



The Messenger

Messenger Project Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1, January 2004

Messenger Notes

2003 was the first year that **Messenger** did not produce a CD since we began. We hope it is also the last!

The year started with three concerts at **Concordia University** that showcased local Christian artists. **Messenger Project** thanks **Priscilla Huh** for allowing us the opportunity to perform at Concordia. We also thank **Sunday Evening, D'Angeles, Shelly Morin** and **Draweth Nigh** for their captivating performances. Thanks goes also to **Jonathon Perkins** for hosting the shows and **Kari Roberson** for helping behind the scenes.

Last year was our first year to receive contributions from Corporate America. We thank **Verizon** and **Albertson's** for their nonprofit assistance programs that help us to defer operating costs.

2003 brought **Bart Broadnax** on board with his exceptional bass guitar playing. We were also blessed with recordings by **Ed Estrella, Alex Amador, John Bolivar, Andrew & Mary Kate Kirby, Dan Waterman, Gary Bruno and Avery Burdette**. A thanks to everyone who helped us to record God's word in music! A special thanks also goes to **Joie Verona** for helping **Lionel De Leon** perform at a youth detention camp in December.

2003 also brought us some bad news when **mp3.com** closed its website down and left us with no avenue for our music to be freely downloaded online. We hope to find a replacement site this year so we may continue to spread God's word around the world with our recorded songs from Scripture.

2004 begins with tasks to finish from 2003 as we finish our sixth CD. We also plan to complete a working copy of **The Word**, a musical about Jesus. We hope to see it on Broadway someday!

American History

Last month's newsletter listed religious historical facts in America from 1769-1925. This month continues with 1925 toward the present.

1925 Florida House of Representatives passed a bill that required **daily Bible readings** in all public schools.

1926 Texas State Text Book Board prohibited the discussion of the **evolutionary theory** in any of its school's textbooks.

1933 "**The Humanist Manifesto**" was issued under the signature of 11 prominent college and university professors. It contained 15 points that tried to erase distinctions between religious and human, sacred and secular. It endorsed evolution over Creation.

1943 Supreme Court ruled that **Nevada divorces** were valid in all states, making dissolutions of marriages easier to achieve.

1948 Supreme Court ruled that **religious education** in public schools violated the First Amendment.

1954 Congress added the words "**under God**" to the pledge of allegiance.

1956 "**In God We Trust**" was declared the National motto by congress and approved by President Eisenhower.

1957 "**In God We Trust**" was first printed on paper money, one dollar silver certificates.

1960 **Recreational sex** among married couples was declared un-sinful by the leaders of the Southern Presbyterian Church.

1961 **Birth control** was endorsed by the National Council of Churches (for married couples).

1962 Supreme Court ruled that official **prayer in public schools** is unconstitutional.

1963 Supreme Court ruled that **Bible reading** over a public school intercom is unconstitutional.

1968 Supreme Court ruled that prohibiting the **teaching of evolution** was unconstitutional.

1969 Supreme Court ruled that laws against **private possession of obscene material** were unconstitutional.

1973 Supreme Court ruled that women have the right to have an **abortion**.

1980 Supreme Court ruled that posting the **Ten Commandments in public schools** is unconstitutional.

1987 Supreme Court ruled that teaching "**Creation science**" is unconstitutional.

1989 Supreme Court ruled that a **nativity scene** on government property is unconstitutional.

1992 Supreme Court ruled that **prayers during graduation ceremonies** are unconstitutional.

Our nation is moving away from its religious roots and toward a secular society. Gone are the days when the Bible was an intricate part of public education and when prayer abounded. Instead, we teach that life was formed by a cosmic accident and that man evolved from a lower life form. As absurd as it sounds, secular society accepts it because it is promoted by educated scholars. We as Christians know better. God is in control and we put our trust in him for all things. Have a blessed new year as a faithful servant to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!