

SINGING ON THE MOUNTAIN AT GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN JUNE 27

Written by Landis Wofford

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Grandfather Mountain, NC-- On June 27 Grandfather Mountain will host the 86th Annual Singing On the Mountain in MacRae Meadows.

The event began as a Sunday school picnic and has grown into a joyful celebration of faith, Appalachian heritage and fellowship. Folks from all over come to participate in the oldest ongoing old time gospel convention left in the Southern Appalachians. Founded in 1924 by Joe Hartley Sr., the "Singing" welcomes thousands to enjoy performances by top Southern Gospel groups. Each year, on the fourth Sunday in June, pilgrims come to Grandfather Mountain in Linville, NC from across the Southern Appalachians to celebrate life and God and to meet others that share their commitment. This year's musical performers include The Greenes, The Primitive Quartet, Naomi and the Segos, Four Anointed, The Carolina Quartet, Michael Combs, The Cockman Family and the Gospel Enforcers. In addition Carlton and David Moody will perform along with Tim & Roddy Smith, Terry Warren, Colin Elliott, Charlie McCoy and George Hamilton IV & V.



Dr. Greg Mathis, a professor, scholar, community leader and pastor will bring the message to this summer's "Singing." Mathis has served as the pastor of Mud Creek Baptist Church in Hendersonville, NC for the past 28 years. A graduate of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Pastor Mathis served as professor of evangelism at Fruitland Baptist Institute for 27 years and has held several positions in the Baptist State Convention. "This will be my first Singing On the Mountain," said Dr. Greg Mathis. "It is very rare that I miss a Sunday at Mud Creek but the tremendous tradition that precedes the Singing has made me want to be a part of it." Mathis plans to speak about the three main points of his new book, "Ultimate Life." "Happiness comes down to three decisions," said Mathis. "What are you going to do with

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Jesus? What are you looking for in the person you marry? Are you going to be a giver or taker in life?"

The "Singing," always held on the fourth Sunday in June, kicks off with music at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until middle of the afternoon, with a mid-day break for Dr. Mathis to deliver his sermon. Admission is free with the motto remaining the same for 86 years: "Whosoever will may come." Camping without hookups is available on the grounds on a first come basis. The "Singing" grounds are located at MacRae Meadows on US Highway 221, two miles north of Linville and one mile south of the Blue Ridge Parkway just outside of the entrance to Grandfather Mountain.



For more information, call 800-468-7325 or visit www.grandfather.com.