



SERVANT LINK

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Music as Worship

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W*ithin the modern church*, there is a misconception about worship that has only recently begun to fade, that of music as the primary or central—sometimes sole—aspect of worship. Music as worship should be a stepping stone into worship as lifestyle; it is a piece of the whole rather than the complete picture unto itself. A similar issue concerning a misunderstanding of worship arose in A. W. Tozer’s day, prompting him to write, “To great sections of the church, the art of worship has been lost entirely, and in its place has come that strange and foreign thing called the ‘program.’ This word has been borrowed from the stage and applied with sad wisdom to the public service which now passes for worship among us.”

Certainly there is something special about worshipping through music. Properly applied, music has the power to open our souls to new experiences, weave our



emotions into a tapestry of delight, and bind us more closely together with our fellow believers. In essence, it is worship refined into its most potent form.

Neurologist and author Oliver Sacks understood the power of music. He writes, “For virtually all of us, music has great power, whether or not we seek it out or think of ourselves as particularly ‘musical.’ This propensity to

Home to Glory

Karl Bieber—June 9, 2017 (86) in Desoto, Texas, of a heart attack. Karl was born in Mowata, Louisiana, on January 9, 1931. He was married to Frances, who is from Crawford, Texas. Karl graduated from NAB Seminary in 1960 and was ordained to ministry at his home church in Mowata that same year. He and Frances served at Zion Baptist Church in Okeene, Oklahoma, followed by fifteen years at Jamesburg, New Jersey, until retirement to Desoto in the suburbs of Dallas in 1990.

Lillian Pearl Gerlitz—September 25, 2017 (90) in Washington. Lillian was born in Wing, North Dakota, on November 7, 1926. She survived difficult times in her home as a child, along with a grave illness. She met and married the “sweetheart” of her life in July 1947. Ervin and Lillian were blessed with two children, Stanley and Jeanette (Grant) Dickau, while they ministered in churches in McIntosh, South Dakota; Stafford, Oregon; and Renton and Tacoma, Washington, before they retired. Ervin preceded Lillian in death in October 2016 at the age of 89. Lillian is survived by her son and daughter, their families, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends. You can contact Jeanette at granette253@comcast.com.

Dr. Jim Leverette—December 18, 2017 (62). Jim was raised in an NAB minister’s family and was connected to the NAB throughout his life. He attended both Taylor College and Seminary and Sioux Falls Seminary. In his

ministry years, he served as an NAB pastor, as an administrator and teacher at Edmonton Baptist Seminary (now Taylor Seminary), and, most recently, as the regional minister for the Alberta Baptist Association. Jim’s keen mind, acumen for organizational development, and pastoral heart will be greatly missed by the churches and leadership of our conference. Jim is survived by his wife, Cheryl; his son, Nathan (Alise), and grandson, Ender; his daughter, Stephanie (Scott), and granddaughter, Margot; his parents, Jake and Peggy; his sisters, Rebekah, Susan, and Sarah; and his sister-in-law, Julie.

Gladys Grabke—December 25, 2017 (92) peacefully after residing at the Bethany Care Home in Calgary, Alberta, for the past few years. Gladys served alongside her husband, Philip Grabke, who passed away in 2009, as a missionary on the Muscowpetung Indian Reserve in Saskatchewan in the ’60s and in multiple NAB churches, as well as non-NAB churches, throughout Canada. She is survived by her son, David (Diane), of Calgary, who was an NAB missionary to Cameroon around 1975; daughter, Fay (Bob) Johnson, of Aloha, Oregon; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Gladys enjoyed being a pastor’s wife, entertaining, and baking for others in the church. Her motto was, “For me to live is Christ and to die is to gain” (Philippians 1:21). Her final wishes were for all to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. For memorials, email or call Fay at (503) 998-2114 or nursefay13@yahoo.com. A family and friends memorial will be in April in Calgary.

Paul Grupp—February 4, 2018, when God took him to his heavenly home. Paul had been fighting congestive heart failure, arrhythmia,

and aspiration of liquids. He was a member of three NAB churches in Illinois: Forest Park Baptist Church in Chicago, First Baptist Church in Bellwood, and Village Green Baptist Church in Glen Ellyn. He actively served in a variety of capacities in those churches. He also served on the board of Central Baptist Village retirement community in Norridge, Illinois, and the board of the Illinois Baptist Association. The memorial service was held at Fairhaven Christian Retirement Center in Rockford, Illinois, on February 16.

Let's Celebrate

Kenneth and Ann Unruh recently celebrated sixty-five years of marriage. Ken served NAB churches as pastor in Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. He retired from full-time ministry in 1999. Ken served for one term as chairman of the Christian Education Committee and served on the NAB General Council. Ken survived a severe case of thyroid cancer and, most recently, the loss of sodium, from which he miraculously recovered. Ken and Ann are enjoying living in a home that Ann's dad built in the small town of Mountain Lake, Minnesota. They enjoy a lot of garden flowers and other garden work. Contact Ken and Ann at (507) 427-3969 or at their home at 1315 6th Ave., Mountain Lake, MN 56159.

On the Move

Ardice (Ziolkowski) Powell, widow of the late Dr. Ralph Powell of Sioux Falls Seminary, has moved to assisted living in the Trail Ridge

complex. She was a nurse-midwife in Cameroon for twenty years, then became Dean of Women, Missions Instructor, and school nurse at NABC in Edmonton (now Taylor Seminary) in the '70s. You can contact Ardice at 3412 Ralph Rogers Rd. #120, Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2658 or (605) 988-4771.

Wilfred Weick recently moved to be closer to his daughter in Calgary, Alberta. Wilfred, with his wife, Jeanine, were missionaries to Japan for many years. Jeanine passed away in July 2016. You can reach Wilf at 916 18A St. NW Rm 1005, Calgary, AB T2N 6C1.

In Care and Prayer

Lorraine (DeBoer) Fritzke has suffered from two strokes since the summer. She is presently at a care home in Portland, Oregon. She is paralyzed on her left side and is bedridden. Lorraine and her late husband, Bernie, were in the pastorate with the NAB for over forty years. Lorraine was a secretary for the NAB International Office in Illinois. Her two sons, Mark and Dean, ask for your prayers for their mother. You can send letters of encouragement to Lorraine at 4804 NW Bethany Blvd, Ste. I-2, #112, Portland, OR 97229, or contact Mark Fritzke at MAFritzke@aol.com.

Wally Kroguletz, a lifetime NAB pastor, has moved into Menno Home, a care facility in Abbotsford, British Columbia. He has been experiencing increasing mental challenges. Lydia, his partner in marriage, family, and ministry, continues to live in Abbotsford. You can call Lydia at (604) 870-9000.

music shows itself in infancy, is manifest and central in every culture, and probably goes back to the very beginnings of our species.” However, because of his lack of faith in God, Sacks did not understand that God created us to be musical beings in order to open us more readily to worship.

Another advantage to worship as music is that it can easily be done individually or in the collective. While there are other forms of worship where each of us can join together in unity—prayer, service, and fellowship, among others—music is uniquely designed to bind as one the disparate parts that make up the body of Christ. The very act of singing the same words to the same tune at the same tempo connects us together even as we connect with God.

Tozer, again, says it best.

Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of

one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers meeting together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become ‘unity’ conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.

While the scenery is always beautiful and the time away is restful, the real draw and importance of the yearly Retired Workers’ Retreat in Sumas, Washington, is the time together, worshipping in music, in fellowship, in encouragement, in prayer, and in celebration. Won’t you consider joining your brothers and sisters in spirit and in song May 14–16?

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. (Colossians 3:16 NLT)



2018 NAB RETIRED WORKERS’ RETREAT

May 14–16, 2018

Registration opens March 1, 2018, at 9:00 AM, PST.

This publication connects retired NAB workers with one another, with the NAB, and with God.

Please let us know about your changes, celebrations, prayer concerns, particular interest in any area of conference ministry, and resources you have discovered to make senior life better.

Send updates to Ron & Joan Stoller.

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