

Errand For Mercy

Christian Group To Perform Concert To Benefit Mercy Meals Yankton

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Mercy Meals Yankton is about to get a Yuletide-fueled boost.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, contemporary Christian band Phillips, Craig and Dean will perform at the Yankton High School Theater at 7 p.m. Musician Shaun Groves will also give a performance.

The band has an unorthodox membership in that all three members are pastors of their own churches. They also live in different locations, two in Texas and one in Missouri.

According to band founder and singer Randy Phillips, all three of them have known each other since childhood, but hadn't performed together before the band was started.

"I wanted to form a music group to see what would happen," he explained. "I called my two friends (Shawn Craig and Dan Dean) and we put a few songs on a demo and sent it to Nashville."

From there, the band's career snowballed. "People began to buy our music and play it all over the country," said Phillips. "It took everyone by surprise."

The band's unorthodox membership makes their 25-year career all the more surprising in how steadfast they have remained in the Christian music business.

"We've had 25 number one songs in 25 years. The Lord has been good to us," Phillips said.

The band is on tour to promote its new Christmas album, "Hope For All The World."

"When you look at the circumstances around us right now, there's a terrible fear in our country with shootings and violence, instability of economy and an election year," said Phillips. "People are so unsettled."

The band's newest album, which consists



Phillips, Craig and Dean perform at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre Saturday. (Courtesy photo)

of traditional and original Christmas music, is filled with music that is much needed in today's world.

"There's still hope for the world," Phillips said. "That hope isn't found in politics, government or anything man can put his hand on. Our hope is in Jesus Christ."

This message is what Phillips, Craig and Dean will bring to Yankton.

"We intend to come to Yankton and lift up the beautiful name of Jesus," said Phillips. "We can journey to the manger together."

All the concert's proceeds go towards Mercy Meals, a non-profit organization that started in Yankton four years ago. The organization, originally called Kids Against Hunger, does most of their meal packing at Calvary

Baptist Church in Yankton, according to director Steve Mach.

"We organize volunteers to pack nutritious meals that are sent to Haiti to help feed the children there," he explained.

Mercy Meals sends its packed meals to the Orphan Grain Train organization in Norfolk, Nebraska, to have them sent to Haiti where the Orphan Grain Train sponsors six schools.

Mercy Meals receives a majority of its funds through donations from people who volunteer to help pack food. Mach estimates that each meal costs approximately 12 cents. The meals packed consist of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a vitamin E mineral packet.

The concert proceeds will mainly go toward an annual meal packing held in Janu-

ary at Mike Durfee state prison in Springfield. Over 60,000 were packed there last January.

In previous years, Mercy Meals has sponsored musician Mark Schultz and comedian Ken Davis as fundraisers. Mach anticipates a large crowd for Phillips, Craig and Dean.

"They've been stalwarts in Christian music for a long time," he said. "It's a privilege to have them come. It will be a fun night and is a great way to bring in the Christmas season."

Tickets can be purchased at: The Carpenter Shop, Clark's Rentals and Rexall Drug in Yankton. To learn more about Mercy Meals, visit www.mercymealsyankton.org or call 605-260-0293.

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This week at

MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE

Join us for any and all of our events this fall semester! Learn more at www.mtmc.edu.

Bede Art Gallery | Monday - Friday | 8:00 am - 4:30 pm | Mount Marty College Student Art Show | November 23 - December 11
The Saint John's Bible on display in MMC Library | Mon-Thurs: 7:30 am - 10 pm | Fri: 7:30 am - 5 pm | Sat: 1- 5 pm | Sun: 1-10 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

9 - 10:30 AM MMC Pages Bookstore Extended Hours
11:00 AM Women's JV Basketball - vs. MMC Alumni - Cimpl Arena
9:30 AM Admitted Student Day - Campus Wide (Must Pre-Register)
2:00 PM Women's Basketball - College of Saint Mary - Cimpl Arena
4:00 PM Men's Basketball - Oglala Lakota College - Cimpl Arena
TBD Indoor Track - South Dakota State University - Brookings, SD
TBD Outdoor Track 1/2 Marathon - Fremont, NE

THEME: Santa Hat Saturday Giveaway

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

4:00 PM Vespers - "ad verbum illuminatum"
- Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel (Ticket Required)
Note: No 4:00 PM Mass
5:00 PM Gregorian Club Vespers Reception
- Monastery Chapter Room - Open To All
6:00 PM Women's Basketball - Dakota State University - Madison, SD
7:00 PM Vespers - "ad verbum illuminatum"
- Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel (Ticket Required)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:30 PM Yankton Catholic Daughters Visit The SJB - MMC Board Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:00 AM High School Oral Interpretation Contest - Campus Wide
6:00 PM Yankton Children's Choir Rehearsal - Bistro
6:00 PM Women's Basketball - Presentation College - Aberdeen, SD
9:30 PM Rosary - Peace Chapel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

10:00 AM Mass - Roncalli South Dining Room

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

12:00 PM Noon Forum: "Happiness in the 21s Century" with Dr. Alan Ferris - SDR
7:30 PM Theatre - Student Directed Final Projects - Bistro B127

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

The SJB Visits Broomtree Retreat Center
Theatre - Student Directed Final Projects - Bistro B127

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

10:00 AM Yankton Joyous Women's Group Visits The SJB - MMC Library
2:00 PM Women's Basketball - Concordia University - Seward, NE
4:00 PM Men's Basketball - Concordia University - Seward, NE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

10:00 AM The SJB Visits Peach Church - Yankton
7:30 PM MMC Band Concert - Marian Auditorium

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

The SJB Visits *Christmas at the Cathedral* Concerts - Sioux Falls, SD

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

4:00 PM MSN Hooding/Pinning Ceremony - Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

10:30 PM Nurse Anesthesia Hooding Ceremony - Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel
2:00 PM Fall Commencement - Marian Auditorium
2:00 PM Women's Basketball - Hastings College - Cimpl Arena
3:00 - 4:30 PM Pages Bookstore Open
4:00 PM Men's Basketball - Hastings College - Cimpl Arena

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Campus Closed for Christmas and New Year's Break
For Athletic Schedules During Break Please Visit MMCLancers.com

FONTANINI CHRISTMAS VILLAGE ON DISPLAY NOVEMBER 30TH - DECEMBER 19TH

Monday - Friday from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Closed Dec. 5)
Located in MMC Board Room

Fontanini Giftware is Available at MMC Pages Bookstore!