



AL STAGGS

PERFORMING ARTIST ENGAGED FOR  
SAINT TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S  
50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church, Al Staggs, a full-time performing artist from Santa Fe, N.M. will entertain and give dramatic interpretations based on the lives of well-known Christians who gave their lives for the cause of the message of Christ. Al Staggs is a former pastor who combines his passions for writing, acting and peace and justice concerns to move his audiences to laughter and to tears. The anniversary celebration will be held at Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church, 2152 Hawthorne Street, Kingsport, TN on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

- On Saturday evening, August 7<sup>th</sup>, Al Staggs will demonstrate the importance of humor in aiding spiritual, emotional, and physical health through the medium of his many zany comedic impressions. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 7pm and the comedy show, "Laughter for Life," will begin at 8pm. Robin Williams, Jim Varney (Ernest), John Lovitz, Redd Foxx, Willie Nelson, the Church Lady, Jesse Helms, former Presidents Bush, Carter, and Clinton are teamed with legends such as George Burns, Paul Lynde, Jerry Lewis, Gomer Pyle, Frankie Fontaine, Geraldine, and Jonathon Winters to make this event entertaining and memorable.
- Staggs will give a second performance on "Clarence Jordan and the God Movement," during the 10:00am worship service and celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Jordan (1912-1969), a farmer and New Testament Greek scholar, was the founder of Koinonia Farm, a small but influential religious community in southwest Georgia and the author of the "Cotton Patch" translations of the New Testament. Jordan's perspective on Christian discipleship, particularly in regard to the issues of racial equality, war and greed made him a controversial figure. Jordan's life and theology were a radical embodiment of the teachings of Jesus, especially those from the Sermon on the Mount. In 1968 Clarence Jordan & Millard Fuller co-founded Fund for Humanity, which later became Habitat for Humanity International.
- During the brunch which will follow the worship service on Sunday, Staggs will give a third and final performance, "A View from the Underside: The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer," based on the life of the German theologian (1906-1945). Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor, participant in the German Resistance movement against Nazism and a founding member of the Confessing Church. He was arrested in March 1943 for his involvement in plots to assassinate Adolf Hitler, imprisoned, and eventually hanged just before the end of World War II. In this one-man play, the audience is brought into the prison cell where Bonhoeffer awaits execution and struggles with evil, injustice, and God. He expresses his outrage against the Nazi treatment of the Jews and how that led him to become involved in the German resistance movement.

Al Staggs' resonant voice, sense of humor, social compassion and evangelical warmth are certain to enlighten, inspire, and entertain. His performances will be complimented by the hospitality of the congregation of Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church. These presentations are open to everyone free of charge. Donations will be accepted. Due to limited seating, reservations for the comedy show are required. A nursery will be provided for the comedy show on Saturday and during the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday. To make reservations or to obtain more information on these events, contact Bekah Haren, 423-863-5579, rharen@embarqmail.com.