

CITYWIDE WORSHIP SERVICE "THE GATHERING" SET FOR MAY 18



Tony Evans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Gathering, an annual citywide interdenominational Christian worship service, will take place May 18 from 5-7 p.m. at the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville. Admission is free, and the event will be interpreted for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Renowned speaker and author Dr. Tony Evans is the keynote speaker. Joining him will be featured artists Jeff Deyo, the Katinas, Nicole C. Mullen and Sheila Walsh, along with Sherman Smith of the Tennessee Titans. There also will be a thousand-voice choir and a hundred-piece orchestra.

"We're very excited about the program we

Center on May 18," said Howard Harvey, chairman of The Operation Andrew Group, which organizes and sponsors The Gathering.

"We have a wonderful array of uplifting music representative of the diversity and unity for which The Gathering is known. Dr. Evans, who speaks throughout the world, will share how people can get out of the performance trap and enjoy the freedom they've always wanted," he added.

Evans is co-founder and serves as senior pastor of the 5,000-member Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, Texas. He also is founder and president of The Urban

America through the church.

The Urban Alternative radio broadcast "The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans" can be heard over 500 stations daily throughout the U.S. and in more than 40 countries worldwide. He is a speaker on the Promise Keepers' platform, in crusades and at Bible conferences in the United States and abroad. Many of the same leaders responsi-

ble for bringing Billy Graham to Nashville in June 2000 helped form The Operation Andrew Group to ensure that momentum from the crusade was not diminished in the years that followed. Their vision was to create an organization that builds a better community by partnering with diverse Christian churches and ethnic groups, uniting them under the common bond of Jesus Christ.

The first Gathering was held in January 2000 - six months prior to the Graham crusade. Thousands of Middle Tennessee Christians joined together to celebrate the dawn of the Year 2000 and to proclaim an unchanging Savior for an ever-changing world.

Last year, the event drew more than 13,000 attendees to the Gaylord Entertainment Center for a time of prayer, worship and in-

spirational preaching.

The Operation Andrew Group exists to build a better community by partnering with diverse Christian churches and ethnic groups. More than 180 Middle Tennessee churches are involved in its work. OAG's office is located at 200 Glen Echo Road, Suite 210, in Nashville. Its Web site is: www.operationandrew.org.