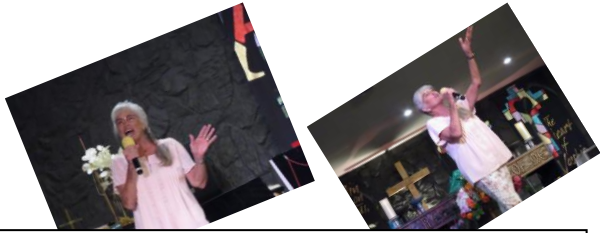


# The Marshan Chronicles

For regular supporters of BALM Ministries.



From top clockwise: Me singing at MCC San Diego – the Met Church, Lunch with Pastor Dan Koeshall and my sweet friends and supporters Pat and Sandy, Me singing while Carla signs in person and online. Carla has signed my songs and stories for about 35 years.

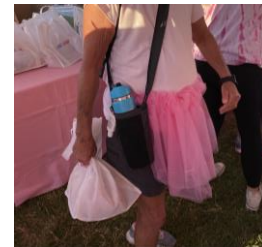


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We certainly continued to appreciate your prayers. As I said last month, Cindy did get a bad wound infection, which I guess is understandable when a recently closed surgical wound comes open as one is sliding down the road after falling off one's bicycle. No telling what clever germs were hiding there. Anyway, after several days of IV antibiotics and another couple of weeks on some heavy duty oral antibiotics, she seems well on her way to being mended...finally. The part that almost got lost in the drama of medication reactions and falls and three surgeries on the same spot and a wound infection, is that *she is officially cancer free*. Back again to your many prayers and how grateful we both have been for them!

In fact, with all the other drama we've had going on, it was easy to forget that this started with breast

cancer. So, with October being Breast Cancer Awareness (BCA) Month we had friends who took Cindy to a march for that celebration. (I know people sometimes forget how much we like our marches and Pride events in fall and winter in Florida. Fall only means the average temp drops from 90 to 84 here.) Well it turns out at this BCA event everyone who was a breast cancer survivor was asked to come forward. Cindy dutifully made her way up there. Then they gave all the survivors a pink sash and...wait for it...a pink tutu! Now, I am not allowed to post any photo that depicted Cindy in her tutu, but honestly, who can tell? Maybe this is just another good sport at the march wearing a different tutu?



So, back to *me* now. (As a matter of fact we have a pastor friend who knows both of us, who said, "Wow Cindy, you really went to awfully great lengths to get the attention focused on you for a while, didn't you?") Anyway, I was able to fly out to San Diego in October. Rev. Dan Koeshall was on sabbatical so I thought I was filling in for him, but it turns out he was there in time to see me. Still, he generously gave me the sermon time for a mini-concert. There were too many helpers to name, including Ry, Denni, and Armond. I had a great time. Lots of old friends to visit. They were commemorating the loss of my dear friend, Rev. Houston Burnside, five years ago. It was great to see his husband, Bruno. Carla Warnock has been signing ASL for my concerts in the Southern California area for decades. She's a drama queen in her interpreting so you can imagine how well we get along!

Please don't forget to follow Justin Ryan and his Southern Gospel Sissy series. It is SO good.



**Blessings and Gratitude, Marsha & Cindy**

## Cindy's Mission Work

Many thanks for those of you who have chosen to support Cindy on her mission trips. She is working with a ministry centered in St Petersburg that plans to have more in the future.

*Please be assured that all of the donations you sent are in savings for her opportunities to travel!*

We will let you know when she schedules more trips.

(Cindy was also a keynote speaker at Evangelicals Concerned this summer:

<https://ecinc.org/cindy-stevens-pino/>)

In the meantime, she is doing work with our own Church of the Trinity MCC teaching ASL, leading book studies and more.

### You can support BALM when you shop online

You probably know that Amazon has stopped its auto-donations through AmazonSmile. This is a loss for Balm Ministries. Amazon made it very easy to support us online. Igive.com is a good substitute for us, but more work for you.

You can read the instructions for igive.com online but the simple thing is this: when you want to shop online at a major store, you go first to [www.igive.com/BALM](http://www.igive.com/BALM). You put your info in & then it gives you a list of most stores you've ever heard of. So, for instance, you go to [igive.com/BALM](http://igive.com/BALM) & pick BestBuy, it takes you to that site & you order whatever you want to online. All your coupons & 'special deals' still apply. There's no extra charge to you at all, but that way, they automatically donate part of their profit to BALM Ministries.

### Prayer List & Ministry Opportunities

- ✠ Prayers for Justin's husband, Scott, who has been diagnosed with an especially aggressive form of colon cancer. And please remember to pray for Justin, too, as he battles fears for another loved one with

cancer. Scott is nearing his last scheduled chemo in November and testing then will determine his future course.

- ✠ Praises for all the wonderful prayers you sent up for Cindy. She is finally getting back out into ministry opportunities and...yes, on her bicycle.
- ✠ Prayers for Justin's new weekly recording called Southern Gospel Sissy. Every week he covers the history and make up of another gospel group or song, with clips of their previous concerts, and then sings his own version of the song. Look on YouTube under "Justin Ryan Southern Gospel" (my favorite is <https://youtu.be/xOK2lXx2JjE?si=QIA1UC43heflrGx>)
- ✠ Prayers that we can get back out singing and sharing the Good News. You have all been amazingly generous.

### What You Have to Say

*"Thank you for writing such a beautiful song. The first time I heard it was on YouTube with David Phelps, along with his daughters Callie and Maggie Beth. When I listen to their harmonies and the words, tears fall. I am 73 years old, and when it is my time to leave my earthy home, this is one of the two songs I have listed to be sung at my funeral. Thank you again for sharing your wonderful talent."*

*(Imagine how blessed I am when other fabulously talented music ministers choose to do songs that I have written. I know that David*

*Phelps sang "For Those Tears" with his sister, who died of breast cancer. So having him record it again with his precious daughters meant the world to me. You should hear it!)*

<https://youtu.be/rtqCh6-gwgA?feature=shared>

*"It meant so much to me that you shared your gifts with the cancer support group at our hospital. Some of us who have recently lost family to the disease would love it if you would sing at our memorial service. Especially since some of the family is Spanish-speaking."*

### Upcoming ministry opportunities

**Nov 3 at 6:30** Church of the Trinity MCC in Pierce Hall. Marsha and Cindy in artist-in-residence concert...again! [www.trinitymcc.com](http://www.trinitymcc.com)  
**Nov 11-12** concert and special music at New Life Community Gospel Church, New Port Richey, FL  
Marsha and Cindy in concert  
*Watch for Christmas concerts in our area of Florida! We can't wait to see you.*  
*(watch the website for updates)*  
Please consider reaching me at [ssbalm@aol.com](mailto:ssbalm@aol.com) to book something for your church! We have no fees required at this time!!

*A word from a longtime supporter of Balm ministries: ChristianGays.com is a community for ALL LGBT people to meet & develop friendships based on faith & other common interests. We offer Chat Rooms & Forums, & all information is private, accessible to members only. WE need this now more than ever! Join at [www.ChristianGays.com](http://www.ChristianGays.com)*