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The

Cumberland Singers Present

Many Waters

A musical journey through rivers, oceans, rain and tears

Tuesday, April 10, 2007 ~ 7:30 PM Messiah Village, Mechanicsburg

Friday, April 13, 2007 ~ 8:00 PM
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg

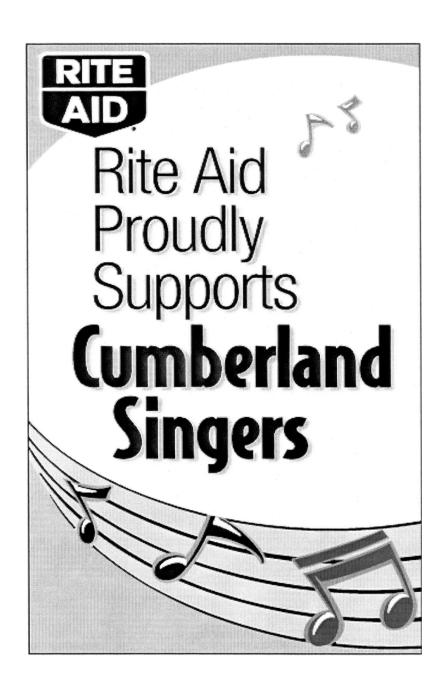
Saturday, April 14, 2007 ~ 7:00 PM Community United Methodist Church, New Cumberland

Sunday, April 15, 2007 ~ 3:00 PM
Shepherdstown United Methodist Church,
Mechanicsburg

Alissa Plant, Artistic Director Lindy Mack, Accompanist

With guest artists
Randy Rhoades on bass guitar and Tom Hamm on percussion

www.cumberlandsingers.org



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About the Cumberland Singers

The Cumberland Singers are a non-auditioned community choir, performing each Christmas and spring season in varied musical styles, including classical, popular, Broadway, jazz, folk, multicultural and holiday. We have been enjoying and celebrating music for over thirty years—our original 25 singers first performed on June 19, 1976.

We welcome all singers of any range and ability. The only requirements for joining us are a love of singing, willingness to practice and learn parts, and a time commitment to weekly rehearsals and seasonal concerts. The ability to read music is desirable but not necessary.

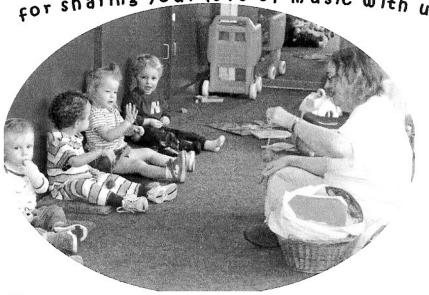
The choir rehearses for the holiday concerts from September to December and for the spring concerts from January to April. Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:15 PM at the Mechanicsburg Middle School.

To help cover our music and staffing expenses, Cumberland Singers members pay dues at the beginning of each season. Members are also asked to participate in fundraising activities throughout the season.

We welcome your participation in the Cumberland Singers as a singer, volunteer, or board member. Speak with one of us today for more information, or contact the director any time at 367-8030 or imamezzo@aol.com.

For more information, including rehearsal and concert dates, visit our website at www.CumberlandSingers.org.

Thank you, Miss Sandra, for sharing your love of music with us,



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We store music for the Cumberland Singers!



Cumberland Singers at Harrisburg ArtsFest!

Come hear the Cumberland Singers on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2007, at noon on the Kunkel Plaza Stage on the riverfront (at the corner of State & Front Streets).



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Director

After a few years living away from the Central PA area, Alissa Plant has returned to conduct her 7th season with the Cumberland Singers. Her other musical activities include directing and singing with the women's a cappella ensemble

Marmalade and teaching private voice lessons in her home studio.



Accompanist

Lindy Mack has been providing the accompaniment for the Cumberland Singers since 2001. He has played piano since the age of five and has been recording and performing professional since 1975.

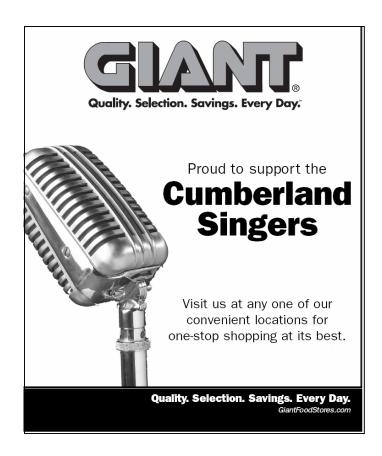
He has a degree in Piano Performance from the California State University, East Bay, and his experiences have taken him to various parts of the U.S. and internationally. He has performed and recorded with California groups The Magic Flute, the Jeannine Carol Project, Jupiter II, Memorabilia and Ally.

In addition to playing piano, he plays drums with the Singer Band of Mechanicsburg, where he occasionally conducts and plays the alto sax. He is also a keyboardist and vocalist for the local folk music trio, We3.



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Thank you!

Many thanks to the following people who sponsored songs in our *Many Waters* concert:

Paulette and Russ Matthews, Let the River Run

Amy Braun, Shenandoah

Skip and Dawn Plant, Set Me As a Seal

Judi Koppenhaver, Trickle Trickle

Hollich Studios, Soon It's Gonna Rain

Linda Figueroa, Down by the Sally Gardens

Miriam McMechen and Stephanie Hoot, Car Wash

Tom Longenecker, Moon River

Lindy and Vicki Mack, Wade in the Water

Ron Flory, extra copies of music



Sheet music is one of the choir's major expenses. If you would like to sponsor a song, contact the director to see the list of pieces in our next concert, *Winter Wonderland*.

Program

Trickle Trickle

Clarence Bassett, arr. Steve Zegree

Solos/Ensemble: Tenor Section Keyboard: Paulette Matthews Alto Sax: Lindy Mack

We sing this 1950s pop song today in the style of the *Manhattan Transfer* recording from the 1979 album *Extensions*.

Soon It's Gonna Rain

Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones arr. Kirby Shaw

Ensemble: Amy Braun, Steph Hoot, Miriam McMechen, Kim Hollich, Paulette Matthews, Becky Noll, Tom Longenecker, Bob Fake, Barb Ward, Nate Crowther, Jim Nagy, Lindy Mack

From the world's longest-running musical, *The Fantasticks*, which debuted in May, 1960, and closed in January, 2002, after over 17,000 performances.

Down by the Riverside

arr. John Rutter

A choir favorite, this traditional spiritual takes on new meaning with every new conflict in our small world. Please join us in singing the last verse:

I'm gonna put on my starry crown Down by the riverside Down by the riverside Down by the riverside

I'm gonna put on my starry crown Down by the riverside And I ain't gonna study war no more

I ain't gonna study war no more I ain't gonna study war no more I ain't gonna study war no more

We Rise Again

Leon Dubinsky, arr. Lydia Adams

Solos/Ensemble: Linda Tschopp, Steph Hoot, Becky Noll, Bob Fake, Kim Hollich

Thank you for attending our concert.

Please join us for a reception following the program.

Cumberland Singers, Fall 2007

Join us for singing and fun Tuesday nights at the Mechanicsburg Middle School from 7 to 9:15 PM. Rehearsals for our 2007 fall season start Tuesday, September 11, 2007.

Our **Winter Wonderland** concerts will be held at the beginning of December, 2007.

Questions? Talk to a singer today or call the director anytime at 367-8030.





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Program

Intermission

Set Me As a Seal

Rene Clausen

This text from the ultimate love poem, *The Song of Solomon*, or *Song of* Songs, was the inspiration for our Many Waters theme. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it, for love is strong as death.

Across the Western Ocean

traditional folk melody

Ensemble: We3 (Russ Matthews, Paulette Matthews and Lindy Mack) Sea shanty with lyrics from *Iron Men and Wooden Ships* by Frank Shay.

Bound for South Australia

arr. Alissa Plant

Ensemble: Men

This sea shanty was sung by wool traders who worked the clipper ships between Australia and London in the 19th century. While most shanties were sung while traveling, this one was sung at the docks as a farewell. Today, the sea shanty tradition is kept alive by many choral groups in the Netherlands and elsewhere in Europe.

Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat

Frank Loesser

From the 1950 Broadway musical and subsequent 1955 film, Guus and Dolls—gangsters, show girls, and gamblers, oh my!



Car Wash

Norman Whitfield, arr. Rvan James

Solos: Miriam McMechan, Kim Hollich, Becky Noll, Steph Hoot, Tom Longenecker

This 1976 number-one single by the disco-funk band *Rose Royce* has more recently been covered by Christina Aguilera and Missy Elliott for the children's movie Shark Tale.

Program

Shenandoah

arr, Marshall Bartholomew

An American folk song dating back to the early 1800s, *Shenandoah*'s lyrics originally told the story of a roving trader in love with the daughter of an Indian chief and his plans to take her with him across the river. More recent versions of the song, such as the one we sing today, have made this a song of yearning for home, specifically the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

Bridge Over Troubled Water

Paul Simon

Duet: Bob Fake and Linda Tschopp

Moon River

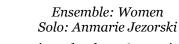
Johnny Mercer and Henry Mancini, arr. Ed Lojeski

This standard from the movie *Breakfast at Tiffany's* was written in 1961, in an era when rock and roll was taking over and replacing jazz standards as the day's popular music. Nonetheless, the song became very popular and has been recorded by dozens of artists and used in many films, videos and television shows. Interestingly, this beautiful melody was written to fit the limited vocal range of the actress who was to sing it. Audrey Hepburn.



Let the River Run

Carly Simon, arr. Jay Althouse





This piece was written for the 1989 movie *Working Girl*, and has been awarded a Golden Globe, an Oscar, and a Grammy. It is a hymn to New York City inspired by the script of the movie and the poetry of Walt Whitman.

Wade in the Water

arr. Donald Moore

An excerpt from the book <u>Wade in the Water</u>; the <u>Wisdom of the Spirituals</u> by Arthur C. Jones:

In commenting on different versions of this song, observers have noted that it was sung in encouragement and celebration of the spirit of Africans in bondage as they participated in the Christian rite of baptism by immersion. However, these ceremonies frequently served as a mask for a more traditional West African religious ceremony in which a tall cross, driven by a deacon into the river bottom, served as a bridge facilitating communication between the world of the living and the dead. In addition, the cross placed in the water in this manner also symbolized the four corners of the earth and the four winds of heaven.

The Cumberland Singers

Sopranos

Amy Braun
Anmarie Jezorski
Annetta Bean
Billie Hakes
Connie Burket
Judy Wiley
Karen Vittone
Karen Volles
Kim Hollich
Miriam McMechen
Shelley Gross-Gray
Steph Hoot

Altos

Barb Ward
Christine Burhans
Connie Shover
Judi Koppenhaver
Kathleen Kline
Linda Figueroa
Linda Tschopp
Paulette Matthews
Rebecca Noll
Sandra Loyer
Sharon Griggs
Sharon Leitch
Tina Moyer

Tenors

Bob Fake Don Allan Frank Fisher Russ Matthews Tom Longenecker



Basses

Ed Bitner Jack Hakes Jim Nagy John Mengel John Succa Nathan Crowther

Board of Directors

John Mengel, President Linda Figueroa, Vice President Anmarie Jezorski, Secretary Judi Koppenhaver, Treasurer



Program

By the Rivers of Babylon

Brent Dowe and Trevor McNaughton

Psalm 137:1 By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

Psalm 137:4 How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?

Psalm 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord...

The roots of our concert invocation today are Biblical, but this piece was made popular by the Jamaican reggae group, the Melodians, as an anthem of the Rastafarian movement. The message, whether considered from the point of view of the ancient Jews in exile or the current descendants of African slaves, is one of freedom from oppression—holding fast to their roots and culture through music.

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal

arr. Alice Parker

Alice Parker is one of today's most prolific arrangers of spirituals, hymns and folk songs. She currently directs *Melodious Accord, Inc.*, a non-profit choral singing and education group in New York state. She has worked extensively with Robert Shaw, has published books about the arts of singing and choral music, and still teaches regularly, giving seminars and workshops for choral conductors and composers.



Down by the Sally Gardens

arr. David Lantz III

Flute: Kim Hollich (Tuesday and Saturday) or Vicki Mack (Friday and Sunday)

William Butler Yeats published this text in a book of his poems in 1889 as a tribute to oral tradition. It was based on a fragment of a song he recalled hearing an old Irish woman sing. The melody is a beautiful and haunting Irish folk tune. *Sally*, or *Salley*, is most likely from the Irish *saileach*, meaning "willow."

The Water is Wide

arr. Roger Folstrom

Flute: Kim Hollich (Tuesday and Saturday) or Vicki Mack (Friday and Sunday)
American folksong arranged for the University of Maryland Chorale.