
Eight area gospel choirs join voices for Milligan worship service

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More than 100 people from eight area gospel choirs will join their voices to present "O Come Let Us Sing to the Lord," a unique concert and worship experience, on Tuesday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m. in Milligan College's Mary B. Martin Auditorium in Seeger Memorial Chapel. The event is free and open to the public.

The worship celebration is presented by the Milligan Arts Council in collaboration with the ADMC Vocal Ensemble, the East Tennessee State University Gospel Choir, the International Choir from Emmanuel School of Religion and several area churches in Johnson City and Jonesborough including Bethel Christian Church, Friendship Baptist Church, Grace Temple Church, Greater Love Church of God in Christ and Thankful Baptist Church.

"This is a good opportunity for the community to share in this unique church music experience," said Vincent M. Dial, pastor at Bethel Christian Church in Jonesborough. "It's not a perfor-

mance; it's a worship service that we hope will remind us all that we are called to be disciples in Christ, individually and collectively."

The theme of the service is based on Psalm 95:1. Each choir will present rousing gospel selections, with ministers of the participating churches reading scripture throughout the service. Phedelma Turner, minister of music at Friendship Baptist Church, will also lead the choirs in a joint selection, combining their more than 100 voices in praise.

"The benediction of the service will be the mass choir singing 'Be Blessed' by Kurt Carr," Dial said. "This song pulls the choirs and congregation together and is very powerful. This particular song is indicative of the need for unity among God's people. We hope the people in attendance will be blessed by this service. This is the first time these churches have combined for a gospel service like this at Milligan, and we hope it turns into an annual event."