

SCHEDULING

Q: What is the best way to **contact** you?

- A: 1) Phone. Call 419-496-3607.
2) Email. randy@musicalmerrills.com.
3) Write. PO Box 215, Ashland, OH 44805-0215.

Q: How do we **schedule a meeting** with the Merrill Evangelistic Team?

A: The simplest way is to contact us by phone or email. We will check our schedule and try to offer possible options on or near the requested dates.

Q: How far in **advance** do you schedule a meeting?

A: 1-4 years.

Q: What kind of **churches** do you go to?

A: We are independent and associate with fundamental Bible believing churches whose pastors take a separated stand for Christ and against the world. We do not associate with neo-evangelical, charismatic churches or those connected with the World Council of Churches.

Q: What should I do in **preparation** for your coming?

A: Please download and read ALL of the Revival Packet and disburse the info sheets as labeled.

Q: Have you ever had a meeting in a church that currently has **no pastor**?

A: Yes. Sometimes that is exactly what the people need to refocus their attention on present duties or direction for the future.

Q: Do you provide **promotional materials**?

A: Yes. Please download the posters, handouts and invitations included in this website. Click on "Promotional Materials" and choose the best options. Check the "Promotions" page in the Revival packet for bulletin inserts, Radio/TV announcements, etc.

MINISTRY

Q: Is it still possible to experience **revival** today?

A: Absolutely. Though we have rarely seen the kind of movement that occurred in the 1904-1905 Welsh Revival or the 1857 Enlightenment, God is doing some miraculous work in the lives and churches that desire to be dedicated and different for His glory.

Q: What is a **Family Revival**?

A: Typically we hold Sunday through Wednesday meetings encouraging families through godly music and preaching on issues that affect our homes. A simultaneous Kid's Crusade will coordinate with the preaching times. We will pray, work with your choir, counsel and encourage commitment that far exceeds the meeting times.

Q: What **expectations** can we have from the Team?

A: You can expect us to joyfully carry out the biblical duty of the evangelist, confirming, encouraging and prodding your people to turn from sin to God. We will enthusiastically invite, sing, preach and pray for God to *"do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think."*

Q: What **theme(s)** will be discussed?

A: A listing of several suggested themes we have emphasized in our meetings is available in the Revival Packet on the "Themes" page. In short, Family, Soul-winning, Character Building, Faithfulness, Music and Prophecy themes are a few we've promoted.

Q: Should we schedule a separate **prayer** time?

A: Absolutely. I would love to meet with the pastor (and other men) each day at a non-hurried time to pray for the meetings. Also a church wide prayer time before, during or after the services is highly encouraged.

Q: Will you do a **Christian School or Home School chapel** while you are with us?

A: We will be glad to do a chapel if the school is connected to the Crusade church property. For locations at other churches, you must contact us at least two weeks in advance to check on scheduling such an event.

Q: Would you be interested in a **jail ministry** or **nursing home** service?

A: We are very interested in outreach ministries. Please call to confirm any outside engagements in advance so we can be sure to effectively accomplish the primary ministry the church has called us to perform and check schedules for any extra events.

Q: What is a Musical Merrill **Concert**?

A: Occasionally we schedule a one day event performing a concert of music interspersed with testimonies, mini-dramas or hymn stories and a brief gospel message.

Q: Do you have a **doctrinal statement**?

A: Yes, a short statement is listed on the "Crusade" page. You may download our extensive 15-page document upon request.

Q: What kind of biblical **hermeneutic principle** do you espouse?

A: We believe the literal, grammatical, historical interpretation of the Bible from a chronological dispensational view reflects the teaching of the Scriptures best. Consequently, we are awaiting the pre-tribulational, pre-millennial return of the Lord at the sound of the trumpet for the Rapture of the Church, which is Christ's body.

Q: Do you preach from the **King James Version**?

A: Yes. We have always used the KJV for preaching, counseling, memorization and all printed materials. Though some churches advertise the KJV 1611, in the last 16 years we have never been in a church that used it. Like most fundamental churches who use the KJV, we use the 1769 version.

MUSIC

Q: How many musical **instruments** does your family play?

A: Actually we have 54 instruments but play 18 different ones in our services.

Q: Do all of your **children play** a musical instrument?

A: Yes. It is an integral part of their training. Practice develops character and performance teaches a reliance upon God while serving as a means of encouraging others to worship God.

Q: What kind of **music** do you perform? Do you play or sing CCM (**Contemporary Christian Music**)?

A: Our music has often been defined by pastors as “full of life, uplifting and joyful, but not wild.” Most of what we perform are fresh arrangements of familiar hymns or meaningful and appropriate songs I have written. We do not use or encourage CCM music. A preview of our newest CD is on this site.

Q: Will you work with our **choir**?

A: Yes. In most cases, we will be glad to provide music, direction and accompaniment to encourage your choir or musical groups to serve the Lord effectively.

Q: Will your team cover the **organ** playing?

A: No, not unless my mother, Donna Merrill, is with us. Please have your organist play for all hymns and invitations.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Q: When do you plan to **arrive**?

A: Normally for a Sunday meeting or Sun-Wed Crusade we will arrive between 2 and 3 PM on Saturday afternoon to set up our rig and ministry tools. We will inform you of other arrangements for other days.

Q: What **stage set-up** needs to be done in advance?

A: For VBS, please clear the stage. For a Family Revival, please clear unnecessary plants, posters, etc. and place mics and mic stands in a noticeable place. Please put an 8' table on the stage and a 6' or 8' table in the foyer for resources. We have covers for the tables.

Q: How many **people** will you bring with you?

A: During the school year, there will be 5: my wife and I and our three sons. During the summer or winter break, we will have all or most of our family: usually 7 or 8.

Q: Do we need to make guest or **hotel reservations** for your family?

A: No. We will bring our RV and live in it. It is fully self-contained with the exception of hook-ups..

Q: What do we need to prepare for to accommodate your **housing needs**?

A: We bring our fifth wheel home with us. Check the “Hook-ups” page in the Revival Packet. We have hoses, cords, electrical and water connectors to fit most applications. A 30 amp or preferably 50 amp outlet would be most helpful. (We have connectors to fit most electric range outlets.) A water spigot and a fairly level parking place near the building usually works best.

Q: How can we accommodate your **septic** needs? We do not have a sewer cleanout.

A: We will arrive with an empty black water tank. Please provide access to the building and we will be glad to use your church facilities.

Q: Do you have any **food intolerances**?

A: No. However, please read carefully the “Meals” sheet in the Revival Packet for a full discussion of what, where, and with whom meals will be eaten. We eat very little meat. We love fresh fruit and vegetables, salads and whole grain breads. Good water is essential.

FINANCES

Q: How do you operate **“by faith”** in this age of rising costs?

A: 1) Always give to God what is His and more.

2) Pray for God to provide before a need and do not spend what we do not have.

3) Be grateful for anything and everything.

4) Share with others in need abundantly.

Q: What is your **fee** for a Crusade or Concert?

A: We have no set fee, but trust the Lord completely for our needs. Since 1992 we have watched Him meet those needs through love offerings given by encouraged people in our meetings.

Q: What kind of “ballpark figure” can we plan on for your **travel expenses**?

A: We regret the rising fuel prices and maintenance fees, but lately our travel expense has been approximately \$275. We will provide a detailed account of all mileage, fuel and professional expenses encountered enroute to your church.

Q: Does the **Parsonage Allowance Form** require an additional check?

A: No. This form simply allows us to claim for Parsonage expenses what the law allows. The form must simply be completed by the ruling Board in advance of the meeting to qualify for use.

Q: Do we have to make out **separate checks** for love offering and travel expense?

A: It is usually best for record keeping purposes. However, the amounts can be combined in one check if the memo line clearly reflects the breakdown between the two figures.

Q: Should we make **checks payable** to Musical Merrill Ministries?

A: No. Please simply make the check out to Randy Merrill. Thanks in advance.

Q: Do you have any regular **missionary support**?

A: A few churches and individuals have appreciated our work and do support us with prayer and modest gifts. We greatly appreciate those whose heart God burdens. This assists us in the payment of our health care, vehicle and housing commitments.