

# theCAMP

Christian Artists & Musicians Project

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## A Message from: the Executive Director

The apostle Paul urged us “in view” or as we look at God’s mercy we are “to offer” or to present to God our bodies as living sacrifices. He said that is our spiritual; reasonable or rational act of worship<sup>1</sup>. If there is a spiritual; reasonable; or rational act of worship then there is also the opposite. An *act of worship* that is unspiritual; unreasonable; or irrational. But before the question is asked, “What would that be?” lets look at the context again.



Rufus Harris

The apostle first appeals to us to look at the mercy of God and then because of that mercy we are to present or offer... our bodies as living sacrifices. Paul says that is our spiritual act of worship.

Now back to the question, “what would be an act of worship that is unspiritual; unreasonable; or irrational?” Simply said, it would be any act of worship which does not truly include one offering or presenting to God their body as a living sacrifice. Another question could be asked here, “What does it mean to present or offer one’s body as a living sacrifice?”

But before that is answered it must be said in our society, we are well aware of suicide bombers and their predecessors the Kamikazes. *Well meaning* people can do stupid things to themselves and to others because of their point of view. One’s point of view can be severely distorted. Here I am not talking about distortions.

Let’s answer the question: “What does it mean to present or offer one’s body as a living sacrifice?” The answer is rather simple. One should follow Christ. If one is not following Christ in Christ’s prescribed way that one’s *act of worship* that is unspiritual; unreasonable; or

irrational. But what does it mean one should follow Christ? Please read Philippians 2:1-8.

One’s spiritual act of worship is not something that resembles a Pep Rally. One’s spiritual act of worship is walking as Jesus walked. The last question, “How did Jesus walk?”

## Something to think about...

### March Highlights

Last month we were absolutely delighted to see a large, eager crowd gather for the six-year anniversary of **4thFridays**. It was neat to see one of the most diverse audiences we’ve had in a long time.



We nearly ran out of chairs to accommodate the crowd which included many regular **4F** attendees and a host of newcomers. And after two months of somewhat merger turnouts, with open arms we welcomed this problem.

It was a night of reunions. Lots of folks, who said they had been planning on coming for a long time, actually came out. Many new folks that came out said they loved the show and looked forward to coming back.

Some of the Detroit area’s finest artists and musicians came out to show their support and to enjoy **the Good music, Good coffee and Good company** including: William Pope of the premier Jazz Band – **Zamar**; Tarence Carey - Guitar



<sup>1</sup> Romans 12:1

Center winner in 1994 (who is named among many great student taught by Waldon Reed, Jr.); the band **Not Our Own**; and Rock/Blues Artist – **William Reynolds** to name a few. Rufus acknowledged these independent artists who were present and also thanked the **4F crew** for all their hard work and dedication. He especially recognized – **Rod Sledge** the sound guy and the coffee brew mister - **Lawrence Strong** for neither having missed a show since we began in 2002! This is quite significant.

What a great night! With nights like these we know exactly why we do **4thFridays**.

### Angel Rivers

Poet – Angel Rivers took the stage at the top of the show. She shared songs from her latest CD – *River of Life*. As always, Angel was phenomenal. It was said of her,



“Wow! She never introduces herself or speaks in between the pieces she shares. She simply recites large portions of poetry entirely from memory in an impressive prophetic fashion. And that’s her M.O.”

Rufus playfully commented on her froo froo hairdo and how it fits what she does so well with her poetic delivery. Whenever she performs, we see attendees scurry after her to find out how to book her at their church or special event. And it’s no wonder.

A sad thing we recently learned is that this summer Angel will be moving to Atlanta. We will miss this gifted poet but will try our best to book her whenever she comes home for a visit. We thank God for her work and we pray her ministry will reach more people than she can think or imagine.

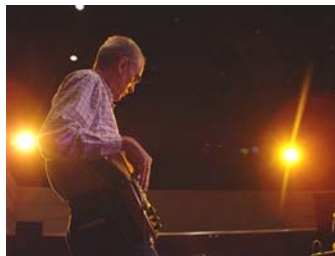


**Waldon Reed, Jr.**  
The last time Waldon performed at **4thFridays** (July 2007), the audience was thin. It

disappointed us that this guy known as “the musician’s musician” did not have a good turnout. But thank God this time was different. The house was packed. It was truly a blessing that so many came out to see this highly skilled guitarist. His talent is surpassed



only by his humility and meekness. Waldon was extremely fluid on guitar. Each song showcased his skill as he performed effortlessly. He played with seasoned Detroit players: Drummer – **George Wietecha**, bassist – **Paul Laginess** and Keyboardist - **Pete Martinez**. It was cool also that Waldon’s parents came out. Rufus acknowledged them. Later his dad admitted that his son was pretty good. We thought that was a gross understatement.



### rufus harris

Rufus band was great – Rufus and the band performed well opening and closing out the show.



## Here's what's coming up this Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup>



### Joe Gautier



Formerly one of the writers of *Saturday Night Live*, funnyman Joe Gautier joins us. He'll be in town that weekend sharing in several prisons and we were happy that we were able to nab

him for 4F. Joe is a platform artist for Prison Fellowship and the co-writer of *Videosyncrasies*, an award winning musical that played over 300 performances. He also wrote *The Menace of Venice* for Disney's Epcot Center. His true enjoyment is performing and sharing the message through comedy and it definitely shows. You'll love him!

### Mo Jones

Mo is an extraordinary musician that creates wonderful original inspiring instrumental tunes with the lead instrument being the bass guitar. He demonstrates that the bass can do much more than just be funky and hold down the bottom.



**Coffee** – The Coffee Brew mister invites you to stop by the coffee table and enjoy this month's featured flavor – Vermont Maple.

**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

**IN4LIFE - Join the Mission, Take the Journey** - on April 23 – 27<sup>th</sup> Prison Fellowship and Operation Starting Line (OSL) will launch this aggressive, exciting campaign designed to take volunteers into prison and provide mentors for men and women coming out. Some CAMP artists will be involved in this campaign including Rufus, Joe Gautier, Crisi, and Sonnie Day. We're also pleased to have several 4thFridays attendees join us for this unique event. For more information visit: [www.pfm.org](http://www.pfm.org).

**2ndFridays in Flushing** - we had our second installment of 2ndFridays in Flushing on April 11th. We featured Andrew Hively, Mo Jones, and Rufus Harris at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Flushing. The attendance was again rather low but the show was very good. The next show will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> and will feature [William Reynolds](http://www.theCampOnline.org). For more info, visit: [www.theCampOnline.org](http://www.theCampOnline.org)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays in Milan** - Okay, that's not the official name but it is a unique opportunity for the CAMP to work in conjunction with Prison Fellowship doing Prison Ministry at the only Federal Prison in Michigan. Every third Monday of the month from 6-8:30pm, the CAMP will bring in gifted musicians, poets, comedians and speakers to this Milan facility. This event is really catching on at the facility. Rufus shared at the April event as well as Deborah Brown who is a wonderful storyteller and theatrical performer. Again, every seat in the chapel was filled. Next month may very well be standing room only. We strongly believe this is going to be a popular and well-attended event at Milan. If you would like more information, contact the CAMP at: 248-872-1197 or Prison Fellowship at 248-886-0881. You will be required to take an orientation in order to participate in this event.

**Ways to Give...** You can give financially, via eBay, by giving flowers, or by donating your used vehicle. Valentines Day is right around the corner. Consider purchasing flowers at BloomDepot for that special someone. And you can support the CAMP at the same time.

Visit [www.theCampOnline.org/giving\\_flowers.html](http://www.theCampOnline.org/giving_flowers.html)



**4thFridays is presented by the CAMP**  
(Christian Artists & Musicians Project)

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](http://www.theCampOnline.org)

**Board of Directors:**

President - Denise Strong  
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Board Member - Paul Kelley  
Rufus Harris - Executive Director

**Other helpers:**

Rod Sledge – sound engineer  
Paul Kulik – lighting  
Tom Maynard  
Kim Strong – coffee brew mister's assistant



**Credits:**

Performance photos by: Rosie Maynard; Denise Strong and Rufus Harris  
Written and edited by Denise Strong and Rufus Harris

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