

CE NewsNotes

spring 2016 • Vol 33 The Ministry and Activities of **CHRISTIAN EDITION**, A Men's Chorus



A Caribbean Celebration

by Esther Brummett



It's Monday morning, June 13. You awaken to a rhythmic, slow motion. Yes, you are really on the Royal Caribbean *Liberty of the Seas*, and this is going to be your first full day at sea with Christian Edition's 35th anniversary cruise, a melding of music and mission.

Yesterday you went through the very organized boarding routine and managed to follow the pocket map to find your state-room. Speaking of which, after what state is your room named? (Rhode Island!)

After the requisite lifeboat drill and the magical appearance of your luggage in your cabin, you will freshen up a bit and begin unpacking those bulging suitcases. Before long you'll join the many CE supporters for the welcoming reception. You will receive your special lanyard which will give you entry to all of the exclusive CE events. A "goodie bag" also awaits you.

Your next move will be to the ship's dining room for a superb dinner and visiting with your table mates, followed by a trek to

the main auditorium for the evening's entertainment. You may feel like a brisk (or leisurely) walk around one of the decks before curling up in your cozy bed for a good night's sleep.

When your alarm, internal or external, rouses you, you'll check the daily news sheet which will have been quietly slipped under your door during the night. If you're an early bird, you will join Rob Peterson and Paul Wilcox for an early exercise time. This will awaken your appetite, so you will head for

continued on page 2

Baritone Bruce Powers, second tenor Dennis Shogren, baritone Chris Sheridan and second tenor Russ Nelson promote the Music and Mission Caribbean Cruise following a worship service at Valley Center SDA Church.



Director's Message

by Calvin Knipschild



A few nights ago on the eleven o'clock news I heard part of a short news story about a young woman who had received a gift prize, from Dr. Pepper, of a year's supply of drinking water for her whole family. I believe it totaled about five to ten thousand bottles of drinking water. Instead of accepting it for herself and her family, she donated the entire gift to a village (I didn't hear where) that was in need of clean, fresh drinking water. At the end of the story, the TV newscaster said "What a happy story. We don't

get the chance to report many of these."

In a few months, Christian Edition is going on a "Music and Mission" cruise to the western Caribbean. We have several mission projects in which those who have elected to join us can choose to participate. We are all going because we want to create "happy news." Not for recognition or news stories but because it is fun to create "happy news," especially when it benefits so many others.

We will be painting two churches. One in Grand Cayman and the other in Falmouth, Jamaica. We will be handing out gifts and

continued on page 4



Christian Edition has been privileged to become acquainted with many church leaders over the years. One, who became our dear friend, was Elder Larry Caviness, former President of the Southern California

his health deteriorated rapidly, and he died less than a year after leaving his official responsibilities.

A memorial service was held at the Vallejo Drive Seventh-day Adventist Church in Glendale, California. Christian Edition

was asked to sing three songs "Midnight Cry¹", "Jerusalem²", and "No More Night³." It was an

honor to sing in memory of one who had been such a powerful voice for Jesus.

Elder Caviness was instrumental in

continued on next page

In Memory of Elder Larry Caviness

Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Elder Caviness passed to his rest on March 3 this year. He had only recently retired and moved to Ohio to be nearer his family, but

Caribbean Celebration

continued from page 1



breakfast—either in the dining room or at the buffet.

A favorite CE speaker, Karl Haffner, will speak at a daily devotional with various musicians highlighting the service. Remember to wear your lanyard.

If you got up too late to fit in the early exercise and breakfast, you can follow through on those events at your leisure and stroll around to explore the various nooks and crannies and special lounges offered for your cruising pleasure. There will also be classes and seminars and areas where cyber addicts can check their emails.

The first day on board *Liberty* will be an at-sea day, so you'll have time to join in various activities offered by the ship. Keep your daily calendar close as you may find an activity you've always wanted to experience. The library has a stock of books and a condensed newspaper, plus daily puzzles. The game room will have... games, of course. If you brought a puzzle, start setting that out and see how quickly other passengers may stop in and finish it, and you will have made new friends! Inviting gift shops will tempt you, and there may be an art exhibit or two to admire.

A splendid lunch will be followed by a very special Christian Edition program in a venue listed on the news sheet. You'll go early (wearing your lanyard) to get a good seat.

On port days, you will be encouraged to join in one of the mission projects planned by Paul Haffner (Karl's brother), so you may want to change into "work" clothes. (Remember to bring them!) Distributing toys in an orphanage; painting a church or school inside and out; remodeling, repairing, refurbishing, and repainting will fill another day.

Tentative plans for the stop in Falmouth, Jamaica, include a Christian Edition program in honor of Dr. Patrick Allen, the Seventh-day Adventist Governor of Jamaica.

Follow the news sheet's guidelines for dinner dress: formal or dress casual. Please your palate and enjoy the camaraderie during the meal.

On the last day of the cruise, Sabbath, June 18, Christian Edition will present an afternoon gospel program to which *all* passengers, staff, and crew will be invited—no lanyards required. This is a golden opportunity to witness to all our fellow sailors, and a free CD will be given at the end of the program to each attendee. This fabulous finale will mark the culmination of "The Music and Mission" 35th Anniversary Christian Edition Caribbean Cruise.

Bon voyage! ●

by Bruce Powers



In October, 2015, Christian Edition (CE) had the distinct privilege of traveling to the Sacramento area to participate in the Carmichael Men's Chorus Festival. This is an event that occurs every few years and allows the members of CE to join together with other men's choruses from around California in an opportunity to share a closer walk with the Lord through the ministry of music.



Our participation in this program is one of providing mutual support and encouragement to the other men's choruses and

offering an evening of music that feeds the spiritual needs of those who take part as well as those who come to the festival to hear the music.

The weekend was rewarding for all. The music was uplifting, but the opportunity to share with other festival and audience members the joy of what Christ can do through music and His presence in our lives was truly wonderful.

The members of CE absorbed the ministry of the weekend events and received encouragement from other participants, indicating to us how the music imparted spiritual nourishment to them.

In reflecting on that weekend, one realizes that when we are committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, when we are willing to impart our faith to others, and when we are willing to let go of our attempts to lead and guide our lives, we can let God take over and lead the way.

CE came away with a renewed vigor for our music ministry and how God uses us to reach people's hearts. We also came to understand that in the midst of all of the uplifting music, occasionally we need to take the words of the Psalmist to heart: "Be still, and know that I am God..." (Psalms 46:10). It does us well to take time to hear God's words and enjoy not just "A Festival of Music," but even more important, "A Festival of Time with Him." ●

Larry Caviness

by Craig Vendouris



supporting Christian Edition's ministry. As an example, New Year's Eve, 2010, was on a Friday night, and the Vallejo Drive Church wanted to have a program to ring in the new year in a setting of worship. There were several participants, including Christian Edition. We ended up singing "Midnight Cry" just before the clock struck twelve; it was a memorable, meaningful moment. As he was speaking that night, Elder Caviness mentioned how much he appreciated people that are able to sing well. He told the audience how he loved to sing, but he sang in the key of J, bringing laughter to all.

During his memorial service, the main speaker lauded the mighty work done for Jesus by Elder Caviness, and how we can look forward to seeing him again. Elder Velino Salazar said, "When we next hear Elder Caviness's distinct, persuasive voice, we'll know we are in the right place." Indeed, we look forward to being reunited with our friend at the second coming of our Savior. What a great morning that will be for all of God's children! ●

1) © 1986 Bridge Building Music, Inc.

2) © 2002 Centergetic Music 3) © 1984 Word Music



It felt like the 4th of July came early as Christian Edition helped celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Fountain of Youth Spa and RV Resort in February.



Baritone Keith Smith talks with Christian Edition supporter Manfred Hegstad following the concert.

It was an unusual worship service venue for CE, to say the least, on the day we sang at the Fountain of Youth Spa and RV Resort in Niland, CA. First of all, the service was outdoors—not our normal venue. Secondly, our concert was part of a fifty-year

smells in the air were enough to be a distraction to anyone, especially to those who were trying to keep their eyes on their director and sing effectively with numerous people milling around outdoors and checking out all the booths at the bazaar.

Distractions aside, the Lord blessed us with a small, but very appreciative, audience and it was a beautiful day as we

worshipped together. There were some who were hearing CE for the very first time and we trust that they were moved by the Holy Spirit as they listened.

After singing and the fellowship that followed, we were invited to have lunch with a group of fellow Sabbath keepers who are privileged to have a small church site on the grounds. Now as I think back about the day, after the sharing in music and meeting many of the people who were there, the chili didn't stand a chance of taking away from what was just a beautiful and special day! ●

Christian Edition Meets Chili

by Keith Smith



anniversary celebration for the Fountain of Youth Resort. Activities included a parade and a bazaar going on all around the outdoor stage where we were singing.

There were all kinds of different enchanting curios and food items for sale. Most interesting was the wonderful smell of chili that pervaded the outdoor air as soon as one drove onto the grounds. We later learned that as part of the fair, there was a chili cook-off competition that was occurring at the same time we were singing! Now whether one likes chili or not, the enticing

Director's Message

continued
from page 1

toys to orphanages at two or three of the ports of call, and Christian Edition will be putting on a benefit concert for an elementary school in urgent need of repairs and equipment.

Acts 20:35 reads:

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (NIV)

In this issue of *CE NewsNotes*, you will find an envelope to donate funds to our mission projects. I pray that you will seriously

consider giving. Even if you are not joining us on this adventure, you can still be a very, very important part of our mission projects by helping us raise \$5,000 to cover all of our project supplies. We are over half way there. All donations collected are tax deductible and will go toward the mission outreach projects.

Together, let us create some "HAPPY NEWS!"

P.S There are still some cabins available if you would like to be with us. Just contact Montrose Travel at (800) 301-9673. ●

As you may already know if you have been around us much at all, members of Christian Edition (CE) believe in the power of prayer, and especially the power of intercessory prayer (praying to God regarding the needs of others). We give any who attend our singing

Intercessory Prayer: Does It Work?

the Pastor's Corner

by Gary Gifford



presentations the opportunity to share with us any prayer requests they have, and promise to present

their requests to the Great God of Heaven by reading and praying for them in the seasons of prayer we have in connection with our rehearsals. It is just part of what we do and one of the God-blessed parts of our ministry.

We don't just pray for the written requests of audience members, but we also add our requests to the list of written requests. Regarding some prayer requests that are made, we receive no feedback so we don't know what happens. But a number of times we do receive feedback in the form of evidence that God responded to our prayers for others.

One of those prayers was for my father. At the age of 96 he went to the doctor and was told that he had stage 4 cancer in four locations in his body including his spine, pancreas, and a lemon sized tumor in his right leg that was strangling the flow of blood back to the heart from that leg. Dad thanked the doctors for the news and told them that he had had a full life, that he had lived much longer than he ever thought he would, and that God had blessed him so much that even hearing this news he could praise the

Lord with full confidence that when he died, the next thing he would hear would be the trump of God, and the resurrecting voice of the archangel. And, the next thing he would see would be the face of his Savior, Jesus Christ, welcoming him to heaven and eternal life at His second coming to this earth.

That confidence has had a good effect on Dad's family; however, I have not yet shared the part of the story that focuses on intercessory prayer. When Dad found out that the doctors gave him only six months to live, he asked for just one thing. He asked his family to pray that he be without pain. At prayer request time with CE, I asked that we pray that dad's terminal condition be experienced without pain. So many of the cancers Dad had would normally have created much pain. But he experienced no pain until he tried to leave his chair the evening of his last night alive. The pain came suddenly and with intensity. It took some pain medication, physical help from family and medical professionals and much effort on his part, which he had never needed to exert before, to just make it to bed. He went to sleep quite quickly. We checked on him at midnight and he was on his back with his hands on his chest breathing and resting well. When we checked again at about three A.M. he was in about the same position but his breathing had ceased and Dad had died peacefully in his sleep.

Medical professionals said that due to his maladies, Dad should have been in much pain for an extended period of time. But his pain was reduced to a very few hours during his last evening alive. CE prayed that Dad's request for no pain would be granted—and it was. God answers intercessory prayers. If you would like CE members to pray for a request you might have, jot it down on one of our prayer request envelopes included in this newsletter or post it on our website, and we will lift it up to the great God of Heaven who answers your personal prayers, and intercessory prayers as well. ●

Calendar

ALL LISTED CHRISTIAN EDITION REHEARSALS ARE OPEN TO OUR FRIENDS AND ARE HELD AT SAN GABRIEL ACADEMY ELEMENTARY LOCATED AT 5550 MUSCATEL AVE. 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.)

MAY 2016

- 20 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 21 Saturday 11:00 A.M. Concert**
Garden Grove SDA Church
 12702 9th Street
 Garden Grove, CA 92840
 (714) 534-1987
- 21 Saturday 3:30 P.M. Rehearsal**

JUNE 2016

- 12-19 Sunday-Sunday Concerts**
 Music & Mission Caribbean Cruise
 Concerts on board *Liberty of the Seas*
- 16 Thursday 10:30 A.M. Concert**
Falmouth SDA Preparatory School
 43 Duke Street
 Falmouth, Trelawny, Jamaica
 (876) 954-3301

SEPTEMBER 2016

- 9 Friday 7:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 10 Saturday 3:00 P.M. Rehearsal**
- 23 Friday 7:00 P.M. Maranatha Convention**
Sacramento Area
- 24 Saturday 9:00 A.M. Maranatha Convention**
Sacramento Area
- 24 Saturday 7:00 P.M. Concert**
Auburn SDA Church
 12225 Rock Creek Road
 Auburn, CA 95604
 (530) 885-4232
- 25 Sunday 11:00 A.M. Concert Pending**
Mt Zion Reformed
 105 S. Ham Lane
 Lodi, CA 95242
 (209) 369-1919



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It's Not Too Late...



Join us!
June 12-19, 2016

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email
groups@MontroseTravel.com

**Thank you
 for worshipping with us!**

Christian Edition Men's Chorus

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

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