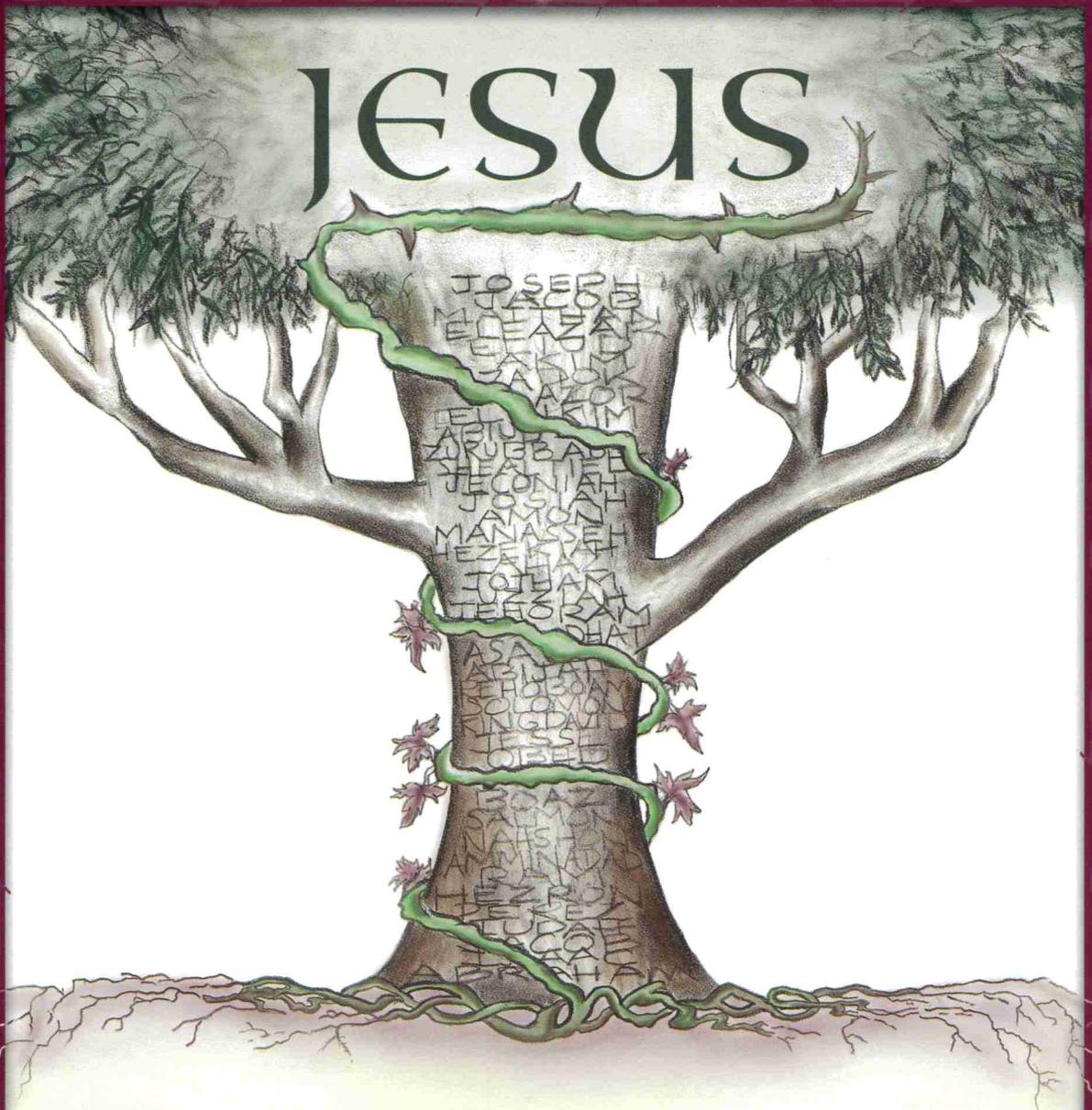


CHRISTMAS WITH WARTBURG 2003

JESUS



The Generations of Jesus

Christmas with Wartburg

Christmas with Wartburg began in the 1940s as a modest Christmas program featuring students from the college and the Waverly schools. The college developed its own program in 1947 and gave it the name Christmas at Wartburg in 1951. It was presented in Knights Gymnasium until Neumann Auditorium opened in 1960. As the audience grew, the program expanded from one to two campus performances, then became Christmas with Wartburg when Cedar Falls and Des Moines were added to the itinerary in the 1980s. Today, nearly 7,000 people attend the annual event, which has been featured on Iowa Public Television and in *Midwest Living* magazine.

This musical gift to Iowa provides a fitting opportunity for Wartburg, a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, to proclaim the Good News of Christ's birth in word and song. It involves a substantial commitment at the busiest time of the academic term for the more than 200 student musicians, who will begin final examinations in two weeks. It showcases the talents of the Wartburg Choir, Castle Singers, and Wind Ensemble, which tour annually and travel abroad every third year, as well as the Ritterchor. The Wind Ensemble will tour Europe during May Term 2004. The Castle Singers will perform throughout the Midwest during Tour Week April 18-25. The Wartburg Choir will tour with Simon Estes during Winter Term Break, with performances scheduled for Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, Feb. 29; Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C., March 1; and Avery Fisher Hall at the Lincoln Center, New York City, March 3.

In writing this year's narration, Kathryn Koob notes: "Genealogy fascinates many people. It is important in establishing lineage, heritage, and family lines. Matthew was concerned that the family lines of Jesus should be clearly established. It was one way of demonstrating that Jesus was the expected Messiah. I have long been fascinated by Matthew's listing of the 'generations.' When I began thinking about the 'generations,' I started thinking in terms of ancestors and descendents. As I dealt with the issues facing these various generations, I realized that successive generations, while holding to family lines, also had common threads in areas of despair, hope, expectation, and fulfillment. We are fully aware of the despair in our time, but we live in hope. And certainly, knowing the Savior, we must live our lives in the fulfillment of his atoning love. Thus we continue the generations of Jesus, living lives of service in hope and fulfillment, lifting others and ourselves from the despair that seems to circle every generation."



The Generations of Jesus

WIND ENSEMBLE

Prelude

Winterfest arr. Victor Lopez

WARTBURG CHOIR, CASTLE SINGERS, RITTERCHOR, WIND ENSEMBLE

Processional

O Holy Night Adolphe Adam; arr. Custer; choral arr. Philip Schroetter '05

Dr. Simon Estes, soloist

WARTBURG CHOIR, CASTLE SINGERS, RITTERCHOR, WIND ENSEMBLE

Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates George Frideric Handel
from *Messiah*

CONGREGATION

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Rowland Prichard, text Charles Wesley



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set thy
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and

7



peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us
yet a king; Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now thy

14



find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it

21



Hope for all the earth thou art, Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry
Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By thine all - suf - fi - cient

28



na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

WIND ENSEMBLE

Carol of the Shepherds arr. Philip Sparke

WARTBURG CHOIR

That Night in Bethlehem Ben Allaway

Dr. Simon Estes, soloist

Elizabeth Carr, piano

Written especially for Christmas with Wartburg, the Wartburg Choir, and Simon Estes, this commissioning was made possible through the generosity of James '51 and Barbara '52 Fritschel of Thousand Oaks, Calif. A portion of the funds from the Fritschel Choral Endowment is used to commission choral pieces for the Wartburg Choir and other choral groups at Wartburg.

WARTBURG CHOIR, CASTLE SINGERS, RITTERCHOR

Magnificat James McCray

Nicholas Kuennen, Kevin Rybowicz, Tempa Haines, Mara Ostermeier, soloists

Lauren Semler, Hesper Meidlinger, trumpets; Derek Riley, string bass; Melinda Paulsen, celeste; Marta Erickson, piano; Kari Krogmann, harp; Jennifer Boyens, glockenspiel

CONGREGATION

Spirit of the Word text The Rev. Herbert Brokering '45, tune Robert Wetzler



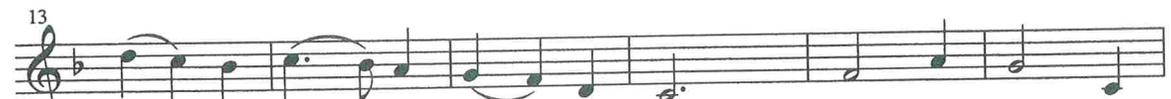
1. Born of wo - man, sec - ond Ad - am, God in - side a
4. Peace un - fold - ing, all be - hold - ing Light in - side a
5. Hur - ry to the place so hum - ble Has - ten to the

7



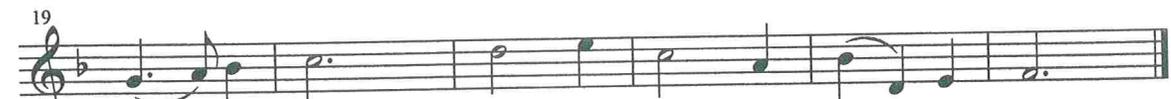
tin - y stall, Choirs a - wake the hosts of heav - en,
dark - ened sky; Proph - ets prom - ise shep - herds hold - ing
E - den morn Where the walls of war will crum - ble

13



Birth cry of the All in All; First born of the
Vig - il then the won - der why. Peace, good - will will
And the Light of Light is born. Come and see a

19



God "I Am," E - den now in Beth - le hem.
come to earth In the mir - a - cle of birth.
ho - ly place Which the love of God will grace.

Text and tune used by permission.

RITTERCHOR

Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heav'nly Light
from *Christmas Oratorio* Johann Sebastian Bach

CONGREGATION

Silent Night traditional

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born!
Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

WIND ENSEMBLE

To Challenge the Sky and Heavens Above Robert W. Smith

CASTLE SINGERS

And Is It True? Ben Parry

WARTBURG CHOIR

Nunc Dimittus Gustav Holst

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant
depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared
before the face of all people.
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

CASTLE SINGERS

Mary's Little Boy Child Jester Hairston, arr. Lojeski/Andrews

Mara Ostermeier, Nick Skurdal, soloists

CONGREGATION

O Come All Ye Faithful traditional

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O, come, ye, o, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the king of angels:

Refrain:

O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest:

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

RITTERCHOR

Come and See the King! Ken Berg

James Cory, Wyatt Sheeder, Terrance Thomas, soloists – Thursday and Saturday

Jamie Kelley, Brandon Reimers, Chris Smith, soloists – Friday and Sunday

WARTBURG CHOIR, CASTLE SINGERS, RITTERCHOR, WIND ENSEMBLE

Antiphon from Five Mystical Songs Ralph Vaughn Williams

Notes and Announcements

Interlude music performed by the Wartburg Wind Ensemble between musical numbers is taken from *Hymnal Companion for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion* by Richard Rose. The composer is a Lutheran school band director in Maywood, Ill., and the father of Samantha Rose '05, French horn player in the Wind Ensemble.

Those working behind the scenes on this year's technical and setup crew include Tony Lutz, media support service specialist, Ed Wubbena, Neumann Auditorium maintenance staff, Kristin Anderson, Lindsay Diehl, Erica Finken, Mark Giesmann, Jon Hines, Ed Pease, Dan Rathe, and Kelly Watkins. Dr. William Earl, assistant professor of communication arts-theatre, designed the set decorations. Stage manager for the event is Jamie Kranz. Assistant stage manager is Sally Mitchell.

This year's Christmas with Wartburg artwork was created by Penny Sund, graphic artist in the Wartburg Communication and Marketing Office. The illustration symbolizes Jesus' lineage and our relationship to him. Each generation creates the tree of life encircled by God's vine of love.

Special thanks to the Wartburg Advancement staff and members of the Student Alumni Council for serving as ushers and reception hosts.

Christmas with Wartburg compact discs and music ensemble compact discs and cassette tapes are available for purchase in the lobby immediately following the performance.

A complete list of Wartburg music faculty, upcoming music and college events, and this evening's narration can be found on the Wartburg Web site at www.wartburg.edu/musicdept.

The Wartburg Bookstore will be open Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Directors



Dr. Craig A. Hancock, director of bands and associate professor of music, directs the Wartburg College Wind Ensemble and the Symphonic Band. He teaches conducting, trombone, euphonium, and tuba, and coordinates two dozen wind and percussion ensembles. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Simpson College. His Master of Arts and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees are from the University of Iowa. In addition to conducting and teaching, he makes frequent appearances as a clinician, adjudicator, and conductor for band festivals throughout the Midwest. He was the 2000 recipient of Wartburg's Student Award for Teaching Excellence. He directed the Wartburg College Concert Band in Europe in 1997 and the Wind Ensemble in 2001. He also has been part of the administrative team of Iowa Ambassadors of Music on European tours in 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002.



Dr. Paul Torkelson, director of choral activities, professor of music, and Zahn Chair in Choral Conducting, has directed the Wartburg Choir since 1984 and the Ritterchor since 2002. A 1976 Wartburg graduate, he earned his Master of Music degree from Kansas State University and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Colorado. He is a frequent guest conductor for all-state choirs throughout the country and has taken the Wartburg Choir on tours of Europe in 1987, 1991, 1995, 1999, and 2002. He was recently named one of the top 10 music educators in the state of Iowa by Music Educators National Conference. He also directs the Metropolitan Chorale in Waterloo.



Dr. Jane Andrews, associate professor of music, directs the Castle Singers and St. Elizabeth Chorale. Before coming to Wartburg, she was director of music at the 3,000-member Atonement Lutheran Church in Overland Park, Kan. In the 1970s, she was instrumental in introducing the vocal jazz genre to Colorado. In the early 1990s, she chaired the music department at Mount Mercy College. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education from the University of Northern Colorado, a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from Colorado State University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from the University of Missouri Conservatory. Her groups have appeared at both American Choral Directors Association and Music Educators National Conference conventions.



Kathryn Koob returned to Wartburg, her alma mater, after retiring from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service. She teaches in the Wartburg religion and communication arts departments and is active in the Waverly community. She says she has enjoyed working with the music department, campus ministry, and technical volunteers to develop this year's Christmas with Wartburg theme and narration. She graduated from Wartburg in 1962. She earned a Master of Arts degree from the University of Denver in 1968 and a Master of Arts in Religion from Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1998. She was named the 2002 American Legion Auxiliary Woman of the Year.

The Narrator



Grant Price, professor emeritus of communication arts, joined the Wartburg faculty following a 50-year career in radio and television. He began teaching courses in electronic media in 1990 after retiring as vice president for news at KWWL-Television, Channel 7, in Waterloo and other radio and TV stations owned by Black Hawk Broadcasting Company. Prior to that he had been director of news services at WMT television and radio in Cedar Rapids.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Price served as interim chair of communication arts for four years and was involved in the planning and implementation of an expanded curriculum and facilities to incorporate television courses. He also initiated a project to collect and preserve the history of radio and television in Iowa that led to creation of the Iowa Broadcasting Archives, which are located in the Wartburg Vogel Library.

Special Musicians



Simon Estes, world-renowned bass-baritone, enjoys the acclaim of audiences and critics around the globe. He joined the Wartburg College community in 2002 as distinguished professor and artist-in-residence. Rising from humble beginnings in Centerville, Iowa, Estes has sung more than 100 roles, a distinction held by few opera singers.

His love and concern for youth and his vision for merit-based education and opportunity are manifested in several scholarship funds he has created to ease the financial burden for deserving students. The Simon Estes Iowa Educational Foundation is a multiracial, nonprofit Iowa organization created in 2001 to provide positive minority role model programs and scholarship opportunities for disadvantaged youth across the state of Iowa. The foundation also oversees the Simon Estes Educational Program, designed to help support the Iowa educational system in its efforts to educate students on minority and social issues within the state. The Switzerland-based Simon Estes International Foundation for Children provides financial assistance to underprivileged children around the world. It supports, among many causes, the Simon Estes High School in Cape Town, South Africa, which serves some of the poorest children in South Africa.



Ben Allaway has served as choir director and composer-in-residence at First Christian Church in Des Moines since 1998. His published choral works have been performed in all 50 states and abroad, and he devotes much of his time to filling commissions—over 60 since 1992—including four for Wartburg College. This year's Christmas with Wartburg performance marks the premiere of Allaway's *That Night in Bethlehem*, which will also be presented during the Wartburg Choir tour with Simon Estes in March. His works regularly appear on national and regional conventions of the American Choral Directors Association and the Music Educators National Conference, Chorus America, and numerous All-State Choir programs. Prior to his work at First Christian, Allaway served for five years as choirmaster at The Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Des Moines and for five years as director of choral activities at Waldorf College. A native of Santa Barbara, Calif., he studied at the University of Illinois, St. Olaf College, and Westminster Choir College and is an adjunct faculty member at Graceland University. Allaway recently founded his own publishing company, Threshold Music Press. He resides in Des Moines with his wife and three children.



The Rev. Herbert Brokering '45 earned his bachelor of arts degree in Greek from Wartburg in 1945 and completed his master of divinity at Capital University Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. He served pastorates in Pittsburgh, Cedarhurst, N.Y., and San Antonio, before joining the national staff of the American Lutheran Church. Later he followed his calling to begin teaching and ministry as a writer, educator, and workshop leader. In addition to writing more than 30 books, Brokering has published texts for over 100 anthems and songs. His hymn texts have become classics in many denominations: *Earth and All Stars*, *Stay With Us*, and *Thine the Amen*, *Thine the Praise* are just three of his well-loved texts. *Spirit of the Word* was written in 2003. Over the past two decades, he has led more than 100 grassroots pilgrimages of peace to Eastern Europe, the Middle East, China, and India.

Wartburg Choir

SOPRANO

Amy Anderson Ackley
 Marta Anderson Elgin, Ill.
 Erin Becker Sumner
 Katie Becker Cedar Rapids
 Heidi Brumm Meyer
 Elizabeth Carr Manchester
 Emily Cook Pocahontas
 Angela Dencklau Vincent
 Jillian Duffy Mason City
 Stephanie Egts Bettendorf
 Tempa Haines Lake Zurich, Ill.
 Elizabeth Halbur Manning
 Amanda Hargens Johnston
 Karina Jorgensen Milford
 Amy Kent West Union
 Angela Kohlhaas Algona
 Emily Lubberden Pella
 Shannon McConnell DeWitt
 Alicia Menefee Guthrie Center
 Jessica Mitcheltree Keosauqua
 Jacquelyn Novak Waukon
 Rachel Olson Cedar Falls
 Carrie Reason Buffalo Prairie, Ill.
 Katia Rinehart Cedar Rapids
 Alicia Seliger Jesup
 Heather Severson Mason City
 Jill Smith Sloan
 Kari Tindall Graettinger
 Amelia Weber Wausau, Wis.

ALTO

Brianne Borgie Geneva, Ill.
 Cassie Dearborn Ankeny
 Emily Friedman Ankeny
 Mary Fuller Zearing
 Alaina Goos Masonville
 Jessica Grasby West Bend, Wis.
 Megan Hildebrandt LeGrand
 Kira Johnson Faribault, Minn.
 Meredith Johnson Adel
 Alexis Jansonius Ackley
 Katie Kirkle Knoxville
 Angela Kordahl Sioux Center
 Kari Krogmann Manchester
 Heidi Lauer Mt. Pleasant
 Michele Lodge Waverly
 Erica Manternach Cascade
 Erika Mussman Marion
 Elisabeth Neerhof St. Ansgar
 Kathryn Powell Madison, Wis.
 Holly Raabe Beatrice, Neb.
 Emily Seboldt Van Horne
 Karin Smith West Des Moines
 Jessica Swanson
 Rachel Thursby Apple Valley, Minn.
 Kara Ullestad Cedar Rapids
 Janelle VanDonselaar Cedar Falls
 Grinnell

TENOR

Travis Beck Nashua
 Robert Beland St. Ansgar
 Darin Collum Monticello

James Cory Jefferson
 Timothy Donat Maynard
 Andrew Drahota Buffalo Center
 Michael Greenwald Wausau, Wis.
 Matthew Jensen Mason City
 Nicholas Kuennen New Hampton
 Bryan Maurer Cedar Rapids
 Chris Medinger Bellevue
 Brandon Reimers Muscatine
 Kevin Rybowicz Des Plaines, Ill.
 Philip Schroetter Elk Mound, Wis.
 Christopher Smith Milton, Wis.
 Christopher Tripolino Cedar Falls

BASS

Jacob Boyd Washington
 Ryan Brumm Meyer
 Paul Cort Guyana, Africa
 Adam Johnson Independence
 Nathan Kerl Rochester, Minn.
 Jon Kyte Monticello
 Daniel Luepke Freeport, Ill.
 Brian More Montgomery, Minn.
 Derek Pavelec Readlyn
 Patrick Rhomberg Davenport
 Clinton Riese Wausau, Wis.
 Jediah Riley Sioux City
 Wyatt Sheeder Guthrie Center
 Scott Storlie Dubuque
 Andrew Werling Tipton
 Gregory Wickenkamp
 Travis Wilkins Cedar Rapids
 Waverly

Ritterchor

TENOR I

Robert Beland	St. Ansgar
Andy Biesterfelt	Tripoli
James Cory	Jefferson
Michael Greenwald	Wausau, Wis.
Steve Hennigs	Lincoln, Neb.
Jamie Kelley	Nora Springs
Adam Kirchhoff	Tripoli
Vern Klobassa	Elma
Chris Smith	Milton, Wis.

TENOR II

Rob Egli	Washington
Chris Hadley	Waterloo
Nick Kuennen	New Hampton
Bryan Maurer	Cedar Rapids
Chris Medinger	Bellevue
Andrew Potratz	Janesville
Daniel Rathe	Dunkerton

Brandon Reimers	Muscatine
Greg Rothlisberger	Fredericksburg
Jon Runaas	Alma, Neb.
Todd Stanhope	Washburn
Terrance Thomas	Waterloo
Tyler Urich	Garner
Joshua Waller	Manson
Kevin Waller	Lemmon, S.D.
Andrew Wotherspoon	Fairfield

BARITONE

Kyle Conrad	Waucoma
Eddie Glade	Ocheyedan
Cory Graven	Rippey
Brian Johnson	Humboldt
Zach Ladage	Tripoli
Brian More	Montgomery
Pat Rhomberg	Davenport

Jedidiah Riley	Sioux City
Wyatt Sheeder	Guthrie Center
Jimmy Vowell	Nashua
Chris Widmer	Washington
Alek Wipperman	Waverly

BASS

Dan Draeger	Aurora, Colo.
Mike Fink	Marshalltown
Chris Heller	Stockton, Ill.
Daniel Luepke	Freeport, Ill.
Kyle Nikkel	Ankeny
Nick Skurdal	West Union
Kyle Thye	Des Moines

KEYBOARD

Katie Kamaus	West Union
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Castle Singers

SOPRANO

Cari Blatchford	Newton
Lindsey Brown	Iowa Falls
Renee Clark	Urbandale
Alexis Graff	Oshkosh, Wis.
Kim Mackey	Center Point
Mara Ostermeier	Owatonna, Minn.
Whitney Robertson	Delhi
Jenny Schirmer	Strawberry Point

ALTO

Nina Bucknell	Le Roy, Minn.
Heidi Flickinger	Clear Lake
Christy Hansen	White Bear Lake, Minn.
Katy Pralle	Hampton

Jasmine Roche	Fort Collins, Colo.
Michelle Swieter	Hampton
Melia Thompson	Ellsworth

TENOR

Andy Biesterfelt	Tripoli
Jamie Kelley	Nora Springs
Leo Marlowe	Charlotte
Jon Runaas	Alma, Neb.
Hiro Saito	Fukushima, Japan
Conor Simcox	Brighton, Colo.
David Voves	Ionia

BASS

Michael Fink	Marshalltown
Cory Graven	Rippey
Kyle Nikkel	Ankeny
Travis Olson	Linn Grove
Adam Radcliffe	Hampton
Nick Skurdal	West Union

PIANO

Marta Erickson	Dayton
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Wind Ensemble

FLUTE/PICCOLO

Sarah Meidlinger Fairfield
 Laura Durant Waterloo
 Shena Wadian Fayette
 Melissa Fox Des Moines
 Lauren Vincent St. Louis, Mo.
 Crystal Baillie Holstein
 Meredith Warren Davenport

OBOE

Melissa Schneider Monticello

BASSOON

Amy Kielblock
 Brooklyn Park, Minn.
 Robert McIntyre Mediapolis
 Miranda Spurgeon
 Spring Valley, Minn.
 RaeLynne Nelson Charles City

E- FLAT CLARINET

Kristin Granchalek Holmen, Wis.

CLARINET

Allison Anderson Rochester, Ill.
 Melanie Wulfekuhle Edgewood
 Amanda Indra Osage
 Megan Hill Mason City
 Kristin Granchalek Holmen, Wis.
 Holly Dravis Nashua
 Sara Haverkamp Independence
 Sharla Smook Spirit Lake

Erica Ostwald Algona
 Victoria Bahe Sumner
 Melinda Paulsen Center Junction

BASS CLARINET

Heather Burns Mason City

SOPRANO SAXOPHONE

Chris Hadley Waterloo

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Chris Hadley Waterloo
 Maggie Angell New Hampton
 Megan Buege De Forest, Wis.

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Jay Balek Mason City

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Lisa Vatnsdal Roseau, Minn.

HORN

Samantha Rose Maywood, Ill.
 Katie Kamaus West Union
 Erin Manson Maquoketa
 Sarah Brown Manning
 Katie James West Union

KEYBOARD

Katie Kamaus West Union
 Holly Dravis Nashua

TRUMPET

Lauren Semler Hampton
 Hesper Meidlinger Fairfield
 Mihori Honda Tokyo, Japan
 Todd Stanhope Washburn
 Jill Johnson St. Olaf
 Marcia Bergman Jesup
 Brian Claeys Eldridge

TROMBONE

Alek Wipperman Waverly
 Sarah Tuttle Des Moines
 Eddie Glade Ocheyedan
 Joshua Evanovich Washington
 Scott Riggs Ottumwa

BASS TROMBONE

Andrew Wotherspoon Fairfield

EUPHONIUM

Steve Neptun East Peoria, Ill.

TUBA

Braden Wipperman Waverly
 Derek Riley Onalaska, Wis.
 Thomas Brekhuis Irving, Texas

PERCUSSION

Jennifer Boyens Marion
 Greg Schmitt Peoria, Ill.
 Sarah Swanson Ottumwa
 Jessica Wilke Elkader

Narration

For generations the children of Israel had been waiting for the Messiah. Questions must have been on everyone's lips. Who will it be? How will we know Him? When will the Messiah come? Will our child be the chosen one? Who he was is so important that Matthew describes in great detail the genealogy of Jesus. He begins with Abraham and lists by name the fathers, and some mothers, and the sons, and sons of sons. He concludes the list with the summary: "Thus there were 14 generations in all from Abraham to David, 14 from David to the exile to Babylon, and 14 from the exile to the Christ." (Matthew 1:17 NIV) For more than these 42 generations the people had waited. They cried with the Psalmist, "Who is this King of Glory?"

We too wait in this season of Advent. Yet again, we join the generations of those who live in hope and expectation. We lift our voices from despair and reach toward the celebration of the fulfillment of God's promise to deliver us.

Counting from the time of Abraham, 42 generations waited for the promised Messiah. But the wait had begun generations before. The promise God made to Adam and Eve in the Garden was the first of several promises God made to the chosen ones. These promises were grasped and guarded by the generations of those early families. The women and the men who knew God kept looking for signs of the promises being fulfilled. The expression of that longing was found in the stories told and retold to successive generations. They talked about manna from heaven, a vessel of oil that was never empty, and about God placing a rainbow of promise in the sky. And always they reminded each other that God's grace was found in the mark of Cain, reminding all that even in our sin we are God's children. From the depths of despair the promise was there for the 42 generations and for us.

Even Joseph had his moment of despair. Mary, his betrothed, was with child. What could he do? He thought about abandoning her, but a messenger from God reassured him, and he took Mary as his wife. The prophecy and its fulfillment traveled with them on the way to Bethlehem. And today, in our despair, in our horror at the inequities and injustices in the world, in the midst of personal crises, and political instability, and the suffering of war, we reach out from our despair to that promise. The Messiah, the Savior is coming.

We travel with those same prophecies and promises looking for a way to move from our despondence. We reach toward the eternal, the constant, and the faithful. We look to God in hope. We wonder, "What we can do?" And in our search, we remember the simple statement of Mary: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord." Our prayer begins to be "Lord, use me."

It is easy to imagine Mary and Elizabeth living in expectation of the children they will bear. They live with their hopes for their children and the future, and hold the message of God close to their hearts. They remember the promises they have heard: promises passed down through the generations; the promise given to Abraham that God would make of him and Sarah a great nation; the promise from Isaiah that God would send a "wonderful counselor, a mighty prince of peace;" and that Bethlehem would be the birthplace of the Messiah.

We live in the fulfillment of those promises and the promise that our Lord and Savior, in the fullness of time, will come again.

The implication of Mary's prayer, "Lord, use me," translates into action. Just as Mary and Joseph lost their lives in service to God's will, we move into lives of service. Action breeds hope, especially when coupled with Jesus' own promise that we are part of Him. We are the branches of the Vine that rooted in the Christ Child. That connection makes it possible for us to lift ourselves from the depths of despair. It is the stories that we have been told as a source of hope and joy that make it possible for us to look each year with renewed vigor and faith to the coming of the Messiah.

Many of the hopes we come to know are found in community. The hopes we know and experience come not only from the Israeli community of the scriptures, but also from the witness and stories of our own family generations. The faith community history assures us that Jesus was there and is here. He came, and in Him is our hope. We listen to these stories, and with the shepherds, marvel at our vision of the Messiah, the hope of the world, in the manger.

We live in the fulfillment of the generations of promise. Jesus has come. Jesus is real; he lives and works in us. We have used many labels for the generations of our lives: flappers, the beat generation, boomers, generation X, and millenials. We've identified ourselves by various names, but the one name, which is above all, is strangely absent from this list. And yet, being a part of the generations of Jesus is the most important part of our lives.

We are among the generations of fulfillment, and we must live it as if we meant it. We must search for justice and strive to solve inequities. We have an incredible opportunity to carry out the work of the Lord. When we remember the longing, the waiting, and the yearning for the coming of the Christ, how can we who have been privileged to know Him not seek to become the generation of fulfillment? How can we not let our lives be filled with the richness of the Spirit, Jesus' own promise to us?

How can we change the lives of people who still reflect the generations who lived in despair and hopelessness? How can we become catalysts for change? How can we share the good news of the story of how a child born in a stable changes lives from despair to hope? The generations of people who have sought to serve the Lord provide part of our answer: the Martin Luthers, the Mother Teresas, the godparents we have known and loved. Christ in them and in us is the answer. That child, that holy Child, is the hope for our age, as he was for the ages gone before and those still to come.

I am but one, but joined with all of the other "ones" the power of our combined force creates the army of the faithful. We can be the emissaries of our Prince of Peace, worshipped and adored by the faithful shepherds and the Magi. We can raise our voices with Simeon and Anna, not only in the temple, but also in the temple of our lives. We can be the generation of Jesus that makes changes. The power of the gift of God in our lives can help us live in the grace and fullness of truth.

And so the generations of Jesus, those generations before His coming, and those generations since, blend in the story of the event of His birth. The celebration of that event draws all of us into the generations of the creation. We are a part of the generations of God, a single person, known to and loved by God. We sing with all of those who have gone before us our praises, our alleluias, and our thanksgiving. To God alone be the glory and the power, now and forevermore.

Coming to Wartburg College

DECEMBER

- 12 **Knightlitters Jazz Band Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 13 **Wartburg Community Symphony Holiday Concert**, featuring guest handbell artist Aaron Hansen and narrator Mark Gravdal – Neumann Auditorium, 2 p.m.
- 14 **December Commencement** – Wartburg Chapel, 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Candlelight Service – Wartburg Chapel, 5 and 7 p.m.

JANUARY

- 10 **Iowa Collegiate MENC Conference**, hosted by Wartburg music education students – Fine Arts Center
- 18 **Meistersinger Honor Choir Concert**, featuring selected high school vocalists and the Wartburg Choir – Neumann Auditorium, 3 p.m.
- 23 **Meistersinger Music Scholarship Auditions** for prospective students
- 27 **Pop-soul singer Chinua Hawk** – St. Elizabeth Room, Student Center, 8 p.m.
- 31 **Meistersinger Music Scholarship Auditions** for prospective students

FEBRUARY

- 3 **Artist Series, *The Fantasticks*** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 **Meistersinger Honor Band Guest Conductor Lecture/Clinic** – Orchestra Hall, Fine Arts Center, 7 p.m.
- 7 **Wartburg College Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **Meistersinger Honor Band Concert**, featuring selected high school musicians – Neumann Auditorium, 3 p.m.
- 14 **Wartburg Community Symphony Concert** with guest artist Wolfram Koessel, cello – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 **St. Elizabeth Chorale High Tea** – Student Center, 3 p.m.
- 20-21 **Opera Workshop** presents two one-act operas, *Oedipus Tex* and *The Impresario* – Wartburg Chapel, 8 p.m.
- 23 **Graven Award** presentation to Carl F. Schalk, professor emeritus of music, Concordia University, River Forest, Ill. – Wartburg Chapel, 7:30 p.m.
- 24 **Graven Award Convocation** with address by Carl F. Schalk – Neumann Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.
Wartburg Choir Concert with Simon Estes – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

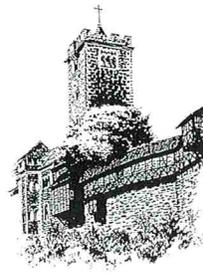
MARCH

- 12 **Steve Green Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 19-20 **Invitational Jazz Festival**, hosted by Dr. Jane Andrews and the Castle Singers with guest jazz vocalist Kevin Mahogany
- 21 **Chapel Choir Concert** – Wartburg Chapel, 4 p.m.
- 23 **Artist Series, *The Peking Acrobats*** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 27 **Wartburg Community Symphony Concert** with guest artist Paul Jacobs, organ – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 28 **Ritterchor Concert** – Wartburg Chapel, 4 p.m.

APRIL

- 1-3 **Wartburg Players present *Macbeth*** – Players Theatre, 8 p.m.
- 2 **Castle Singers/Knightlitters Jazz Band Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- 3 **Symphonic Band Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 2 p.m.
- 4 **Wartburg College Wind Ensemble Concert** – Neumann Auditorium, 1:30 p.m.

Check out the Wartburg Web site for college news and events: www.wartburg.edu



RICH HERITAGE

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning. The college achieved an eighth consecutive year of record enrollment this fall with 1,775 students representing 23 U.S. states and 32 countries.

Wartburg ranks at the top of Iowa comprehensive colleges in overall score and graduation rate in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2004 edition of *America's Best Colleges*. It ranks third in the Midwest among the publication's list of "Great Deals at Great Schools." Wartburg is one of 150 colleges from 11 states profiled in the first edition of *The Best Midwestern Colleges*, a higher education guide published by *The Princeton Review*. *Peterson's Top Colleges for Science* includes Wartburg on its list of 200 U.S. colleges and universities offering outstanding undergraduate programs in science and mathematics.

Discovering and Claiming Our Callings, a campus-wide initiative launched this fall with a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc., helps students determine how their faith commitments relate to career choices and what it means to be called to lives of service.

Wartburg is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It takes its name from the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany, where Martin Luther spent 10 months in hiding during the stormy days of the Reformation.



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