

September/October 2015



# GASTON

L I T Y L E S

Free Issue



Doug Lockett:  
“Find out how we care.”

Doug Lockett  
CEO of CaroMont Hospital



704-729-4801



612 Chestnut St.  
Gastonia, NC 28054  
[www.championplumbingllc.com](http://www.championplumbingllc.com)



## Heart 2 Heart trio makes a splash

Stanley-based gospel group shares the Word of God

**T**hey're on a mission for God.

They're David and Deana Kiser and Rhonda House: the members of Heart 2 Heart, a Stanley-based gospel group. And they're making quite the splash on the regional gospel music circuit, according to Carroll Cooke, minister of music at Living Word Ministries in Stanley.

Cooke said recently that fans are mad about Heart 2 Heart. The trio is very popular and is gaining quite a following.

"You will love Heart 2 Heart, and they will love you back!" he enthused. "Their love for Our Lord is something special, and you will be able to feel His presence as they sing."

### A Heart 2 Heart chat

Mr. Kiser co-founded Heart 2 Heart in 1998. He recently offered more details about the group and its members, including his former high school sweetheart, now his wife of 23 years.



The members of Heart 2 Heart, Deana Kiser, Rhonda House and David Kiser, are performing many concerts at local and area churches.

— Photographs by Laura Taylor

Mrs. Kiser is a Belmont native. She attended East Gaston High School and completed several studies through the Institute of Financial Education.

The Kisers live in Stanley. They have two beautiful daughters, Keleigh and Ashleigh. And in October of 2010, they were blessed with their first grandchild, a little girl, Elynd. Keleigh and husband Chase live nearby, and this enables Mrs.

Kiser to spend much quality time with her family, which she enjoys tremendously.

She comes from a deep-rooted Christian family with a history of music and ministry. Her parents traveled in ministry for many years while she was growing up. She and her siblings were raised on the road, and she has never forgotten the deep roots of Southern gospel music that were instilled in her as a young child.

"It was nothing out of the ordinary for you to hear voices of family harmony and guitar strings strumming Southern gospel tunes, most every evening after supper, during camping trips by the campfire and during family gatherings," as Mrs. Kiser recently recalled.

Some of her fondest memories include the times when neighbors, friends and strangers were drawn to the sounds of her family singing and playing praises to Jesus. And today, touching people through gospel music is a legacy that she is honored to carry on.

Mrs. Kiser enjoys spending time with her family; giving Elynd all her attention; traveling; long conversations and a cup of coffee with friends; and watching an Atlanta Braves baseball game with her husband or enjoying romantic getaways with him. On any given day, she will choose the mountains over the beach. When not on the road ministering, she enjoys the porch of a log cabin, taking in the cool air and enjoying a beautiful mountain view.

As for Mr. Kiser, he is a Charlotte native who attended high school at Paw Creek Christian Academy. He later attended East Coast Bible College.

Like his wife, Mr. Kiser also comes from a deeply Christian family and background. At a very young age,

he began singing gospel music in his local church. He has enjoyed 25 years of ministry and has held numerous positions in local churches and other ministry opportunities.

tenure. House then took a break from Heart 2 Heart and in 2003, joined a Shelby-based family group, Providence. She spent the next six years traveling with them. Then in January,

**“You will love Heart 2 Heart, and they will love you back!**

**Their love for Our Lord is something special, and you will be able to feel His presence as they sing.”**

He has a long list of accomplishments in management and leadership training, both in the work place and in ministry. He enjoys new business endeavors; helping people; and creating new and exciting avenues for advancement. He now owns and manages Heart 2 Heart and handles its scheduling. He oversees recordings and road management, and he serves as master of ceremonies during concerts.

Mr. Kiser is also an ordained minister. He holds credentials through the Redemption Ministerial Fellowship International in the Pentecostal Holiness Church. When not singing, he also enjoys playing softball and basketball; running; working out at the gym; firearms training; and working on cars.

2011, she received a call to re-join Heart 2 Heart Ministries, and she has been traveling and ministering with them since.

House resides in Belmont, with her husband of 30 years, Jimmy, who is also a vital part of the ministry. Their daughter, Chelsea, sings in her church. She is 22 and was married in 2014.

Mrs. House summed up the joy of being in Heart 2 Heart. “We’re all excited to be in ministry together,” she said, “and we know that all roads have led to this time and place. God’s timing is perfect!” ■

— *By Thomas Lark*

#### **A calling at an early age**

Also one of the original members of Heart 2 Heart, House was exposed to Southern Gospel Music at a very early age.

Her parents often took her to all-night gospel concerts in Charlotte, which left an indelible mark on her. Growing up, House played and sang along with albums by the LeFevres, the Downings and the Talleys. She vowed that one day she, too, would sing in a gospel group.

At the young age of 8, House began singing with her parents at Little Rock Pentecostal Holiness Church in Lowell, where her father was the pastor for 13 years. At 17, she formed a ladies’ trio, A New Beginning, within the church. She also led the church’s praise-and-worship services.

In 1988, House also helped form the group, Sounds of Praise. They released four albums during their five-year



Deana and David Kiser and Rhonda House are Heart 2 Heart, seen here during a recent performance. Theirs is a mission to preach the Word of God in song.

— Photographs by Laura Taylor