

Dear 4th and 5th grade members and parents:

Our musical for this year is Faith News by Christy and Daniel Semsen. Danny and the Shacks was written by them also! Here's a little bit of the story...

The setting is a heavenly news broadcast originating inside the Pearly Gates, hosted by two angelic News Anchors, Cameron Flowers and Summer Showers. Bringing some of your favorite bible Stories to life, our newscast flows back and forth between top-flight Bible news coverage by Cameron and Summer, to stellar on-the-ground reporting by our roving angel duo, Chera Bim and Sara Fim. Clever, snappy dialogue and fun, Catchy biblically based songs help tell the stories of Noah and the Ark (with a little help from Mrs. Noah), Joshua, (at the Battle of Jericho), Queen Esther, Moses (including an important conversation where Moses asks Pharaoh to "let my people go"); Abraham and Sarah, and direct from the New Testament, Ananias and Saul/Paul.

FNN- The Faith News Network- spotlights all the best in heavenly headlines; builds faith through real, Bible-based news stories; inspires through sharing the encounters of real bible heroes, and encourages us all to believe anything is possible when we follow God's plan for our lives. Tune it in, turn it on, and take it to heart. This is the real deal...this is Faith News!

On the next page you will find the information about our auditions on Sunday. Please read carefully and consider the time commitment that will be needed to be a part of this production. It will be an amazing experience for all involved.

Blessings,

Lynda Morrison
Children's Music Ministry
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Musical Auditions for "Faith News" **Auditions are for 4th and 5th graders**

Auditions will be held this Sunday, January 20th from 3-5.

Before you audition, decide what *KIND* of part, not which character, you want to play. A major character will have more lines and need to be at almost all of the rehearsals, a minor character will have a few lines and might only have to be at the rehearsals for the scenes you are in, singing solos or ensembles will depend on how we divide the music. There are roles that REQUIRE singing – so be prepared to sing something for us. There will also be a dance troupe. So we will want to know your dance experience. On your audition form please rate your choices 1, 2 and 3 with 1 being the one you want the most.

Read through the sample scenes in this packet and be prepared to read any part. Practice reading the lines with lots of energy and expression. Also practice singing alone even if you did not mark it as one of your top choices.

Practice! Remember, we are listening for volume, clarity, and lots and lots of expression – facial and vocal – so ham it up! All character and singing parts will be assigned based on your audition, so practice all the parts and be ready to show off.

Remember that we will be fitting many children into many parts – all of them important so please trust us to find the best fit for the entire group. All the parts will be fun and all the characters are important. Every part is important to this musical being awesome!

Lastly, look at your calendars and discuss the musical with your parents. Remember, that while it is fun to play a part in the musical, it does **require** rehearsal time in addition to normal Sunday 5-6, and a commitment to attend **both**. Participants are expected to be cooperative, attentive and consistent in their attendance. I do not say this to discourage, but instead, to help the children know up front what is expected of them. I encourage all who are interested to audition.

The musical is Sunday, May 19th during worship. The dress rehearsal is Saturday, May 18th from 9-11. **All major roles must be able attend the dress rehearsal.** All extra rehearsals will be on Sundays before regular rehearsals. If Miss Lauren and I feel it is necessary we will meet the Friday before dress rehearsal.

Blessings,
Mrs. Lynda

AUDITION FORM

Please fill out completely and bring to the audition.

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Parent's Name _____ Email _____

Indicate all parts you are interested in and indicate your preference with 1, 2, 3.

_____ Major character speaking role (some have singing)

_____ Minor character speaking role (some have singing)

_____ Singing (solo or ensemble)

_____ Non speaking roles

_____ Dance troupe

You may have a speaking role and no solo, or a solo and no speaking. All speaking, non-speaking and singing roles will require some extra rehearsals beyond the regular Sunday choir rehearsals. The schedule will be coordinated as much as possible with the schedules of those chosen for the roles. Be sure to list all possible conflicts and activities below.

- List any specific dates you know you will be out of town or unavailable (camps, family trips, etc). This is extremely important; please be as accurate as possible.

My child _____, has my permission to audition for a role in the choir musical, "Faith News". I understand if my child is chosen for a part, he/she will be expected to attend additional rehearsals.

_____ Parent Signature _____ Date

Questions? Email Lynda at Lmorrison@crumc.org.

We will begin rehearsals on Feb 10th at 3 p.m. with a read through of the entire cast.

Here is the scene for the auditions. Please be prepared to read ANY part!

SCENE 2

ANNOUNCER: (*SFX–Network Announcer, prerecorded on track*) **LIVE from the Pearly Gates Plaza, it’s your hosts, Cameron Flowers and Summer Showers!**

(*Spotlight comes up on CAMERON FLOWERS and SUMMER SHOWERS who are seated behind a newsdesk that says “FNN” for “Faith News Network”.*)

CAMERON: (*enthusiastically*) **Good morning to all the Heavenly host. It’s another beautiful day here at the Pearly Gates. We are so glad you’ve joined us for “Faith News Today”!**

SUMMER: **As you know, we shine a big, golden spotlight on God’s people . . . those who trust Him and His promises.**

CAMERON: **It’s always an honor to sit here next to my co-host, Summer Showers. And may I just say, you have a brilliant new goldspun hairdo today!**

SUMMER: (*accepting his compliment graciously*) **Thank you, C-Flow. I have to admit, I’ve peeked at the lineup we have for today, and it is halo-tastic!**

CAMERON: **With that, let’s go to our roving angel reporters on the ground, Sara Fim and Chera Bim.**

(*Lights come up on two angel reporters on the ground. They are dressed to blend in, in biblical robes, but with a touch of sparkle on a belt or headdress.*)

SARA FIM: **Heavenly morning, Cameron and Summer. We are here in Israel, where everyone is abuzz about the subject of our Faith News feature this morning.**

CHERA BIM: **That’s right. What the people are saying here is that Noah has been building a verrrrrry large boat for decades! And if you know the dry weather around here . . . you know that’s pretty weird.**

SARA FIM: (*motioning for MRS. NOAH to come up to CHERA BIM*) **Let’s get it straight from his wife, Mrs. Noah.**

MRS. NOAH: (*no nonsense and apprehensive*) **Hello.**

CHERA BIM: **Just speak into the microphone here.**

MRS. NOAH: (*dubious*) **That gold stick?**

CHERA BIM: **Yes, the “gold stick.”**

SARA FIM: **So, can you tell us a little about what is going on with your husband, Noah?**

MRS. NOAH: (*exasperated*) **If you're gonna make fun of him, too, I'm not gonna—**

SARA FIM: (*interrupting*) **Oh, no! We are very interested in the construction project going on here.**

MRS. NOAH: (*smiling*) **Oh! In that case, (suddenly talkative) years and years ago, Noah told me that God said he should build a very big boat, called—**

CHERA BIM: (*jumping in*) **An ark.**

MRS. NOAH: (*confirming*) **An ark. You've heard of it? And of course, I told him it's gonna be ex-PEN-sive . . .**

CHERA BIM: **I'd imagine so.**

MRS. NOAH: **You have *no* idea. So, he builds the boat. I think, what do I care? He has a hobby. Then he says he wants to put animals in it. But get this...not just the animals we own. He wants to put two of *every animal* on the boat!**

SARA FIM: (*impressed*) ***That's* a lot of animals.**

CHERA BIM: (*pipes in with humor*) **Clean-up on aisle five!**

MRS. NOAH: (*dryly*) **Exactly. So, guess what I've been doing for the past year? Starting our own zoo. But don't think I'm complaining, mind you. All God's creatures are valuable, and I don't want to be—**

CHERA BIM: (*politely*) **Mrs. Noah, I don't mean to interrupt, but do you think we could get your husband to come over?**

MRS. NOAH: **Sure! I gotta go feed the camels and giraffes, anyway. Hey, Noah!** (*She motions to NOAH, who has a hammer and is wiping the sweat from his brow*)

NOAH: **Yes?**

MRS. NOAH: **Come meet my new friends. They're not making fun of us. They're actually interested in what God had to say!**

CHERA BIM: **Definitely.** NOAH: **Well, you know—**

MRS. NOAH: (*giving instruction*) **Talk into the golden stick, honey.**

NOAH: (*talking into the microphone*) **I've learned that when God says something, I should obey. He's never given me a reason to doubt Him. And if God says it's gonna rain, it's . . . gonna . . . rain!**

SCENE 5

SUMMER: Go Halos! Go Flappers! What a game! (–Traffic Bumper) Let’s take a minute and go to traffic with our own Cameron Flowers.

CAMERON: There is a slowdown of angels praising near the Gate of Awesomeness. The overflow traffic from the Hall of Faith has been re-routed past the Celebration Colosseum and the Sugar Praise-a-torium. For traffic on the ground, we go to our correspondent, Fly Wingspan. (bringing fingers up to ear as if using an ear audio receiver) Wingspan, can you hear me?

WINGSPAN: (small kid with wings off to side of stage being blown by fan) Yes, C-Flow. I’m here flying over Bethlehem, where there is a camel broken down by the side of the road. It’s gonna take a while to clear those two speed humps. And over at Samson’s village, two enormous pillars have fallen, blocking all access to the main road. If you’ll travel back a few centuries with me, looks like the roads around the Red Sea just emptied, so you’ll have smooth traveling there. And thaaaat’s traffic with Wingspan! Back to you, C-Flow.

CAMERON: Thanks for that eye in the sky report, Wingspan. Now we take you back to Chera and Sara where (pauses) . . . am I hearing this right? (pauses in disbelief) ...Yes, they are *walking*. I repeat, they are not flying, but *walking* with a large group around the city of Jericho.

(On the ground, angel reporters CHERA and SARA walk alongside JOSHUA, attempting to interview him. Joshua continues to walk around the stage followed by a few choir member “Israelites,” as CHERA and SARA talk to him.)

JOSHUA: (calling off stage) Okay, take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.

CHERA BIM: Excuse me, may we talk to you?

JOSHUA: If you can walk alongside and keep up, sure.

SARA FIM: My sources tell me that you and your people have been walking in circles around this city for the past six days! Can you tell us why?

JOSHUA: Sure can. I was near Jericho, when an angel appeared before me and said to take off my sandals. I was standing on holy ground!

CHERA BIM: Oh, right . . . that was my friend, Mike. He told me about that.

JOSHUA: (confused) What?

CHERA BIM: Never mind.

JOSHUA: *(beat)* Anyways, the angel told me that the Lord had delivered Jericho into our hands. We just needed to march one time around the city for six days. So, that's what we've been doing. But today we are supposed to march around the city *seven times*, with the priests blowing trumpets. Then, after a final trumpet blast, the whole army will shout—

CHERA BIM: *(interjecting excitedly)*—and the walls of Jericho will fall to the ground!

JOSHUA: *(surprised)* Uh, yes. That's what the angel told me. How did you know?

CHERA BIM: Never mind!

SARA FIM: This is so exciting! But I noticed those people in the wall towers back there were laughing at you. They didn't seem too concerned. How does that make you feel?

JOSHUA: Following God can sometimes feel a little silly, especially when what He asks us to do seems impossible. Each step of faith takes effort, but it gets easier as you walk with Him. Which reminds me, *(looking down)* . . . word to the wise: *(music begins to "Walkin' Shoes")* if you're gonna walk around a city seven times, *(lifts his robe to reveal some great athletic shoes)* you'd better put on some sensible shoes. *(A few choir members march behind JOSHUA.)*