



theCAMP

Christian Artists & Musicians Project

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"Something to Think About" A Message from: The Executive Director

I'm intrigued by the passage in the book of Acts which says, "God does not live in temples built by men's hands. That he is not even served or worshiped by human hands, as if he needed anything"¹. This passage makes me ask the questions, "If God does not live in temples built by men's hands, where does he live?" And, "if he is not served by human hands (that is, by what we do physically), how is he served?" Let's briefly look at this.



Rufus Harris

God Does Not Live in Temples Built by Men's Hands

There is much to say regarding this. I could go on about the church's interest in having buildings as "places of worship"; the Most Holy place where God's presence is evident in the universe (that place where Moses got his design for the tabernacle); additionally, I could go on about how (that is, the methods as to how) we are encouraged to worship but I won't - because I must keep this brief.

The scripture says very plainly that we² are God's building, God's temple. We are where God's Spirit lives. He even calls us sacred (that is, set apart)³.

Boy, this is so different from what we often teach. We often hear in order to achieve a relationship with God we have to do this or that - something based on physical actions. However in Christianity, we must believe in the work of Jesus. We must simply believe what Christ has done for us.

Christianity teaches that Jesus has come to reconcile us to God⁴ so completely that God can and actually (literally) does live in us right now. If we believe in the work of Jesus, we are God's temple; we are where God lives! This being the case, we are temples that walk around. God is with us everywhere we go. We don't go to the place of worship - we are (individually and collectively) the place of worship! We are the place where spiritual sacrifices are made which are acceptable to God⁵. We are even called a holy priesthood. So we are a temple and a priesthood too. This is really exciting stuff!

God Is Not Worshiped by Men's Hands

This is quite humbling. I'm a musician, singer/songwriter among other things all related to ministry. All of which - for the most part - I thoroughly enjoy. I would like to think that I worship God with what I do. However according to the writings of the Apostle Paul, because of the magnitude of the mercy of God, my *reasonable service* or *reasonable worship* is actually the *living sacrifice of my body*⁶. My reasonable worship is to give myself to the Lord completely. Me doing what I am comfortable with or what I like doing doesn't really measure up to me offering my body as a living sacrifice.

However, the scriptures mention spiritual sacrifices which are made that are acceptable to God. What are those sacrifices? Spiritual sacrifices are sacrifices which have nothing to do with the flesh. Spiritual sacrifices deal with things contrary to human nature - sacrifices which are of the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Those are the sacrifices which are acceptable to God. All of those sacrifices have to do with a relationship with God and with other people.

The scripture says, as *we come* to him we are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering

¹ Acts 17:24-25

² That is, sincere believers in Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah of God

³ 1 Cor 3:8-9; 3:16-17; 6:19-20;

⁴ 2 Cor 5:18-21

⁵ 1 Pet 2:4-5

⁶ Rom 12:1-2

spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.⁷

All of this is kind of simple, we are God's temple; we are to offer spiritual sacrifices. This is certainly something to think about...

Rufus

June 4thFridays Highlights

Yes it's that time again. **4thFridays** is Friday **this week!** We are so pleased and excited to welcome back Los Angeles Recording Artist - Larry Hover and from Flint, bassist - Mo Jones. But first, here are highlights from last month's show.

Last month was sizzling but it was not just the weather – it was **4thFridays**.

First up...Tracy Price

The lights dimmed and before the opening song by the house band, Tracy opened the show with a wonderful reading by Billy Graham, "Walk with God". This piece challenged listeners to walk with God as the heroes of the Old Testament – Noah, David, Daniel, Moses and it illustrated how just as he delivered them, he will also deliver us.



Tracy Price

Tracy came back up after the break before Waldon Reed, Jr. and shared a piece called "A Joyful Life" which spoke of how having our hearts totally surrendered to the will of God causes our sense of joy, satisfaction and fulfillment to increase regardless of our circumstances. Tracy's presentation was passionate; articulate and relevant.

Waldon Reed, Jr.



Waldon was extraordinary with his styling of rock and jazz fusion. Even from the moment that he and his band took the stage for their sound check, we knew this was going to be a very

exciting show. We kept asking ourselves, "Why is this guy - for the most part - just a local guy?" Offstage Waldon's persona was gentle, non-assuming. He possessed a very calm air about himself. Onstage



however, he was a dynamic, phenomenal instrumentalist. He performed great tunes from his various CDs. With ease he played complex but

very enjoyable melodic tunes. His band consisted of seasoned Detroit players: Pete Martinez on keys; George Wietecha on drums; and on bass Paul Laginess. This was one of those shows where there should not have been enough room to receive all of the attendees.

Not only was the performance tremendous but also the fact that Waldon fluently shared his faith and his walk in between songs. What he shared encouraged the audience. What



Waldon and his band played was most significant. It was a real ministry and a quality performance. Many more folks should know about Waldon Reed, Jr.!

rufus harris

The house band (Jeannine Gardner-Washington; Mo Jones and Rufus) was pretty good too! They shared two short sets which were tight and Rufus did a short set on acoustic guitar. It was effective ministry using music and ministry.



⁷ 1 Peter 2:4-5 NIV

Here's what's coming up this Friday July 27th

Larry Hover

Again, we are happy to welcome back this Los Angeles recording artist. People love stories and Larry Hover knows how to tell them. His latest CD is entitled



Storyteller and we see why the name is so appropriate. His music introduces us to characters,

both real and imagined, moving them into our neighborhood, or transporting us into theirs. Larry's words are carefully crafted that you'll discover something new in each song at least the first half-dozen times you listen. You hear complicated rhyme schemes, double entendre, internal rhymes, all flowing flawlessly together, to reveal the heart of God to both believers and unbelievers alike. With melodies you'll find yourself singing long into the day, each of Larry's songs carry a profound message, intended to either strike you funny, or hit you right between the eyes. He's often compared to James Taylor whom he admits is one of his musical influences. But his focus is definitely Christ-based. Larry will take the 4thFridays' stage this Friday. For more information about Larry visit: www.larryhover.com

Mo Jones

Michael Lee Jones, or Mo as he is known, has been a musician most of his life. Starting with Piano at age 8, to Guitar, then by 12 he moved onto what he would be best known for, his Bass Guitar. He began recording in the studio by the age of 13. He went on to study at the Flint Institute of Music, and at the Detroit Recording Institute. He has taken these skills, along with his own personal gifts, to record



on numerous projects and has performed before thousands. His most recent project is a bass solo CD entitled Mo Jones- Bass. He demonstrates amazing skill and ability on this project. He covers all the spectrums: pop & slap, tap, soloing, and interesting cordal playing. Backed by drums, and using only his Bass Guitar, he layered tracks to bring the most out of the instrument- his Conklin 7-String Groove Tool- you will think there is an electric guitar on it! (No Really, There's Not!) He wrote the music on this project to bring us an amazing collection of songs, with an eclectic blend of funk, rhythm and jazz.

Visit: www.myspace.com/mojonesbass

rufus harris - will also share some tunes and open and close the show.

Coffee - The Coffee Brew mister invites you to stop by the coffee table and enjoy this month's featured flavor Banana Split and the 4thFridays's house blend.

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

August 4thFridays show cancelled - Due to the Ford Center refurbishing several rooms in the building - including Studio A, 4thFridays will not be held on August 24th. **We will resume our shows on September 28th.**

Cowman - The Moosical Fundraiser - The event will feature comedian Joe Gautier from Texas and his country band. Joe is sure to deliver non-stop laughter. He'll share funny songs and stories about his upbringing in the country. This will be a great event the whole family will enjoy. More details to come.

Ways to Give...

Make a financial donation - Your generous gift will help us reach our goal of promoting independent Christians artists while providing spiritual enrichment to the community through the arts. All donations are tax-deductible. You will receive a letter from the CAMP stating that you donated to our organization. Help us make a difference today.

Send Flowers and Help theCAMP - The CAMP is happy to announce its partnership with **BloomDepot.com**. BloomDepot is an online-flower organization. When you send a gift of fresh flowers to someone special you'll be supporting us

at the same time. Fifteen percent (15%) of your purchase will be earmarked for the CAMP payable to us from BloomDepot. Simply click on the BloomDepot graphic below to browse the site and purchase what you'd like to send that special someone. If you are not comfortable buying via the Internet you can call toll free: 888-Bloom-06 (888-256-6606) mention that you are with the organization the CAMP and then make your purchase via the phone. Do something special for your loved one by giving them flowers through BloomDepot.



Donate your used vehicle to Charity Motors - Charity Motors is a non-profit organization that helps the underprivileged with transportation. When you donate your vehicle, not only are you helping a needy person, but you can also choose the CAMP to receive the proceeds from the sale. And of course, your donation is tax-deductible. To donate call: 313-255-1000 or 888-908-2277. Or click the key below to get started. Charity Motors accepts: cars, trucks, motor homes, boats and motorcycles.



Sell on eBay – MissionFish helps you support the CAMP through trading on eBay! When you sell on eBay, you can donate a portion of the proceeds from your sale to the CAMP. See: www.missionfish.org



Institutional Ministry - Arts for the Spirit



ARTS for SPIRIT

Oakwood Hospital's Arts for the Spirit is looking for

artists to go into their hospitals and nursing homes. If you are a solo artist and are interesting in sharing your music, let us know. We'll tell you more about these opportunities and what Oakwood is looking for.

Prison Fellowship's New Field Director

Denise Strong has accepted a position as Field Director of Southeastern MI for Prison Fellowship for the Detroit area. Her responsibilities will include among other things: coordinating and facilitating in-prison events; finding mentors for men and women coming out of the prison; and helping form special prison ministry teams throughout southeastern Michigan.

Festivals & Special Events

We will be presenting the CAMP's second annual Storytellers" festival on Labor Day weekend - Sunday, September 2nd, from 2pm-9pm. We are currently looking for sponsors. Let us know if you know of an organization or business interested in sponsoring our stage. Storytellers will feature independent musicians and poets from Michigan during Arts Beats and Eats. Last year's event was well-attended and this year promises to be even better.

Media

JustRadio.NET is still going strong. It continues to attract new listeners everywhere and receives great reviews. Here is what a listener in Orlando Florida said about JustRadio.NET:

"I love your radio station... and I appreciate your radio station...Anything you could send - like free t-shirts?...I would be grateful." This got us thinking – we do need promotional items for JustRadio and for other activities at the CAMP. We welcome your input. If you have any ideas, send them along.

Artist Resources

In June, we held our second artist training seminar – Effectively Sharing the Good News to help artists share their music and their faith. Artists were trained on the do's and the don'ts of prison ministry and given tips on effectively sharing the Gospel. Artists also enjoyed a continental breakfast and had an opportunity to meet other artists.

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)
\$7 for students (w/ ID) and seniors

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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Credits:

April's newsletter photos by Denise Strong and Rufus Harris
Written and edited by Denise Strong and Rufus Harris

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