



KUSDA MUSIC DEDICATION & LAUNCH POLICY

KUSDA CHURCH

SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

JANUARY 1, 2021
PROPERTY OF KUSDA CHURCH
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The Power of Song. --The history of the songs of the Bible is full of suggestion as to the uses and benefits of music and song. Music is often perverted to serve purposes of evil, and it thus becomes one of the most alluring agencies of temptation. But, rightly employed, it is a precious gift of God, designed to uplift the thoughts to high and noble themes, to inspire and elevate the soul.

As the children of Israel, journeying through the wilderness, cheered their way by the music of sacred song, so God bids His children today gladden their pilgrim life. There are few means more effective for fixing His words in the memory than repeating them in song. And such song has wonderful power. It has power to subdue rude and uncultivated natures; power to quicken thought and awaken sympathy, to promote harmony of action, and to banish the gloom and foreboding that destroy courage and weaken effort.

It is one of the most effective means of impressing the heart with spiritual truth. How often to the soul hard-pressed and ready to despair, memory recalls some word of God's, --the long-forgotten burden of a childhood song, -- and temptations lose their power, life takes on new meaning and new purpose, and courage and gladness are imparted to other souls!

The value of song as a means of education should never be lost sight of. Let there be singing in the home, of songs that are sweet and pure, and there will be fewer words of censure and more of cheerfulness and hope and joy. Let there be singing in the school, and the pupils will be drawn closer to God, to their teachers, and to one another.

As a part of religious service, singing is as much an act of worship as is prayer. Indeed, many a song is prayer. --*Education*, pp. 167, 168.

COUNSELS ON MUSIC

Clear Intonations- Distinct Utterance. --No words can properly set forth the deep blessedness of genuine worship. When human beings sing with the Spirit and the understanding, heavenly musicians take up the strain, and join in the song of thanksgiving. He who has bestowed upon us all the gifts that enable us to be workers together with God, expects His servants to cultivate their voices, so that they can speak and sing in a way that all can understand. It is not loud singing that is needed, but clear intonation, correct pronunciation, and distinct utterance. Let all take time to cultivate the voice, so that God's praise can be sung in clear, soft tones, not with harshness and shrillness that offend the ear. The ability to sing is the gift of God; let it be used to His glory. -- *Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pp. 143, 144. (1909)

Factors in Effectual Music. --Music can be a great power for good; yet we do not make the most of this branch of worship. The singing is generally done from impulse or to meet special cases, and at other times those who sing are left to blunder along, and the music loses its proper effect upon the minds of those present. Music should have beauty, pathos, and power. Let the voices be lifted in songs of praise and devotion. Call to your aid, if practicable, instrumental music, and let the glorious harmony ascend to God, an acceptable offering.

But it is sometimes more difficult to discipline the singers and keep them in working order, than to improve the habits of praying and exhorting. Many want to do things after their own style; they object to consultation, and are impatient under leadership. Well-matured plans are needed in, the service of God. Common sense is an excellent thing in the worship of the Lord. --*Gospel Workers*, p. 325. (1892) (*Evangelism*, p. 505)

Effective Pathos. --There is a great pathos and music in the human voice, and if the learner will make determined efforts, he will acquire habits of talking and singing that will be to him a power to win souls to Christ. -- *Manuscript 22*, 1886. (*Evangelism*, p. 504)

Not Volume but Fine Qualities. --Great improvement can be made in singing. Some think that the louder they sing the more music they make; but noise is not music. Good singing is like the music of the birds--subdued and melodious. In some of our churches I have heard solos that were altogether unsuitable for the service of the Lord's house. The long-drawn-out notes and the peculiar sounds common in operatic singing are not pleasing to the angels. They delight to hear the simple songs of praise sung in a natural tone. The songs in which every word is uttered clearly, in a musical tone, are the songs that they join us in singing. They take up the refrain that is sung from the heart with the spirit and the understanding. --*Manuscript 91*, 1903. (*Evangelism*, p. 510)

With Solemnity and Awe. --The melody of song, poured forth from many hearts in clear, distinct utterance, is one of God's instrumentalities in the work of saving souls. All the service should be conducted with solemnity and awe, as if in the visible presence of the Master of assemblies. --*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 493.

One of God's Entrusted Talents. --The human voice in singing is one of God's entrusted talents to be employed to His glory. The enemy of righteousness makes a great account of this talent in his service. And that which is the gift of God, to be a blessing to souls, is perverted, misapplied, and serves the purpose of Satan. This talent of voice is a blessing if consecrated to the Lord to serve His cause. --*Letter 62*, 1893. (*Evangelism*, p. 498)

Choir and Congregational Singing. --In the meetings held, let a number be chosen to take part in the song service. And let the singing be accompanied with musical instruments skillfully handled. We are not to oppose the use of instrumental music in our work. This part of the service is to be carefully conducted; for it is the praise of God in song. The singing is not always to be done by a few. As often as possible, let the entire congregation join. --*Testimonies, Vol. 9*, p. 144. (1909)

The Song Service. --The singing should not be done by a few only. All present should be encouraged to join in the song service. --*Letter 157, 1902. (Evangelism p. 507)*

More on Musical Instruments. --Let the talent of singing be brought into the work. The use of musical instruments is not at all objectionable. These were used in religious services in ancient times. The worshipers praised God upon the harp and cymbal, and music should have its place in our services. It will add to the interest. --*Letter 132, 1898. (Evangelism, pp. 500-501)*

Shrieking Sacred Words of Hymns of Praise. --Music forms a part of God's worship in the courts above. We should endeavor in our songs of praise to approach as nearly as possible to the harmony of the heavenly choirs. I have often been pained to hear untrained voices, pitched to the highest key, literally shrieking the sacred words of some hymn of praise. How inappropriate those sharp, rasping voices for the solemn, joyous worship of God. I long to stop my ears, or flee from the place, and I rejoice when the painful exercise is ended.

Those who make singing a part of divine worship should select hymns with music appropriate to the occasion, not funeral notes, but cheerful, yet solemn melodies. The voice can and should be modulated, softened, and subdued. --*Signs of the Times, June 22, 1882. (Evangelism, p. 507-8)*

No Jargon or Discord. --I saw that all should sing with the spirit and with the understanding also. God is not pleased with jargon and discord. Right is always more pleasing to Him than wrong. And the nearer the people of God can approach to correct, harmonious singing, the more is He glorified, the church benefited, and unbelievers favorably affected. --*Testimonies Vol. 1*, p. 146. (1857)

Sing with the Spirit and Understanding. --Do not hire worldly musicians if this can possibly be avoided. Gather together singers who will sing with the spirit and with the understanding also. The extra display which you sometimes make entails unnecessary expense, which the brethren should not be asked to meet; and you will find that after a time unbeliever will not be willing to give money to meet these expenses. --*Letter 51, 1902. (Evangelism p. 509)*

No Frivolous Waltz or Flippant Song in the Schools of the Prophets. --The art of sacred melody was diligently cultivated. [In the schools of the prophets.] No frivolous waltz was heard, nor flippant song that should extol man and divert the attention from God; but sacred, solemn psalms of praise to the Creator, exalting His name and recounting His wondrous works. - *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 97.

When Satan Takes Charge. --There has been a class of social gatherings in _____ of an entirely different character, parties of pleasure that have been a disgrace to our institutions and to the church. They encourage pride of dress, pride of appearance, self-gratification, hilarity and trifling. Satan is entertained as an honored guest, and takes possession of those who patronize these gatherings.

Music Put to a Wrong Use. --I feel alarmed as I witness everywhere the frivolity of young men and young women who profess to believe the truth. God does not seem to be in their thoughts. Their minds are filled with nonsense. Their conversation is only empty, vain talk. *They have a keen ear for music, and Satan knows what organs to excite to animate, engross, and charm the mind* so that Christ is not desired. The spiritual longings of the soul for divine knowledge, for a growth in grace, are wanting.

The Peril of Worldly Entertainments. --It is not safe for the Lord's workers to take part in worldly entertainments. Association with worldliness in musical lines is looked upon as harmless by some Sabbath keepers. But such ones are on dangerous ground. Thus, Satan seeks to lead men and women astray, and thus he has gained control of souls. So smooth, so plausible is the working of the enemy that his wiles are not suspected, and many church members become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. --*Manuscript 82*, 1900.

Ambition for Display. --Musical entertainments which, if conducted properly, will do no harm, are often a source of evil. In the present state of society, with the low morals of not only youth but those of age and experience, there is great danger of becoming careless, and giving especial attention to favorites, and thus creating envy, jealousies, and evil surmising. Musical talent too often fosters pride and ambition for display, and singers have but little thought of the worship of God. Instead of leading minds to remembering God, it often causes them to forget Him. --*Letter 6a*, 1890.

Singing for Display-Counsel to a Leader of Music. --I was taken into some of your singing exercises, and was made to read the feelings that existed in the company, you being the prominent one. There were petty jealousies, envy, evil surmising, and evil speaking . . . The heart service is what God requires; the forms and lip service are as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Your singing is for display, not to praise God with the spirit and understanding. The state of the heart reveals the quality of the religion of the professor of godliness. --*Letter 1b*, 1890. (*Evangelism*, p. 507.)

Music That Offends God. --Display is not religion nor sanctification. There is nothing more offensive in God's sight than a display of instrumental music when those taking part are not consecrated, are not making melody in their hearts to the Lord. The offering most sweet and acceptable in God's sight is a heart made humble by self-denial, by lifting the cross and following Jesus.

We have no time now to spend in seeking these things that only please the senses. Close heart searching is needed. With tears and heartbroken confession, we need to draw nigh to God that He may draw nigh to us. --*Review and Herald*, November 14, 1899. (*Evangelism*, p. 510)

Music Acceptable to God. --The superfluities which have been brought into the worship in _____ must be strenuously avoided . . . Music is acceptable to God only when the heart is sanctified and made soft and holy by its facilities. But many who delight in music know nothing of making melody in their hearts to the Lord. Their heart is gone "after their idols." -- *Letter 198*, 1899. (*Evangelism*, p. 512)

WHO MAY CONDUCT MUSIC DEDICATION/LAUNCH IN KUSDA CHURCH?

Only Seventh-day Adventist Groups and Choirs are allowed to dedicated or launch their music in KUSDA. This include KUSDA Ministries, affiliated groups and unaffiliated groups.

PURPOSE OR RATIONALE FOR THE POLICY

1. The purpose of this Policy is to enhance the quality of the services and to protect KUSDA Church, its members, its visitors, its community as a whole or anyone who uses or enters its property from illegal, ungodly and unbiblical music practices and principles.
2. It is to be used to coordinate a smooth flow of operation throughout the dedication or launch.
3. Each user should use common sense and good judgment when using the facilities.

PROHIBITED USAGE

The KUSDA Church prohibits the usage of its facilities and property for the following:

1. To promote any illegal activity under local or state law.
2. To go against the beliefs and principles set by the Seventh-day Adventist Organization.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

1. The KUSDA Church Board also reserves the right to approve or disapprove all music dedications and launches on its property and may modify this policy at any time without notice.
2. During the Event, the Chaplain, Head Elder or Elder in charge of Music Department has the right to terminate the event if any clause of this policy is violated.
3. In an event of gross violation of this policy, Non-KUSDA group/ministry will be banned from using KUSDA premises for a similar activity. KUSDA Ministry will be summoned to the Church Board for consideration of the violation.

CHURCH CALENDAR

1. The Church maintains a church usage calendar which contains information on activities, programs and meetings held at the facilities of the church.
2. The Church board reserves the right to make adjustments to your request in case it coincides with any church activity in relation to your request without notice.

REQUEST FOR USAGE

1. Availability is based on the priority in which it is received and availability of space based on existing programs.
2. All requests for usage should be made not later than 30 days (1 month) prior to the event in writing. However, in emergency circumstances KUSDA Church board may override the 30-day rule, but the application request form must be filled.
3. All programs must fall within the guidelines of the Seventh-day Adventist Organization principles, beliefs and standards.
4. The requesting group shall notify KUSDA Music Council through a written letter indicating the date of the launch or dedication.
5. The Music Council will respond by sending a copy of this policy to the group.
6. The group shall return a signed copy of this policy to the music council.
7. Music Council shall notify the KUSDA Church Board of the request and the Board will consider the request therein. KUSDA Church Board shall either approve the request or decline and its decision is final.
8. The group shall be notified by the church clerk of the Board decision.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR DEDICATION AND LAUNCHES

1. To maintain the holiness, dignity and respect for all worship services, proper attire must be worn in *the sanctuary* at all times. Profanity is **PROHIBITED**. Mini-skirts, tight skirts, trousers and any clothing above the knee for ladies and shorts, stylish haircut, piped trousers and any other inappropriate clothing for gentlemen are strongly **PROHIBITED**.
2. Theatrics, sexual exposure, body exposure are **PROHIBITED**.
3. The participants must refrain from loud talking and laughing and behavior that are crude or suggestive.
4. Dancing (“Vikanyagi”) or secular music is **PROHIBITED**.
5. Furniture is to remain in the approved designated area.
6. The use of glue, nails or tacks to attach decorations to the furniture, fixtures and walls is strictly **PROHIBITED**.
7. All decorations should be removed immediately after the event.
8. Church-owned musical instruments may be used only with permission of the Director of Music and the Church Board
9. No alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or smoking is permitted on the church property.
10. Foods served during the event in the church compound must be in accordance with the Adventist health message. Use of non-vegetarian foods is not allowed.

GUIDELINES FOR MUSIC DEDICATION

1. The event will take place on Sabbath in which the ministry/singing group will be the guest choir. The choir will be given at least 6 slots to sing, that is, 2 items in the morning and 4 items in the afternoon.
2. The new album will be dedicated during tithes and offerings, after which the group will present 2 items.
3. In place of CD/DVD promotion, the group's YouTube channel will be promoted by the elder on duty by including it in the announcements of the day.
4. The group will not be allowed to invite any other choirs

GUIDELINES FOR MUSIC LAUNCH

1. The launch will take place on a Sunday.
2. There will be a maximum of 1 launch per month within KUSDA premises.
3. The group will be allowed to invite other choirs to grace the occasion.
4. The group will be allowed to prepare meals within the Church or liaise with KUSDA deaconry department for meal preparations. The Deaconry Department has rights to either agree or disagree with the Group's terms.
5. The launching KUSDA Ministry will be required to clean the church after the launch.
6. The launching KUSDA Ministry will be required to use their own PA system or write a formal request to KUSDA PA Department to use KUSDA Church PA system.
7. The Group MUST forward the name and Contact of the Speaker, invited Choirs and Master of the Ceremony (MC) for approval by the Church Board or KUSDA Elders Council.

CHARGES FOR NON-KUSDA MINISTRIES/GROUPS

1. Music Dedication..... Free
2. Music Launch;
 - i. Cleaning Charges..... Ksh 2500
 - ii. PA Charges Ksh 2500
 - iii. Refundable Damages Fee Ksh 2500
3. Non-KUSDA ministries/groups shall pay cleaning charges. This amount shall be used to clean the church after the launch. It's the responsibility of the ministries/groups to clean the church before the launch or pay a similar amount for prior cleaning.
4. Non-KUSDA ministries/groups shall pay a refundable damages fee. In event of no damages, the damages fee will be refunded within three days after the launch.
5. Non-KUSDA ministries/groups are allowed to use their own PA system or request KUSDA PA Department and pay the above charge.

DECLARATION

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE KUSDA MUSIC DEDICATION AND LAUNCH POLICY ON APPLIANCE FOR USAGE OF KUSDA CHURCH AS A VENUE

I (Group Leader) of ID No
having carefully and reasonably considered the provisions of this policy, undertake to comply
with the requirements herein in respect to all matters reasonably incidental thereto and prove
compliance forthwith. Further, I make this declaration conscientiously believing the same to be
true to the best of my knowledge in respect to this policy.

Declared on this day of, 20

Signature

**Note: Upon receipt of this policy and vivid scrutiny, you are required to fill this form, scan and
send to kusdac@gmail.com or contact KUSDA Music Department director or Church Clerk upon
which a subsequent communication for approval shall follow forthwith.**

APPLICATION FORM

Contact Information

Name of Contact Person:
 Cell Phone:
 E-mail:

Guest List (For Launch Only)

Speaker.....
 Master of Ceremony.....
 Invited
 Choirs.....

Total Number of Expected Guests:

Request Information:

Dedication ☐
 Launch ☐
 Date Requesting:
 Start Time:
 End Time:

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Approved: Denied:

Reason(s):

KUSDA Board Chairperson

Name:
 Signature: Date:

KUSDA OFFICIAL STAMP