

Acknowledgments

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SPECIAL THANKS TO : Judith Konerza, Loree Stenehjem, Kim Niemeyer, Patrice Neis, JoNell Bakke, Rosie Black--and to those family members helping with the show tonight as ushers and other house crews

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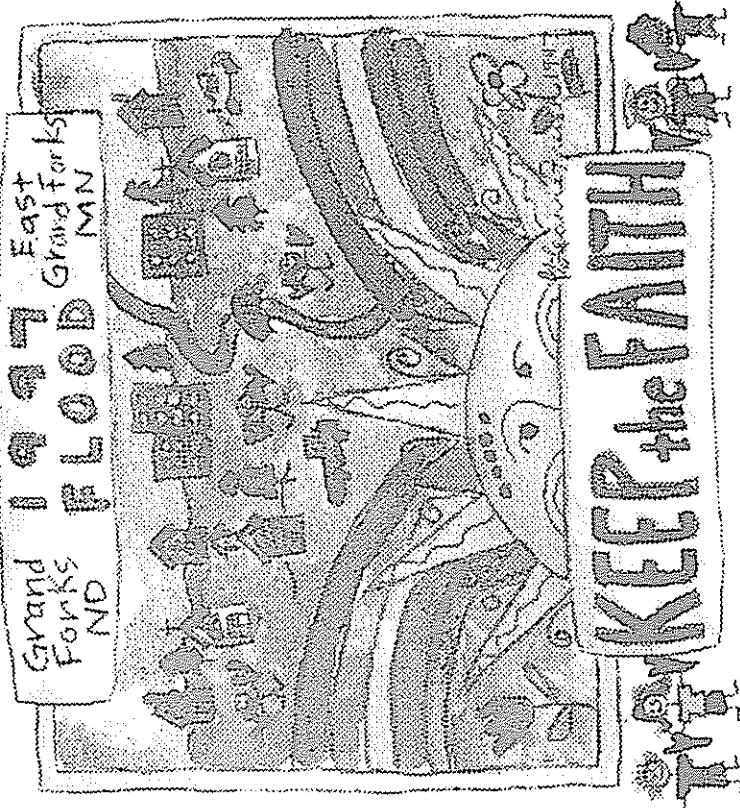
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MAILING LIST: If you would like to be on our mailing list for the best seating for productions at Red River or SPA, fill out the form below, tear it out from the program, and drop it in the box labeled "Mailing List" located by the lobby door on your way out. No need to fill this out if you are already on the list.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Summer Performing Arts Company Presents



A Celebration of
Community



A letter from Governor Edward Schafer

As Governor of North Dakota, I would like to

extend a warm welcome to all of those attending tonight's performance.

This evening is a celebration of the people of the Red River Valley who endured so much in the last ten months. First was the long, cold, terrible winter. It seemed as if we had never seen so much snow and extreme cold. Then came a 500 year flood. A wall of water that came, and nothing could stop it.

However, through all of this hardship, the people of the Grand Forks area persevered. In the terrible winter, you kept plowing, shoveling, and working when mother nature hurled blizzard after blizzard at the area. When the floods were forecast, the city did not run, and the city did not give up without a fight. Instead, the community came together, thousands helped and rolled up their sleeves and began to sandbag. Hundreds of thousands of sandbags were filled to prevent the flood.

Although the flood waters broke through, the spirit of the people of the Grand Forks area did not break but grew ever stronger. People from across the country were impressed not only by the damage, but more by the resiliency of the people who formed a true community to fight the raging waters. My office has received hundreds of calls asking how to help the people of the Red River Valley. They have been touched, as we all have been, by the spirit of the people of Grand Forks.

Nancy and I would like to wish you the best in tonight's performance. We also join you in celebrating the spirit of community for which this area is now famous.

Sincerely,

Edward T. Schafer
Governor

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Dayton's, The Chester Fritz Auditorium, The Grand Forks Herald, Grand Forks Public Schools, WDAZ-TV, K-Lite/KCNN, The Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

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SPA DONATIONS

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions to the 1997 season. If you would like to become a sponsor (WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR FUNDS), please contact Dean Opp at Red River High School at 746-2407 ext. 200.

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CONTRIBUTORS (\$50-99)

James & Heidi Newell, Randy & Brenda Skarhol,
Vivian Rydell, Opticare

ACT I

<i>Song</i>	<i>Composer</i>
River Song	Daniel Pederson
Winter Skies	Michael Koppelman
Holy Hannah	Michael Weber
Rivercities Rap	Daniel Pederson
Sand Bag Stomp	Cast
I Can Smile Too	Andy Kvermen
What Can We Do For You	RoxAnne Hagen
Pen Pal	Daniel Pederson
Back	Daniel Pederson
In Time	Michael Weber

Tapes of SPA's production
Keep the Faith on sale for
\$13.⁰⁰.

15 Minute Intermission
Shirts, CDs, Floodbooks, and videos on sale (after performance, also)

ACT II

<i>Song</i>	<i>Composer</i>
In Time (reprise)	Michael Weber
Sump Pump Blues	Michael Weber
Berm Envy	Daniel Pederson
River Dance	Daniel Pederson
Free	Michael Weber
Big Big Flood	Jon Lucht / Bill Chase
Keep the Faith	Daniel Pederson
Thank You, America	Daniel Pederson

Order forms available in the
lobby following tonight's
performance.

1997 SPA Company

Rachel Anderson	Jim Fox	Katherine Lathlaw	Paul Radel
Chris Arnold	Tom Fox	Jessica Lavis	Reed Reiner
John Arnold	Julie Fry	Jessica Lee	Giovanna Rentree
Lyndsay Arnold	Kathy Graetz	Mark Lentz	Manuel Roberts
Mike Arnold	Michael Courteman	Jessy Lichter	Cory Rodacker
Jenna Barke	Dusy Graetz	Abby Lechner	Andrea Rogers
Kara Barke	Rachel Graf	Luis Lopez III	Jennie Rosenthal
Amanita Bass	Deidre Green	Molly Lowe	April Russell
Alan Benjamin	Erin Guersney	Matthew Luney	Molly Ryan
Brandon Bina	Grant Gudlicks	Ruth Mamel	Becky Saari
Matt Blumkin	Danielle Hagan	Sarah Matteson	Katie Schimmeleffening
Sarah Blumkin	Seth Hagan	Kara McCoy	Marilee Schott
Brianna Beutner	Laura Hagan	Krisanne McCoy	Joel Schwartz-Morrett
Natalie Bowen	Emily Hahn	Iyler McGregor	Cerey Sernstad
Brianne R. Brathwaite	Tessa Haansen	Brian McCurrin	Kaleena Seidlinger
Lindsay Brekke	Brienne Harrington	Kaitlyn McKechnie	Nathan Sheppard
Carrie Brousseau	Sarah Harmon	Shaun McKewin	Erica Silverman
Erin Brown	Rebecca Harris	Steve McKewin	A. J. Stitzer
Randy Brown	Michelle Heap	Laura McLeod	Amanda Sharpohl
Pete Brugemann	Brad Hendrickson	Erin McMullen	Mark Sobolik
John Cargile	Kate Hendrickson	Chris Meek	Maren Solberg
Brittany Carter	Kane L. Hill	Josh Megretten	Stephen Sollom
Scott Cheney-Peters	Erick Hofarth	Jason Melin	Anna Sommer
Tom Christensen	Nicki Holcomb	Megan Melin	Matt Soule
Anne Clark	Janet Holtan	Andrea Mercer	Chris Sprenger
Greg Clark	Amelia Hoever	Adam Milavetz	Andrew Stenehjem
Kristen Clew	Anthony Iwan	Jeff Nieszwanger	Matthew Stenehjem
Jodi Conther	Jeff Jacobbi	Rachel Niceswanger	Melissa Stenehjem
Adam Cowger	Bethany Jensen	Michael Nowacki	Cathie Strecke
Ryan Cox	Amanda Johnson	Erin Olsen	Erin Sturlaugson
Darcey Cozzette	Ashley Johnson	Joseph Olsen	Dorothy Sukaski
Nikki Demmers	Brenna Johnson	Karly Olson	Elle-Maria Tailfeathers
David Dickenson	Derek Johnson	Keith Olson	Briana Theison
Desir Diehl	Erin Johnson	Miranda Olson	Kelsey Thibert
Dustin Diehl	Jill Johnson	Sarah Olson	Bernie Thomas
Jenni Dureux	Todd Johnson	David Palny	Ellery Toftie
Danielle Elbert	David Kary	Megan Patterson	Emily Toftie
Laura Erickson	Tera Kilbridge	Jeremy Peck	Eric Toftie
Stephanie Erickson	Amanda Kostee	Leif Pedersen	Rachel Tunseth
Tricia Evans	David Kemerza	Marty Pedersen	Andrea Tweten
Robin Everson	Laura Konzschmidt	Becca Perry	Adam Whetham
Eric Eylands	Kim Konzcha	Sarah Perry	Benjamin Whetham
Melissa Eylands	Brittan Koop	Al Petersen	Cathy Williams
Nate Eylands	Casey Koop	William Poehls	Emily Williams
Ansley Fiedler	Misti Koop	Jared Pekrywinski	Erin Williams
Paul Fiedler	Rachel Kossover	Nicole Poling	Maura Williams
Josh Fischer	Jason Koth	Katie Poppe	Lilia Wood
Kalie Fisk	Krisanne Kervnon	Tom Porath	
Megan Fiskum	Allison LaDuke		

A SPA Tradition

Following tonight's performance, all of the students in the Summer Performing Arts Company will join together to perform "I Sing the Body Electric." This symbolic song ties the entire program together. Although it has different meanings to different students, a common theme can be found in the literal text. The students are celebrating not only the arts, but also their growth in the arts yet to come. They will create their own tomorrow as they continue to participate in the arts over the next few years. The song also illustrates the passing of a class. This is the last summer program in which the class of 1998 will be able to participate. This "passing of the tradition" is represented by the two soloists selected to sing. Misty Koop, a senior, will sing the first verse then turn the spotlight over to eighth grader William Poehls.

It has also become a tradition for all Summer Performing Arts Company Alumni to join the members of the company as they sing.

Please...No Flash Pictures or
Recording During Performance

THE 10 YEARS OF SPA

While in the beginning we bemoaned the fact that we could not produce our "planned" SPA season, it became increasing clear that we were embarking on a journey with the magnitude of which we could not fathom.

KEEP THE FAITH is an original music theatre production based on the recent disaster in the Red River Valley. In April of 1997 more than 60,000 people in Grand Forks, and East Grand Forks were evacuated from their home due to the rising water. Grand Forks was also struck with a fire in the heart of downtown. The rivers and fire left the cities in ruin, homes destroyed, memories erased.

The spirit of community held strong as the citizens began to take control back into their lives, cleaning and rebuilding. KEEP THE FAITH was conceived and written as a celebration of that spirit of community. Now we in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks stand as "one community separated by a river," rebuilding and beginning the process of becoming stronger, more beautiful and more prosperous than ever before.

Without a doubt KEEP THE FAITH has demanded more blood, sweat, and tears than any show produced at SPA in the past 10 years. The challenges were many: working with 200 students in the same production, coordination the efforts of all directors, choreographers, composers and technical support, and moving from our schools into the Chester Fritz--not to mention living with the aftermath of the disaster by day while by night trying to turn our experiences into Art.

From our beginning 10 years ago we have grown much as a performing arts company. This summer we grew as members of a common community.

SPA Staff

Director	Brad Sherwood
Music Director	Dr. Michael Weber
Script and Group Director	Connie Sherwood
Group Director's.....	Larry Damico, Carol Geiszler
Group Music Director's..	Joel Beyer, Liz Eggers, Kathy Fiedler
Choreographers .	Angie Black (Head), Kim Schauer, Eric Saari
Aaron Knudsvig, Jackie Rauschenberger, Becky Bakke	
Sound.....	Cory "C.J." Johnson, Gene's Classic Sound, Leif Pedersen
Costume Director	Kathy Tretter
Assistant Director.....	Jolly Sherwood
Script Assistant.....	Toby Baker
Art Work.....	Leanne French
Radio Tape.....	Duaine Sanden
Vocal Staff . Tom Young (Head), Shelley Bares, Mark McLaurin	
Vocal Coach	Dave Henrickson
Jazz Staff	Mike Blake, Kris Eylands, Jeff Seabloom
Elementary Staff.....	Mary Splichal
Office.....	Jenny Hennes
Box Office & Elementary Director	Lori Young
Administrative Director	Dean Opp

Technical Support

Technical Director	Matt Nelson
Technical Assistant and Graphic Layout.....	Ryan Karels
Lights	Mark Slobolik (Head), Suzy Aries, Ryan Cox,
	Leif Pedersen, Marty Pederson,
	Cory Rodacker, Chris Sprenger
	Sam Black, Jason Elbert

THE PIT: Dr. Michael Weber-- Piano, Daniel Pederson, Joel Beyer--Synthesizer, Jeff Seabloom--Bass, John Nelson-Drums

River Song

The River's muddy, quiet, cold and flows down-stream up North;

A source of trade on this fair plain that gave our cities birth.

The Rivers bend like pleats and folds, like lace and ornament;

A gentle curve which God has drawn upon the firmament.

This Valley we call home enjoys variety and spice;

With hail stones, heatwaves, cold spells, too, tornadoes, droughts and ice.

From summer's heat to autumn's chill; all seasons on the earth:

In winter, blizzards, and in spring the valley's bold rebirth.

This site in days of old was our beginning place.

Now times have changed indeed, we've grown, and strive to keep the pace.

Our Cities' story told, new chapters have begun.

Which tell of Angels, fires and floods that make our cities one.

Winter Skies

No sea to shining sea, or purple mountain majesty
grace North Dakotan plains.

But spacious skies there are, clean air and countless shining stars and
mile after mile of amber waves of grain.

North Dakota: Harvest moon, your autumn afternoons
have put the shine in my eyes.

North Dakota: Winter skies it took 'til now to realize
that I love you and will 'till I die.

Where simple people care; words are true and fair is fair,
and life and love are precious things.

Through smiles that say hello through summer's heat and winter's snow,
the voice of peace forever sings.

Minnesota: Spring-time rains can wash away all pain until sweetness
overcomes the sour.

North Dakota: Summer nights, you've put meaning in my life;
in the weeds of the world you're a flower.

North Dakota: how I pray that you will never change.
You're my heart, you're my home.
You're my home.

Holy Hannah

Were you washed in the waters of the Red?
Holy Hannah, Holy Hannah her sisters and brothers brought you the flood.

Andy was the first one.
Lord how he did blow; showed up in November much too early for snow.

Betty blew in December.
Christopher right behind; made us white for Christmas.
Holidays were lookin' fine.

But our spirit and compassion and greatest one of these is the love that
eases sorrow from the Flood of Centuries.
We've fought the Good Fight, we will win the race.
With quiet strength we've Kept the Faith.

When our cities were flooded with help from volunteers the
Heroes, Angels, Mayors led us in a cheer:
"We'll rebuild our Grand Forks, Greater, and not forgetting East,
We're all in this together from the greatest to the least."
We've fought the Good Fight, we will win the race.
With quiet strength we've Kept the Faith.

Now we look to the future to see what lies ahead:
We know things will be different on these Rivers, Red.
Yes, our lives have changed forever, they'll never be the same.
Let's sing a song of victory o'er the Water and the Flame...
We've fought the Good Fight, we will win the race.
With quiet strength we've Kept the Faith.

Thank You, America!

America, you give us hope to carry on.
You give us pride in ourselves, and love to help make us one.
And so we sing: America!
Thank you, America for seeing us through, right when we needed you.
Together we say as we stand here today:
We've begun, what you've done makes us proud to be U.S.A.

To Red White and Blue we'll always be true: America, we sing unto you!
The land of the free, the home of the brave, the Stars and Stripes forever
will wave To Red White and Blue we'll always be true:
America, we sing unto you!

The land of the free, the home of the brave,
The Stars and Stripes forever will wave.
We've fought the good fight.
We will win the race, and KEEP THE FAITH!
We sing America!

Hope your house will be rebuilt.
Riverside Lincoln drive everybody did survive,
Joan Kroc Angel fund I got mine, you got none.
Dead cows floating by waiting for the FEMA guy.
President, flood tour Owens and Strauss
Saw the Winnebago sitting in my house.

In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
Came over the Dike in the BIG BIG FLOOD.

Pine-sol, Chlorine, pressure washer, visine, generator sump pump.

All my stuff is at the dump.

Mud bouts rain gear pretty soon; winter's here!

Space heater, water heater gotta use the moisture meter.

Dead grass, berm stuff don't you think we've had enough?

City guy in the back check the basement for a crack.

Salvation Army, Red Cross flood relief at no cost.

Porta potty, take a walk its the same on every block.

Flood insurance had none, sewer back up no fun

S B A, E O C, M O U S E!

Texas Lil, Tupperware Stood in line to get my share.

Ken Vien, Charlie Vien, Charlie Daniels is so keen.

Soul Asylum, Big Prom: No Date? Take your Mom!

Big flood, devastation this won't stop our graduation.

In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
Came over the Dike in the BIG BIG FLOOD.

Wet side, dry side city council can't decide.

Poor house, rich house, doesn't matter get out!
Drainage ditch, big dike move the town if you like, buy us out let us

know -- either way we gotta go.

President politicians, everybody's on a mission.

Flood bill on the hill will they help us, hope they will.

In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
Came over the Dike in the BIG BIG FLOOD.

Keep the Faith

As we look all around us and see the damage done,
We know we are not finished.
We've only begun to appreciate our blessings.
We wipe our tears and then we help another neighbor and make another friend.
We've fought the Good Fight, we will win the race.
With quiet strength we've Kept the Faith.

What we wish for at evening tomorrow may not bring.
Our "What ifs" and "If onlys" cannot change a thing.

Doris was the next one, first in ninety-sev'n.
Elmo and Franz followed-- ain't this much snow in heav'n.
All's calm in February.
March done brought us Gust.
Thought we were in the clear-- but honey!

Let me tell you a story-- Tell it girl!-- of a storm not so nice.
She brought all her glory-- all her glory-- of snow, wind, and ice--
snow, wind, and ice.
We lost all our power-- lights were out.
We lost all our heat-- too cold to pout.
Couldn't take a shower-- ooh you stink!-- not a hot meal to eat.
All because Hannah.
That old girl Hannah-- the worst storm of them all.
Yes it was Hannah. That old girl Hannah-- she made all the power lines fall.
We had to shovel the snow, cars wouldn't go; people were cold;
It got really old.
Hannah-- yes it was Hannah. Hannah-- that old girl Hannah.
Hannah-- the worst storm of them all.
Holy Hannah.... She was the worst storm of them all.
Oh yeah!

Rivercities Rap

What goes up must come down,
We filled sandbags all over town.
We piled 'em up to stop the flood...
and now the basement's filled with mud!

(refrain)
Here comes the water.
Here comes the mud.
When you mess with the Red,
The Red plays rough.

We volunteered to shovel sand
into a bag, to lend a hand.
Made sandwiches and walked the dikes
from Seniors down to little tikes.

(refrain)

We took upstairs all we could lug;
stopped up the stool with an oatmeal plug.
The dikes are failing, although it's late.
Better get up and EVACUATE!

(refrain)

Buildings burning, bridges closed.
The lawn displays the sump pump hose.
Two cities close and yet so far...
People wondering where we are.

(refrain)

Haul out the sheetrock, dry the mail.
The street looks like a rummage sale.
With kitchen, bedrooms looking rough,
We say goodbye to lots of "stuff."

(refrain)

We say "Uff-da" to all the need,
"Ya, sure y'betcha" is our creed.
"Could have been worse" we all have said.
Why do they call this river Red?

What goes up must come down.
We'll clean and fix our muddy towns.
The new results are worth the wait...
We'll be right back, WE'VE KEPT THE FAITH!

Here comes the water.

Here comes the mud.
When you mess with the Red,
The Red plays rough.

I wanna be free.

You said you would help.
I don't see any help real near.

I get in line every day I wait and wait for hours on end.
Don't tell me you feel my pain. Don't think I will go away.
I want an answer.

I want to know when will my life ever be mine.
I wanna be free from the mud, free from the smell, free from
the damage, free from all this hell.
Free.

Yes, I hear you. Yes, I really care.
What's mine is yours. All I want to do is share.
You've lost your home but you still have me.
Let's work to make you whole. Let's work to make you free.

Let's begin to work together. Let's begin to set you free.
Free from all that makes you angry.
Free from all uncertainty.
Our help comes from each other.
Our strength is from within.
Come join us in our conquest.
Your freedom now begins.
Free.

Big Big Flood

Ice storm, Blizzard Hannah, shovel snow, I don't wanna.
Helicopter hum-vee got no electricity weather service, army corp.
I don't wanna hear no more Sandbag Central,
Volunteers prohibition, got no beers.

In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
Air Base big hearts squeaky cots don't fall apart, curfew, mildew
helicopter pet rescue.

Flood Prediction mitigation premature evacuation.
Dump truck fire truck and the basement's filled with muck.
Downtown, Charlie Brown...We didn't start the Fire!
Twenty Twenty Newsweek KCNN Scott Hennen.
Prime Time, Dateline Grand Forks Herald all the time.

In the BIG BIG FLOOD, all covered with mud.
Came over the Dike in the BIG BIG FLOOD.

Contaminate, inundate, relocate, evacuate.
Drinking water, hot water, flood water, bottled water, dry guilt got so salt.

Just the other day my son smiled up at me.

I Can Smile, Too

Everybody's hopeful. Everybody smiles.
Didn't they lose their very lives in just a little while?
I don't feel hopeful. I just can't smile. I lost everything.
Now it's out on the berm in a single pile.
What can I do? What can I do? Where is my strength?
How can I go on? How can I make it through?
What can I do?

I saw my neighbor, workin' in his home.
His family was out of town but he was whistlin' cheerfully
despite his being alone.

I went up to him, just to say hello. And the tears came into my eyes.
He looked at me softly as if to say "I know."
And he smiled, too.
With the strength of the Lord he could move on, and he could make it through.
And he smiled, too.

I got the blues.
Oh, I got the blues.
I'm so soaking wet. How do I forget these stinking blues?

I've got the river's flowing-- crest is growing-- coulee spilling--
houses filling blues.

Sump Pump Blues
I've got the nights are freezing-- nothing pleasing--

keep me sober till it's over blues.

Sump Pump Blues

We've got the water's higher, we're not dryer, got no power, worthless
Sump Pump Blues

Berm Envy

The neighbors were hid by piles of stuff, you see.
The height of winter snow banks that used to be.

You saw wet sheetrock, carpeting and such.

It's more than you could stomach and it's all too much:
You just have acquired a case of BERM ENVY!

We scooped up the muck off of the basement floor.

We took apart the furnace, and yet there's more...

The house was freezing, later we felt hot.

The laundromat is trendy since the dryer's shot.

We're learning the symptoms of this BERM ENVY!

"There you are! Why haven't you started?" boldly asks the pile.
From you stuff you soon will be parted.
Paint a sign with style!

Since the flood we learned the term called BERM ENVY!

We read through the Herald in recovery.

The words of Toby Baker we all did see:

From North Dakota University we all have learned a bit of Eymology.

Remember that BERM-AGE came from BERM ENVY!

Free

Do you hear me? Do you care?
All I want is what is mine. All I want is my share.
I've lost my home. I've lost me.
Give me the power to make me whole.
Give me strength to make me free.

Free from all this anger, free from all this hate, free from all despairing,
free from our new fate.
Free from the heartache, free from all the pain, free from all our losses,
free to start again.

He said to me, "Daddy I know you lost your baseball cards and that was
your favorite hobby.
I know they're not much. Didn't have much to spend.
But here's a few cards I bought at a school rummage sale.
Please take them in your hand."
Now I can smile too.

With the strength of the Lord I can move on and I can make it through.
I can smile too.
I can understand now back in seventy-nine.
My daddy felt when I said, "Here, you can have mine."
Didn't know why he cried. Didn't know what that meant.
Now I know it was 'cause little boys are Heaven sent.
Now I can cry, too.

I can cry, too.
With the strength of the Lord I can move on and I can make it through.
I can cry, too.
Now I can cry, too.
I can smile, too.
With the strength of the Lord I can move on and I can make it through.
I can smile, too.
Now I can smile, too.
I can smile, too.
With the strength of the Lord I can move on and I can make it through.
I can smile, too.

What Can We Do For You?

What can we do for you?
When we left our flooded lands, you reached out your hands
and you helped us through.
We made it through, thanks to you.

You did so much when you knew we were in need.
You gave us shelter from the raging river but more than that you gave
us hope that things would be all right.
Things would get better thanks to you.

You reached out to your brother.
You reached out to your sister.
You reached out to all of us to lend a helping hand.
When we left our flooded lands you reached out your hands
and you helped us through.
We made it through, thanks to you.

What can we do for you?
You reached out to all of us to lend a helping hand.
When we left our flooded lands, you reached out your hands
and you helped us through.
We made it through, thanks to you.
What can we do for you?

Pen Pal

I know I'm slow, this letter's late, but we had to evacuate!
But now we're back and here to stay.
I'd even say we're O.K.

Here's your letter just in time! How are you? I am fine.
Write back to me at this address: My dear Pen-pal.

We lost our lights, our house got cool.
We didn't get to finish school!
But that's all right, Salvation's come, I'll stand in line to get some!
The rivers rose and brought a flood, when we came back it left us mud!
But that's not all that we've been through.
The downtown had a fire, too.

Here's your letter just in time! How are you? I am fine.
Write back to me at this address: My dear Pen-pal.

The water's gone, the berms are clear.
The citizens all gave a cheer that we'd rebuild and keep the faith.
I'll close so this won't be late.
So what's been happening with you?
Will you be taking summer school?
I gotta go, they drafted me into Salvation Army!
Here's your letter just in time!

And in time we'll build our dreams again
and in time we'll fight and we will win
and in time our lives we will share to show that we care
and dream all we dare in time

The pain of our yesterday is done.
Our mem'ries will now move on.
Each day now brings hope to ev'ry one.
Our future now is bright again.
We will fight. We will win. We will grow in time.
And in time we'll build our dreams again
and in time we'll fight and we will win
and in time our lives we will share to show that we care
and dream all we dare in time

Sump Pump Blues

I've got the walls are seeping-- I am weeping-- stuff is floating--
People boating blues.

Sump Pump Blues

I've got the spirits sinking-- water's stinking-- dikes are breaking--
Knees are shaking blues.

Sump Pump Blues

We've got the water's higher, we're not dryer, got no power, worthless
Sump Pump Blues.

We're so tired and we want to go to bed.
Can't! We're so scared we thought it might reach our heads.

I've got the horns are blasting-- ever lasting-- 'copters flying--
momma's crying blues.

Sump Pump Blues

I've got the sand bags filling-- back is killing-- arms are throbbing--
I'm a sobbing blues.

Sump Pump Blues

Now the water's up around my waist.
Guess my life jacket's been misplaced.
We've got the blues.
The only good thing being hit by the flood; we don't have to mow our grass:
it's covered with mud.

We dig deep to find the strength.
We pray hard to keep the faith.
While we sleep, the river runs deep.
Now what do we keep? We stop and we weep.

I'm wearing waders; hope it's not a trend.
Tell me, tell me, tell me when will this madness end?