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First Presbyterian Youth Group
Jacksonville, IL.

Press Release

Jacksonville, IL. Youth Group Writes and Produces Song for Joplin Relief Effort

"Turn Us Into Miracles (Song for Joplin)" is now available. All proceeds go to Rebuild Joplin Tornado Relief

Jacksonville, IL. – March, 2013: When the First Presbyterian Youth Group in Jacksonville, IL. travelled to Joplin, MO. in August of 2012, four members of the group and their adult leader were inspired by the experience to write a song. Now, that song has been professionally produced, performed by the youth group and it is available for download from every major digital music service. The song "went live" on March 8th, 2013. All proceeds from the sale of "Turn Us Into Miracles (Song for Joplin)" will be donated to "Rebuild Joplin" and the on-going Joplin Tornado recovery effort.

Allen Stare is the Youth Committee Chair for the First Presbyterian Church. He and his committee have worked for months to bring this dream to reality. "It was just such a great song...we couldn't let it fade away. We wanted to do something that would keep the song alive, but since the song was inspired by Joplin, we also wanted to find a way for the song to give back." Memorializing the song with a professional production and then publishing it to sell on the digital download services seemed the perfect answer.

Tim Chipman is the Youth Leader and Coordinator for the Church and also one of the composers of the song. "This has been an amazing experience. These kids are creative, hard working and inspirational. Twenty-two members of our high school youth group perform on the finished single and it just sounds great." Chipman plays piano on the track and added his talents as music coordinator and director during the recording process. The composers who collaborated with Chipman are Maddy Albers, Andi McCombs, Holden Jones and Anna Ferguson. The four Jacksonville residents range in age from 16-18 years and each is a soloist for one of the verses in the finished recording.

The song, written during the final day of the seven day August mission trip, combines the theme of a sermon delivered by First Presbyterian Pastor John Kay entitled "Miraculous Living" with the Joplin

For Immediate Release.

motivational phrase "The Miracle of the Human Spirit". That phrase was imprinted on thousands of wrist bands in the months following the May 22nd, 2011 disaster and is memorialized in a statue erected in a park in the storm zone. The Joplin tornado was the deadliest tornado in history with 162 lives lost.

According to Stare, "the rebuilding effort in Joplin is going to take many years. More than 8,000 homes were destroyed. Only a few hundred have been rebuilt. If we can get the word out, and turn this song into a 'hit', it could continue to generate revenue that can be used towards the rebuilding effort."

Stare says that the song was professionally mixed by a producer with experience in the Nashville Contemporary Christian music industry. The song was also professionally mastered at a Nashville mastering studio.

According to Chipman, "this is an outstanding recording. At every step we were able to make this bigger, nicer and better sounding than we ever could have imagined thanks to some incredibly talented and generous volunteers who really believed in the project."

What can you do to help? According to both Stare and Chipman, the best thing you could possibly do is buy the song. As Stare says, "It's 99 cents...that's less than what you would spend on a soda at a gas station. Buy the song, be a part of this great effort, and know that you are helping our neighbors in Joplin." The single "Turn Us Into Miracles (Song for Joplin)" can be found on all major digital download services including iTunes, GooglePlay, Amazon MP3, Rhapsody, iHeartRadio and many more.

DATED ADD-IN: A "Single Release Party" is being held at the First Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, IL. on Sunday March 10th at 6:30pm. The public is invited to come join in the celebration. There will be free food, a chance to meet the composers and performers, live entertainment and, of course, the debut of the single "Turn Us Into Miracles (Song for Joplin)".

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ATTACHMENT ONE: Single "cover art" that downloads with the MP3. Download from:
<http://www.intensemultimedia.com/FPYG/TUIM-PR/TurnUsIntoMiracles-CoverArt1600x1600.jpg>

ATTACHMENT TWO: 40 sec. MP3 snippet of "Turn Us Into Miracles (Song for Joplin)":
<http://www.intensemultimedia.com/FPYG/TUIM-PR/SNIPPET-TUIM-40sec.mp3> (with multiple fade points. Guitar solo by Robert Sampson.)