



Wisconsin Gossellers Mar-Apr 2023

Rehearsal at Pilgrim UCC in Fond du Lac had singers excited and joyful!



Malena will Host Wellness Workshop June 11th

Bible Journaling with Malena

Do you like to journal, color, draw, stamp, or craft? Would journaling help you understand scripture better?

- Learn how to use your journaling or crafting skills right in your bible to clarify your understanding of bible passages or the Sunday sermon.
- Bible Journaling is a great way to connect with scripture and creativity. You can journal & highlight OR use fun art supplies!
- I'll bring some art supplies and examples and some pages to practice on! Bring your favorite pens or craft supplies if you want - or just use mine!

June Annual Meeting - Green Lake

The Wisconsin Gossellers have reserved the Stambach house Friday June 9th and Saturday June 10th. We will have rehearsal on June 10th. Time is still to be determined. We are working with the conference to see if we can be in some aspect of the annual meeting. Stay tuned.



Malena Koplin





It's Women's History Month!

Add these unsung women gospel musicians to your spring playlist:

Sissieretta Jones (1868-1933): daughter of a pastor who started singing in church at age 6. She later studies at the New England Conservatory, and became world-famous for singing gospel, popular and classical music. She toured the West Indies with the Fisk Singers, and sang at the White House at least four times... even though only Theodore Roosevelt let her use the front door. Czech composer Antonín Dvořák wrote an arrangement of Old Folks at Home just for her! In 1915, "Sissi" Jones left the stage to care for her mother and an extended family that included several adopted children.



Cleotha Staples (1934-2013): A lead singer of The Staple Singers, PN (pastor's niece) Cleotha grew up in Chicago, often singing with their father at her uncle's church. She and her siblings were equally at home singing gospel, soul or R&B, and often challenged that invisible line between church music and protest anthem. One of their many hits, "If You're Ready" includes these lines:

*If you're ready come go with me
No hatred
Will be tolerated
Peace love all between the races
Love is the only transportation
To where there's communications
If you're ready come go with me..*



SistaStrings: Chauntee and Monique Ross, 2PKs (two pastors' kids) from Milwaukee who blend classical, gospel & other musical influences to tell personal stories & lift up spiritual and cultural ties across generations. They toured with Brandi Carlile in 2022, and also perform with Allison Russell's Rainbow Coalition of the Loving.



Mission Statement: To bridge cultural divides and touch souls through the transformative power of gospel music.

Vision Statement: A world where God's love triumphs over that which divides us.

Rehearsal & Performance schedule (Rehearsal every 2nd Saturday of each month)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Saturday March 11	Saturday 2:30pm -5pm	First Congregational Church 137 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, WI 54901	Rehearsal
Saturday March 11	Saturday 5pm	First Congregational Church 137 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, WI 54901	Dinner provided by FCC church
Sunday Mar 12	9:00AM Warm-up 10AM Service	First Congregational Church 137 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, WI 54901	Performance
Saturday April 15 (3rd saturday)	10am-2pm 1/2hr lunch break	Union-Congregational Church 125 Beaver Dam Street Waupun, WI 53963	Rehearsal
Saturday May 13	10am-2:30pm 1hr lunch break 3pm concert	Cedar Communities 113 Cedar Ridge Dr, West Bend, WI 53095	Workshop concert
June 9-11	Saturday rehearsal	Green Lake Conference Center (Stambach house)	Rehearsal & recruiting
Saturday July 29	Cynthia Evans West's Memorial service at 2pm	River Falls/Stillwater MN	Performance
September 9th-10th	TBD	Tentatively Madison kick-off rehearsal / performance	Tentatively rehearsal / performance

Email Alicia alicia88gardner@gmail.com or Kimberly guys-mom@hotmail.com for items to include in the newsletter. Share music events or interesting articles.