glendale, Prescott, and Trinity Bible Church in Sun City. A Midwest tour was built around the 3ABN Studios in Frankfort, IL, where CE recorded a



number of songs for a new video, *God Wants to Hear You Sing*, which was released the next year in DVD format only. On this trip, CE also sang at a number of churches in Michigan and Illinois, including the South Shore United Methodist Church in Chicago. CE was

privileged to visit the Nathan Greene Studio in Berrien Springs, MI, where they met the artist and had a wonderful time learning about some of his most well-known paintings. He was in the middle of creating a new masterpiece which he was kind enough to explain in detail the various elements in the painting.

In May, Christian Edition was again invited to sing at the *Voice of Prophecy* Vision Builders weekend program at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort in Indian Wells, CA, this time with the Family Reunion musicians. CE also went on a tour to Utah where they sang in the Ogden, Salt Lake City, West Jordan, and Provo SDA Churches and at the American Fork Presbyterian

Church. In June, CE went on another tour to Central California where they sang at the Mountain View Japanese SDA Church and again at Mt. Hermon CCC.

In October, CE went on a tour to North Carolina where they were honored to meet George Beverly Shea at his home in Montreat, NC, just down the street from his friend, Billy Graham's home. He was very gracious and visited with CE for nearly an hour and a half. He showed CE his musical instruments and even graciously allowed accompanist Michael Spencer to play one of the seven organs in his house. Mr. Shea was still able to play them at 100 years of age. After the visit with the Sheas, CE was hosted for lunch at the home of Liana Wolfe, the sister of bass singer Patrick Wolfe. The tour included stops at the Fletcher, Asheville, Foster, and Greeneville, TN, SDA Churches, and at the Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Asheville.

On returning to California, CE went on another tour to Northern California where they sang at the Lodi Fairmont, Elmshaven, and Antioch SDA Churches, and the Martinez First Congregational Church.

In 2010, CE went on another tour to Yuma, AZ, where they sang at the Yuma SDA Church, the First United Methodist Church, and the Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church. They also performed a concert at the Calimesa SDA Church to benefit another dear friend of Christian Edition, Steve Becker, who was battling cancer. For spring break that year, CE went on another tour to the Pacific Northwest where they performed at Chehalis, Olympia, Lakewood, Kirkland, Sequim, Auburn, Vancouver, Salem, Gladstone Park, Portland, and Hoodview churches. In May, they toured San Diego with stops at Mt. Miguel Covenant Village in Spring Valley, El Cajon, Liberty Hall at Paradise Village, and at the First Congregational Church of Escondido. June found them on another Northern California tour where they sang at the Grand Ave. SDA Church in Oakland and again at Mt. Hermon CCC.

A red-eye flight to Atlanta later in June took a small group of singers and support staff to man a booth at the 2010 General Conference Session held at the Georgia Dome. They sold albums and promoted their 30th Anniversary

Alaska Cruise which was scheduled for the next year. CE was again invited to sing for the Loma Linda University SDA Church Camp Meeting Concert Series in August and toured Arizona in October where they sang at Apache Junction, Phoenix, and Sun City at the Trinity Bible Church. In November, CE joined several other men's choruses in another Men's Chorus Festival at the Carmichael SDA Church in Sacramento.

Christian Edition celebrated 30 years of music ministry in 2011 and the focal point of the year was the 30th Anniversary Alaska Cruise. They sailed out of Vancouver, BC aboard the Celebrity Century on Sunday, June 19, for an unforgettable eight days to Icy Strait Point, the Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, Ketchikan, and back to Vancouver. They were joined by violinist Jaime

Jorge and vocalist Jennifer LaMountain who performed several times on board. In addition, CE shared their music daily and guest speaker Karl Haffner presented daily devotionals. He quickly became a favorite of everyone who joined CE for the cruise, and they were blessed by his daily messages.

In Icy Strait, a number of CE members and guests experienced the zip-line adventure, which at the time, was billed as the longest zip-line in the world. Everyone raved about how much they enjoyed that experience. Others went on a whale-watching tour and enjoyed the whales and dolphins. The next day the ship cruised to Hubbard Glacier where they were able to view glacier calving up close. It was a spectacularly beautiful day, which the crew said was very unusual, so they sent out a Zodiac boat with a camera crew to take pictures of the ship in front of the glacier.

In Juneau, there were several opportunities to perform community services, one of which

was to clean, cook, serve, and wash dishes at The Glory Hole homeless shelter. Another opportunity was to help renovate a church in town and many of CE's members and guests participated in these events. In Ketchikan, CE visited the Pioneer Home, a senior center, where they sang for the residents. Sabbath was an at-sea day, so CE was able to hold a worship service and concert in the Celebrity Theater with Karl giving the message and CE, Jaime, and Jennifer providing the music. All too

soon, the cruise was over, and everyone disembarked Sunday morning to return home.

In addition to the cruise and local concerts in 2011, CE toured San Diego and went on two tours to Central California. CE also laid dear friend, Al Perry, baritone, to rest. But there were happy times as well.

CE was again privileged



30th Anniversary Alaska Cruise in June 2011

to sing "Opening Praise Medley" and "How Great Thou Art" with Sandi Patty. This time it was at the Vallejo Drive SDA Church in Glendale, CA, along with Steve Darmody, Rudy Micelli, and with Mike and Gayle Tucker and Ruta Lee as special guests. It was an inspiring event. During the song "Opening Praise Medley," the track unexpectedly quit in the middle of the song. Calvin looked over at Sandi's accompanist and without missing a beat, they continued the song. Sandi was amazed and thrilled that CE knew the song so well that they were able to carry on without help from the background vocals on the track. CE was also again invited to sing for the Maranatha Convention that year in Tualatin, OR, and for a New Year's Eve Concert, also at Vallejo Drive, with Yolanda Innocent, Giovanni Santos, and Craig and Brenda Mohr. It was a very fitting end to a wonderful year.

Part 3 to follow in next issue.

Calendar

CONCERT TIMES OR LOCATIONS MAY CHANGE AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 GUIDELINES. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM A CONCERT BEFORE TRAVELING LONG DISTANCES. (SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HAS BEEN ABBREVIATED TO SDA.)

AUGUST 2022

6 Saturday 11:00 A.M. Special Music
Eagle Rock SDA Centennial
 2322 Merton Avenue
 Los Angeles, CA 90041
 (323) 257-5803

6 Saturday 3:00 P.M. Music Program
Eagle Rock SDA Centennial
 See above

20 Saturday 11:15 A.M. Special Music
Calimesa SDA Campmeeting
 391 Myrtlewood Drive
 Calimesa, CA 92320
 (909) 795-9741

20 Saturday 4:00 P.M. Concert
Calimesa SDA Campmeeting
 See above

SEPTEMBER 2022

17 Saturday 10:45 A.M. Concert
Pasadena SDA Church
 1280 E. Washington Blvd.
 Pasadena, CA 91104
 (626) 798-0544

17 Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass Concert
6:45 P.M.
St. Anthony's Catholic Church
 2110 N. San Antonio Avenue
 Upland, CA 91784
 (909) 985-2803

24 Saturday 4:00 P.M. Concert
San Fernando Valley Academy
120th Anniversary Alumni Weekend
 17601 Lassen Street
 Northridge, CA 91325
 (818) 468-3827

OCTOBER 2022

15 Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass Concert
5:45 P.M.
St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Church
 9135 Banyan St.
 Alta Loma, CA 91737
 (909) 987-9312



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