



Quarterly
Newsletter
January 2010

The Official Newsletter Publication of Christian Artists and Musicians Project

Volume 9 Issue 1

Happy New Year!

Again, we are extremely excited about bringing to you another year of *Good music, Good coffee and Good company*. We also want to tell you about the latest happenings at The CAMP. This month's newsletter features: *Something to Think About*, *Highlights of 2009*, this month's **4thFridays** show; and new activities at the CAMP.

A Message from:

The Executive Director

Christian Growth



There are many discussions about Christian growth. Those discussions usually are in relation to what it is or what it is not. Some mistakenly think it is based on the success of one's ministry or maybe what one's spiritual gift is. In this very short essay I would like to simply explore what Christian growth is.

The word "growth" is defined as the process of becoming larger and more mature through natural development. It is also characterized as the process of expanding or increasing in size, power or intensity¹. What does this mean in Christian terms? ([Continued follow link](#))

2009 Highlights from our MONTHLY SHOWCASE: 4thFridays

4thFridays featured **19 artists**² last year. We heard

¹ Encarta Dictionary: English (North America)

² Jan Krist; Rhonda Welsh; Paul Dozier; William Reynolds; Danny Brooks; Rachanee; David Ivey; Mo Jones; Zamar; Chuck Tocco; Larry Hover; Theresa Dalton; Paul McKenzie;

everything from folk to rock and from jazz to R&B - as well as some great poetry. The year wrapped up with jazz and rock fusion artist – **Waldon Reed Jr.** and singer/songwriter – **Brion Riborn**. And of course Rufus and band performed consistently and wonderfully.

The October **4thFridays** show had a bumpy start. The day was kind of miserable with rain and wind which gusted up to 29mph. We wondered what the turnout would be based on the weather conditions. But as always, we were hopeful – we have to be – and **4F** attendees did not disappoint. They came out in full force to enjoy the evening.

First up... Brion Riborn



Earlier in the year Brion had asked if he could share the stage with **Waldon Reed Jr.** who happens to be a very good friend of his. We thought that was a pretty good idea. So we booked

both artists for the October show. Brion's tremendous talent along with a witty personality made him a very engaging performer. During the onstage interview with Rufus, he talked about the challenges he encounters having to balance the pressures of family and being a musician. He is a husband and father of six children and spoke of the joys of marriage and fatherhood. Brion, a confident singer and guitarist, shared songs from his latest release – *Etymbiosis* (we forgot to ask him what "etymbiosis" means – so we are out of line speaking in tongues without interpretation). He also shared some new tunes as well including a moving hymn. We look forward to having him back again at **4thFridays**. For much more info about Brion Riborn, visit website:

MySpace.com/BrionRiborn

Terrence Palmer; Sam Dougherty; Beth Stalker; Mahogany Jones; Waldon Reed, Jr. and Brion Riborn.

Next up: Waldon Reed Jr.

This was Waldon's and his band's (Paul Laginess - bass; Pete Martinez - keyboard; and George Wietecha - on drums) third time performing at **4thFridays** and they were tighter than ever.



Waldon performed songs from his many albums. He sets the bar pretty high when

it comes to musicianship. One song in particular, the bass player commented they were crazy to perform but that they would play it anyway. The audience of course thoroughly loved it and later Rufus remarked that the



Pete Martinez

song was a "musician's song" and there were plenty of musicians in the house that night that really enjoyed its complexities. While the band performed with precision and creativity, Waldon did not neglect the spiritual aspect of everything they played. He shared spiritual relevance behind his songs.

Then a BIG SURPRISE! At the end of his

set Waldon invited **Brion** up to do number he said was

in view of **Shocktober** (relating to Halloween). The number was - of all things - Michael Jackson's *Thriller* - done in honor of the late performer career who passed away in June. Brion's big, rich vocals filled the room while Waldon's band performed the song as if it were their own. It got everyone clapping and singing. A very unique way to wrap up 2009 we thought. [\(More pics of Waldon's at end\)](#)



rufus harris



Of course the night was not over yet; Rufus and the band (Jeannine Gardner-Washington; Mo Jones; and Martin Stuart) did a couple more songs and were tight as usual. They performed:

No Compromise; I Need; Believe; Risen and covered Tina Turner's *We Don't Need Another*.



Jeannine Gardner-Washington, Rufus, Mo Jones and Martin Stuart

**More Highlights from 2009
INSTITUTIONAL MINISTRY:
3rd Mondays in Milan - 3mm**

Prison Fellowship in conjunction with The CAMP continued its monthly event at Milan Federal Prison. The event, called **Third Mondays in Milan**, is a unique way to minister to those behind the walls. Every 3rd Monday, the CAMP invited various artists to share with the men at Milan. Many CAMP artists have come onboard including **Rachanee, Mo Jones, Sonnie Day, The Gideon Crew, and Debbie Brown** (drama) and **David Ivey**. Rufus wrapped up last year with a special Christmas program where he performed songs from his Christmas CD - **Come and Listen**. That night was packed with over 80 men in a classroom setting. It was a wonderful evening. We will be starting up **3rd Mondays** again beginning March 15th. **If you'd like to get involved (and we highly recommend it)**, let us know. You will be required to take a training class.



FESTIVALS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Storytellers 2009

Arts Beats and Eats – Pontiac MI.

Storytellers was again held in conjunction with the Bridge Church at the Lafayette Grande in Pontiac the weekend of *Arts Beats and Eats* on Sunday, September 6th. We could not have asked for a more beautiful day. **Not Our Own, Therese Maynard, Rufus** – the acoustic version, **William Reynolds, Paul Dozier, Rachanee** and **Sarah Dalton** were the artists who took the stage. Again, we handed out free doughnuts and apple cider to the attendees who at times packed our area. It was a great success.

MEDIA

JustRadio.NET is still going strong with several new artists to be added to the lineup this month. Log on while at work or play and enjoy the best in Independent Christian Music.

ARTIST RESOURCES - CAMP Community!

The CAMP is pleased to introduce the new network – **CAMP Community**. Camp Community is a place where artists can network and share with other artists and art lovers. **Join the community** on [Facebook](#), [MySpace](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#): To sign up follow the links on [the CAMP's website](#).

Here's what's coming up *this Friday* - Jan. 22nd

David Ivey

David has been sharing the gospel in song across the United States and abroad for most of his life. As a founding member of one of Gospel's most successful groups, Fred Hammond and Radical for Christ, Ivey has performed lead and background vocals on numerous commercially



successful and well-honored albums. A member of **Dunamis Outreach Ministries** in Detroit, Ivey currently serves as one of the music department's praise and worship leaders. As a seasoned music minister, he understands that people are looking for the presence of God and not another performer; therefore, his prayer is that people are blessed and lives are changed through

his music. A devoted husband and father, Ivey enjoys spending quality time with his wife of ten years and his two daughters. He attributes much of his inspiration to the time spent with his family. He and wife Celeste also run a company specializing in vegan pastries: **Patisserie Ci (exceptional vegan pastries)**. He'll share songs from his two releases at 4thFridays – *The Bottom Line* and *Your Today*. Check out David's music at: www.myspace.com/Davidiveysings

Therese Maynard

Therese Maynard is new to the **4thFridays'** stage but is by no means new to performing music. Hailing out of the Metro-Detroit area, she has been writing and performing music for many years. In addition to writing thought-provoking music, Therese is a gifted pianist and guitarist. Her musical influences include **Carol King, The Supremes, Carly Simon,** and **Aretha Franklin**. Vocally, she has often been compared to **Allison Krause** and



Joni Mitchell. Therese is a prolific songwriter. Her freshman release – "Faithful" is beautiful collection of songs that tell of her spiritual journey and give honor to the faithfulness of God. We know you will enjoy her stories and songs at the next **4thFridays**. Visit her website at:

MySpace.com/ThereseMaynard

Coffee – The Coffee Brew mister invites you to stop by the coffee to enjoy this month's flavor of the month.

Raffle – With admission, you'll receive a ticket for our raffle. The drawing is held near the end of the show. You can win music and coffee in a little blue jean tote

OTHER NEWS...

Where two or more...

Jesus said, "Where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them"³. We took that scripture to heart and started a prayer conference call in the Fall of 2008. Since that time, we have seen God move in wonderful ways. Finances are better, the ministry is

³ Matthew 18:20

stronger, and most importantly we have been drawn closer to God. Every Tuesday night we pray for the CAMP. We pray for everything from 4thFridays to the many independent artists in Michigan. If you are an artist and have a prayer request or if you would like to join the prayer call, please email it to us at:

info@theCampOnline.org.

Hardship Program

We know that the economy has hit everyone hard. So the CAMP offers a special deal to those who would love to come to the show but can't afford to do so. If you are experiencing a hardship and need a break, simply email us and we'll tell you more: info@theCampOnline.org

JustRadio.NET

New artists have been added to the radio station. Log on to www.JustRadio.NET and hear great music by independent artists who are Christian while you work or play.

Ways to Give...

You can give financially to the CAMP, via eBay, by giving flowers, or by donating your used vehicle. Please help today so that we can keep all of the programs going.

Red Letter Downloads

We are happy to announce that the Red Letter Records downloads website is up and running and the Body project is now available. Red Letter Records is the sponsor of the CAMP. Visit [Red Letter Records](#) and download **the Body project for FREE - 15 songs by 11 artists**. And watch the video featured on YouTube. Featured artists include: **Beth Stalker, David Ivey, Kelly Eldridge, William Reynolds, Rufus Harris, Dan Mieczko, Sarah Dalton, Therese Maynard, Rhonda Welsh, Kim Margerum and Larry Hover**. Feel free to peruse the site and purchase music downloads for only .99 cents. Thank you in advance for supporting these fine independent Christian Artists.

red letter records
truth... intensity... spirituality
Available Now!



(Continued from Page 1 – Christian Growth)

Using the same definition, Christian growth would be the process of becoming larger and more mature in one's **Christian spiritual development**. It would be also characterized as the process of expanding **or increasing in size, power or intensity of one's being a Christian**.

With that in mind it only makes sense to define the terms "Christian" or "Christianity". Believers were first called Christians in Antioch⁴. Since this word is first found in the New Testament let's understand what it meant in the first century. In the simplest terms it meant a person **who is a follower of Christ**. Christianity (although this word is not found in the New Testament) is the religion based on the life, teachings, and example of Jesus Christ; and/or one (a person) who holds Christian beliefs⁵.

First, Christian growth is validated by spiritual enlargement. Secondly, Christian growth is distinguished by the increasing of one's confirmation of being a follower of the Lord Jesus.

The only spiritual enlargement I'm aware that really counts are those which are listed as the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. We should grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. One having these characteristics in increasing measure validates growth as a Christian. It also validates one who calls himself a follower of Christ. The apostle Peter says,

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.⁶

One can be in a sad state of affairs if that one does not grow as a Christian because that one will be ineffective and unproductive in their knowledge of the Lord. That gives us...

Something to think about...

rufus

⁴ In Syria, Acts 11:26

⁵ Encarta Dictionary: English (North America)

⁶ 1Peter 1:8-9 NIV

More pics of Waldon Reed Band:



George Wietecha



George Wietecha and Paul Laginess

4thFridays is presented by the CAMP

(Christian Artists & Musicians Project)

www.theCampOnline.org

And Red Letter Records: *truth, intensity and spirituality*

www.redletterrecords.com

The CAMP is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization

Come check out 4thFridays

This month in **Studio A**

At the *beautiful*

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI
between Southfield & Greenfield Roads

Doors open at 8pm/Show starts at 8:30pm

Admission: \$10 (checks and money orders accepted)

Please make them payable to: "The CAMP"

Contact Us

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Visit us on line at:

www.theCampOnline.org

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Kim Strong – coffee brew mister's assistant

Marvin Sheats and Tony Amore – load-in / load-out



Credits:

Performance photos by: Denise Strong and Rufus Harris

Written and edited by Denise Strong and Rufus Harris

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