



Photo: Corey Strub

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Giving AND Living

Christian Music Singer
Mark Schultz Helps
Local Group Bring
Awareness Of Hunger
To Yankton Saturday

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Last year, Christian singer and songwriter Mark Schultz gave up.
He was in Europe with his wife, away from everything he owned, when something happened.
“After a few months of being together, we realized loving each other and loving God and loving other people was so much more important than the stuff we had sitting back in our garage,” the Tennessee-based musician said in a phone interview with the *Press & Dakotan*.
“So we gave up on the surface things — all the things that don’t make a difference — and focused on all the things that are here to stay and make a difference in people’s lives.”
Along with that revelation, Schultz did what he has always done when something moves him — he wrote a song about it.

“I just try to look for those things that are meaningful in life,” he said. “I want to tell a story that moves people and makes people think and makes people look for something that’s bigger than themselves. And I think music is a great way to do that.”

Schultz will be bringing his giving message and inspirational songs, such as “I Gave Up,” to Yankton Saturday when he performs as part of Kids Against Hunger of Yankton’s first Hunger Conference. The event will take place at 7 p.m. at the Yankton High School Theater and will offer area residents information about local hunger-fighting programs and how to get involved. Representatives will be present from Kids Against Hunger of Yankton, the Yankton Sack program, the Yankton Contact Center and the ministry of Helping Hands for Haiti.

“I’m pretty excited for it,” Schultz said. “I think it will bring people out for a great cause, and I hope people at the concert will feel uplifted and moved.”

Schultz describes his music as “your normal adult contemporary, Top 40 pop sound with a Christian worldview.” His many hits include “He’s My Son,” “Remember Me,” “Letters From War” and “Walking Her Home.”

He has been nominated for 14 Dove Awards, winning his first in 2006 for his CD/DVD, “Mark Schultz Live: A Night of Stories & Songs,” which was named Long Form Music Video of the Year.

For his Yankton performance, Schultz said he will play a blend of both old and new.

“I’ll perform all the hits that people know off the radio, plus I’ll throw in some new ones from the new record, and tell all the stories behind those,” he said. “It’ll be a good mix.”

Schultz said the inspiration for his latest album, “All Things Possible,” began five years ago as he started a bicycling tour from California to Maine. The trip took 62 days as he performed concerts along the way to raise money for widows and orphans.

“In the Bible it says one of the greatest things as a Christian you can do is take care of widows and orphans,” he said. “I thought if I could go and do that, maybe God would be in it. And sure enough, He was. And I realized I was able to do things I normally wouldn’t be able to because I felt like that God was in that, and anything is possible when God is in it.”

Schultz said one of his favorite songs from his latest album is about his son, who was born earlier this year. In “Haven’t Met You Yet,” the musician details the excitement he felt for his unborn child, who has since had a profound impact on his life.

“I was adopted, and I’ve never met my birth mom or my birth dad,” Schultz said. “So I’ve never really known where my sense of humor comes from, or my personality, or my musical ability. And I thought that maybe I’d never find that out — but then our son was born.”

“One night I was feeding him in his room, and he just started laughing, and my legs about buckled. I thought, ‘Man, that is my laugh, and those are my eyes, and that’s my smile.’ And my wife walked in, and I said, ‘My whole life I wanted to meet someone from my bloodline, and I never have, and I finally did tonight. I’m holding him.’ That was pretty special for me.”

Steve Mach, director of Kids Against Hunger of Yankton, said Schultz’s music fits perfectly with the goal of the Hunger Conference, which is to inspire people to share the goodness they have in their lives with others.

“His music reaches across generations to young and old alike,” he said. “It’s very uplifting.”

Schultz added, “Hopefully people will come and be moved and laugh a lot, and even cry a time or two. It will be well worth their time and will benefit a great cause.”

Tickets for Saturday’s conference are available at the Carpenter’s Shop and Clark’s Rentals, by phone at 800-965-9324 or at iTickets.com. All proceeds will benefit the Yankton Sack Pack program, the Yankton Contact Center and the ministry of Helping Hands for Haiti.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at twitter.com/d_bartos



Christian music singer Mark Schultz will perform in concert at the Summit Activities Center theater Saturday night as part of the Kids Against Hunger of Yankton’s first Hunger Conference. (Courtesy photo)



Yankton Public Schools

Parents of 2-and 3-year old children...
You are invited to “Experience Preschool”



**Yankton Public Schools invite you and your child to
EXPERIENCE PRESCHOOL**

On Monday, November 19 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., families who are considering preschool for their 2 - or 3 - year old child in 2013-2014 are invited to discover the amenities of Yankton School District’s Preschool Program at Webster School. This open house will allow toddlers and their parents an opportunity to explore a developmentally appropriate preschool while making a craft, enjoying a snack, receiving a board book, and having time to play!



To make your RESERVATION,
please call Webster Elementary School
at 665-2484.

IMPORTANT DATES

2013-14 Preschool Registration

⇒ Monday, December 3 @ 8:00 a.m.
Webster School Lobby

Experience Jr. K/Kindergarten

⇒ Thursday, January 24 @ 4-6 p.m.
All Elementary Buildings

Jr. K/Kindergarten Registration

⇒ Thursday, February 7 @ 4-6 p.m.
Beadle Elementary School

Jr. K/Kindergarten Screening

⇒ Tuesday & Wednesday, May 1 & 2
Yankton Community Library

