

# *Fox Valley Christian Ministerial Alliance*

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## **Sunday Gospel Concert to Benefit Scholarship Fund**

• Aug. 27 FVCMA Concert with gospel artist Dr. Willie Wilson and others

**Aurora, Ill., Aug. 22, 2017** — A **scholarship benefit gospel concert** is planned for this Sunday, Aug. 27, 4 p.m., at Progressive Baptist Church, 275 S. Barnes Rd., Aurora. The concert will feature **Dr. Willie Wilson** of television's "Singsation!", Barbetta Neil, Progressive Baptist Choir, and Gayles Memorial Male Chorus.

Ticket cost is \$15. To purchase tickets call (630) 291-7681, (815) 715-6465, or (630) 892-3430.

The leaders of Fox Valley Christian Ministerial Alliance over the last several years have given qualified high school students an opportunity for a college scholarship. Each fall a banquet helps fund this effort. But the current FVCMA leadership felt that an expansion of the college scholarship program was needed to encourage Aurora students to graduation and beyond. So FVCMA developed a plan to have a benefit gospel concert.

"I'm so excited for this concert! It brings together great gospel music and support for our scholarship program. It's so great that Dr. Willie Wilson is coming, along with our blessed local talent. I would urge the community to come out on Sunday afternoon for gospel music and a great purpose... helping our youth," states Peggy Hicks, president of FVCMA.

**Add one - Sunday Gospel Concert to Benefit Scholarship Fund**

Dr. Willie Wilson is the founder of the Dr. Willie Wilson Foundation. Philanthropist, entrepreneur, and recording artist Willie Lee Wilson recently gained notoriety after earning nearly 11 percent of the votes in the 2015 Chicago mayoral election. Wilson's candidacy sparked an historic run-off election and secured his place in the Windy City's rich political history.

In 1987, Wilson turned his attention to owning a television production company, Willie Wilson Productions, and in 1988, he was moved to pursue his faith after hearing the song, "What Shall I Render Unto the Lord?" at his church. He sold his McDonald's restaurants to dedicate his life to gospel music and started doing church solos and singing with the Norfleet Brothers. He created several albums: *I'm So Grateful*; *Lord Don't Let Me Fail*; *Just A Closer Walk With Thee*; *Through It All*; *Somewhere Listening*; *It is I That Gain the More*; and *I'll Fly Away*.

In 1989, Wilson's *Singsation!* premiered, a half-hour weekly program of gospel music. The show is produced by his television production corporation. *Singsation!* is regularly hosted by Wilson and is available in over 60 million households every Sunday. A gifted singer, Wilson earned an Emmy Award in 2012 for one of his gospel performances on the popular television show.

This program is the first nationally syndicated African-American owned and produced gospel program on commercial television that broadcasts internationally on WGN-TV.

It is currently viewed on Sunday at 6:30 a.m.

The FVCMA mission is to become an equipping and mobilizing organization that transforms our community and world for Jesus Christ. The group has summarized this mission as "clergy in action."

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**A photo of Dr. Willie Wilson is available at [www.religionwire.com/photos/willie\\_wilson.jpg](http://www.religionwire.com/photos/willie_wilson.jpg)**