June 7-19, 2026

Do Re Mi
Gospel Music Academy, Inc.

Emphasizing Church Music

Family Information For
The Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy, Inc.

A non-profit corporation dedicated to shape note gospel music education, promotion, and preservation

The Do Re Mi River Retreat
275 Cedar Bluff Road
Hartsville, TN 37074

www.doremigospelmusicacademy.com
www.facebook.com/shapenote
@doremiacademy on Twitter @doremigospelmusic on YouTube

DO RE MI GOSPEL MUSIC ACADEMY, INC.

Thank you for choosing THE DO RE MI GOSPEL MUSIC ACADEMY, INC. for your gospel music education and fun. The Academy is devoted to helping the church by strengthening and improving music for the honor and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Students will be blessed with gospel music education by exploring and improving their God-given talents and will enjoy singing activities, both individual and group, along with special concerts, Christian fellowship, and recreation. Classes are offered from beginner through advanced songwriting. This year's sessions will be held June 7-19, 2026.

This year we will continue the Special Adult Night Class meeting 6-8 PM, Tuesday and Thursday nights of both weeks. Academy week will again be week 1, (June 7-13) (ages 8 and above). **SHAPE week** will be **week 2, June 14-19** (ages 12 and above only.) **NEW THIS YEAR** - The **Songbird** (half day class for age 3-7ish) and **Momma Bird** class will be offered **both weeks**. You can choose either June 8-12 or June 15-19. We anticipate being at full capacity again this year, with a waiting list. Register early to save your spot. Fees are not due until June 2026. The Academy will close at 3:30 p.m. after final performance singing on Friday, June 19. There will be no dormitory accommodations available on Friday night, June 19. There will be no supper meal served on Friday. The final meal provided will be lunch on Friday. All Students should be picked up before 5 pm on Friday, June 19, 2026.

Go to our website www.doremigospelmusicacademy.com for up-to-date information and announcements, including pictures, registration information, and singing news. Rent the Retreat (www.drmretreat.com) by contacting Poppa Key Dillard by text at 615-969-2708 or Barry Witcher at 615-633-7124. Keep up with the Academy on Facebook, www.facebook.com/shapenote or Twitter @doremiacademy. Please email us at doremigma@gmail.com with any other questions not answered in this packet.

DORMITORY AND RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

The goal of our on-campus dormitory and residential program is to ensure the safety and welfare of each student. The residential program support staff will help the student make new friends and foster old friendships They will provide supervision and support services to assure a safe, enjoyable time at the Academy.

On-campus dormitory students MUST BE 8 YEARS OF AGE or older, with the ability to take care of their basic needs (showering, hair grooming, teeth brushing, etc.). Our dorm staff will always be there to help if needed. Separate male and female dorms serve the students and staff. The dormitories are bunk bed style. The student will need to furnish linens, pillow, blankets, personal items, including bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, etc. Some students find it helpful to have a roll of paper towels also. Please refer to the items listed in the 'To Bring' section of this Family Information packet. Some dorm rooms are designed to share a full bathroom, including shower, commode, and lavatory, with the adjoining room. A community shower and restroom in each dormitory serves the general population.

Students are required to keep a clean and neat dorm room.

All younger dormitory students, ages 8-11, will be in the dorm at 9:00 PM with lights out at 9:30.All older dormitory students, ages 12+, will be in the dorm at 10 PM with lights out at 10:30 PM.

REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN

TIDBITS OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- On-campus students for week 1 check into the dorm Sunday, June 7, 2026, between 2-4 PM.
- On-campus students for week 2 check into the dorm Sunday, June 14, 2026, between 2-4 PM. Any week 2 students attending the singing June 13, may check into the dorms one (1) hour after the singing ends.
- Returning students – be sure to bring your songbook from 2024, *Favorite Gospel Songs 3rd Edition*, and your piano lab book.
- A limited number of RV spots are on campus for families wishing to camp during the week. Call or text (615-969-2708) about reserving these, as they have been completely full every year.
- The Academy continues to offer a virtual option. This is available year-round. Virtual and in person piano lessons are also offered year-round.
- Upon arrival, follow the parking signs (and the orange arrows on the map at the end of this packet), and **park in the grass**. Report directly to the office to check. Staff will NOT be available to check in students earlier than 2 P.M. See the map at the end of this packet.
- NO PARKING IN FRONT OF THE OFFICE.
- Please bring your luggage, personal items, and any remaining fees that you owe. See the list of items to bring later in this booklet.
- After registration, report to your dorm for room assignment. Staff will be available to assist with check-in and your luggage.
- Roommates are assigned by age, according to space availability. Students may request a roommate in their age group; however, the ACADEMY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE FINAL BED ASSIGNMENTS.
- After dinner each Sunday, students will assemble in the Lodge for introductions, orientation, and a 'meet and greet.'
- Dorm meetings will be held by the dorm supervisors and staff after assembly.
- SONGBIRD classes are offered June 8-12 or 15-19, 2026. As space is limited, parents are encouraged to pre-register for these classes. Both Songbirds and Sparrows will ATTEND FOR A HALF DAY ONLY. STUDENTS MUST BE PICKED UP AT NOON. CHILD CARE IS NOT PROVIDED BY THE ACADEMY.

DORMITORY CHECKOUT AND CLOSING PERFORMANCE

DORM CHECK OUT TIME: Week 1 - Saturday, June 13, between 10-11 AM.

*Parents, please plan to pick up your child **before 11 a.m**. at the Academy**.** Dorm staff will be available for assistance.*

Students attending both weeks do not need to check out on June 13.

DORM CHECK OUT TIME: Week 2 - Friday, June 19, between 3-5 PM.

The Academy will close after final performance singing on Friday,June 19, 2026. No dormitory accommodation is available for Friday, June 19. No supper meal will be provided on Friday, June 19, 2026. All students should be picked up no later than 5 P.M.

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO CLEAN THEIR DORM ROOM **PRIOR** TO CHECK-OUT. PLEASE, DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHES OR OTHER ITEMS.

The Academy's Annual Tribute singing will be held Saturday, June 13, 2026, at First Baptist Hartsville, 773 E McMurry Blvd Hartsville, TN 37074 at 2:00 PM. The singing will be to honor Mr. Barry Witcher. All Week-2 students attending the singing can check into the dorm one (1) hour after the singing.

The Week 2 singing will again be taped and available on YouTube channel @doremigospelmusic after the Academy.

DO RE MI SONGBIRDS, SPARROWS, MAMA AND PAPA BIRD

This class will be offered June 8-12 or 15-19, 2026.

New this year this class is offered both weeks. You can choose either week 1 or 2. A half-day commuter program for children ages 3-6 is available. Students should be dropped off at their classroom by 8:30 a.m. and picked up in their classroom by noon. Any student attending the Academy all day must register as a day commuter. if you have any questions regarding which class you should register for, email us at doremigma@gmail.com. Please note – placement in Songbirds or Sparrows class will be determined by enrollment.

Childcare services are not provided by the Academy; therefore, all Songbirds & Sparrows must be picked up by noon. Under no circumstances will these students be allowed to remain on campus unsupervised.

One parent of each Songbird or Sparrow may register for a FREE class. This free class will end at noon to enable you to pick up your child. Any parent wanting to attend a more advanced class may test into that class and attend free until noon each day.

IMPORTANT DAILY & WEEKLY DO RE MI HAPPENINGS

- Devotional services will be held each morning and evening session. BRING YOUR BIBLE.
- Night commuter classes do not include meals. The day commuter class includes lunch. Other meals may be purchased.
- The Veterans-Attend-Free-Program includes lunch only. Other meals may be purchased.
- Full Meal plans for commuters are available for purchase either at registration or paid daily.
- The big shaving cream fight will be held during Week 1. If you plan to participate, bring two cans of non-menthol shaving cream.

COMMUTER CLASS

A commuter program is available for those students who wish to drive in daily for the day or the night classes. This class is FREE for our Veterans. Lunch is included in the day commuter fee. Breakfast and dinner are NOT included in the registration fee, but may be purchased for the week or daily.

All students who commute must check in upon arrival on campus. Likewise, check–out is required when the student leaves campus. The check in/out location, staffed by a dorm staff person, is located at the Lodge corner of the Boys Dorm (see map).

ITEMS TO BRING

In addition to your normal clothing and personal items, you will need to bring the following:

Bible		Hair dryer		►Any Medications needed
Twin size top sheet		Shampoo, soap, all toiletry items		Bath towels, hand towels and bath cloths
Twin size fitted sheet		Shoes to wear in the shower (flip-flops, etc.)		Softball glove (optional)
Twin size blanket		Plastic mesh bag or bucket to hold toiletry items in the shower		Clothes for each day including a dress up outfit for the closing session
Pillow & pillowcase		Small fan with extension cord if hot natured or extra blankets if cold natured		Swimsuit, towel, 2 cans non-menthol shaving cream if participating in shaving cream fight
		Guitar and/or acoustic instrument for private lessons		Snacks – Bring your favorites. A small snack is provided each night

► **A complete and detailed medication list must be presented to Dorm staff/ medical personnel, upon registration. All medication will be held by authorized staff and maintained in a secure location. Please bring medications in a sealed plastic bag with your child's name on it.**

PRIVATE LESSONS

Everyone registered for class is eligible to register for private lessons. Private instruction is offered both weeks in piano, voice, guitar, bass, and fiddle. Private piano lessons are available year-round, no matter where you live. Our instructor uses the internet or simply by phone to continue to teach year-round. Email doremigma@gmail.com for more information or ask during the Academy for more details.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

E mail address
keydillard@gmail.com
doremigma@gmail.com

Telephone & leave message or send text
Key Dillard - 615-969-2708
Kris Dillard - 615-987-2050

APPROPRIATE CONDUCT & DRESS

Do Re Mi GMA is dedicated to Christian fellowship and learning. All students should use conduct that is appropriate for Church events. Conduct should be exemplary before God. PARENTS WILL BE CONTACTED IF CONDUCT IS INAPPROPIATE AND RULES ARE NOT OBSERVED.

School-approved attire appropriate for public school is expected at the Academy, which may include, shorts, casual shirts, t-shirts, and jeans. Clothing deemed unchristian in print and scope will not be appropriate. Hats will not be worn indoors.

Please bring one Church outfit to wear for the closing performance singing which will be filmed on Friday, June 13, 2025.

Each full-time student will be given a Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy, Inc. I.D. lanyard for identification. The lanyard is required for safety and security purposes and MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES OUTSIDE OF DORM ROOM. LANYARDS SHALL NOT BE SWAPPED AMONG STUDENTS.

PLAN TO ATTEND THE ACADEMY SINGING

The Academy's Annual Tribute singing will be held Saturday, June 13, 2026, at First Baptist Hartsville, 773 E McMurry Blvd Hartsville, TN 37074 at 2:00 PM. The singing will be to honor Mr. Barry Witcher. All Week-2 students attending the singing can check into the dorm one (1) hour after the singing.

The Week-2 Closing Singing will be taped and available for viewing on our YouTube channel @doremigospelmusic after the Academy.

The Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy, Inc. reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event sponsored by Do Re Mi without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. Do Re Mi may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used, or contracted by Do Re Mi, including but not limited to brochures, invitations, books, newspapers, magazines, television, websites, etc.

To ensure the privacy of individuals and children, images will not be identified using full names or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent, or legal guardian.

A person attending a Do Re Mi event who does not wish to have their image recorded for distribution should make their wishes known to the photographer, and/or the event organizers in writing. You may contact Do Re Mi at 721 Rucker Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37128, in writing, stating your intentions, and please include a photograph of the student. Do Re Mi will use the photo for identification purposes only and will hold it in confidence.

By participating in a Do Re Mi event or by failing to notify Do Re Mi, in writing, of your desire to not have your photograph used by Do Re Mi, you are agreeing to release, defend, hold harmless and indemnify Do Re Mi from any and all claims involving the use of your picture or likeness.

Any person or organization not affiliated with Do Re Mi may not use, copy, alter or modify Do Re Mi photographs, graphics, videography or other similar reproductions or recordings without the advance written permission of an authorized designee from Do Re Mi.

WEB SITE

Please visit the Web Site at www.doremigospelmusicacademy.com for information about the Academy building program, singings, student achievements, pictures, and other items of interest.

Plan to rent the DO RE MI RETREAT (ww.drmretreat.com) for weddings, birthdays, family reunions, Church retreats, corporate retreats, scout outings, etc. For rental details contact Poppa Key Dillard by text at 615-969-2708 or Barry Witcher at 615-633-7124.

Stay up to date with THE DO RE MI GOSPEL MUSIC ACADEMY AND PROGRAMS :

www.facebook.com/shapenote

Twitter @doremiacademy

YouTube @doremigospelmusic

WAYS TO SUPPORT DO RE MI

The Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt nonprofit corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Visit the Sponsorship page to see ways to help people attend the Academy.
http://doremigospelmusicacademy.com/sponsor.htm

Support the arts

Did you know arts specialty plates support the Tennessee Arts Commission and organizations like Do Re Mi? Swap out your old plate for a new one or gift a tag to someone else!

TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION
Cultivate. Create. Participate.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

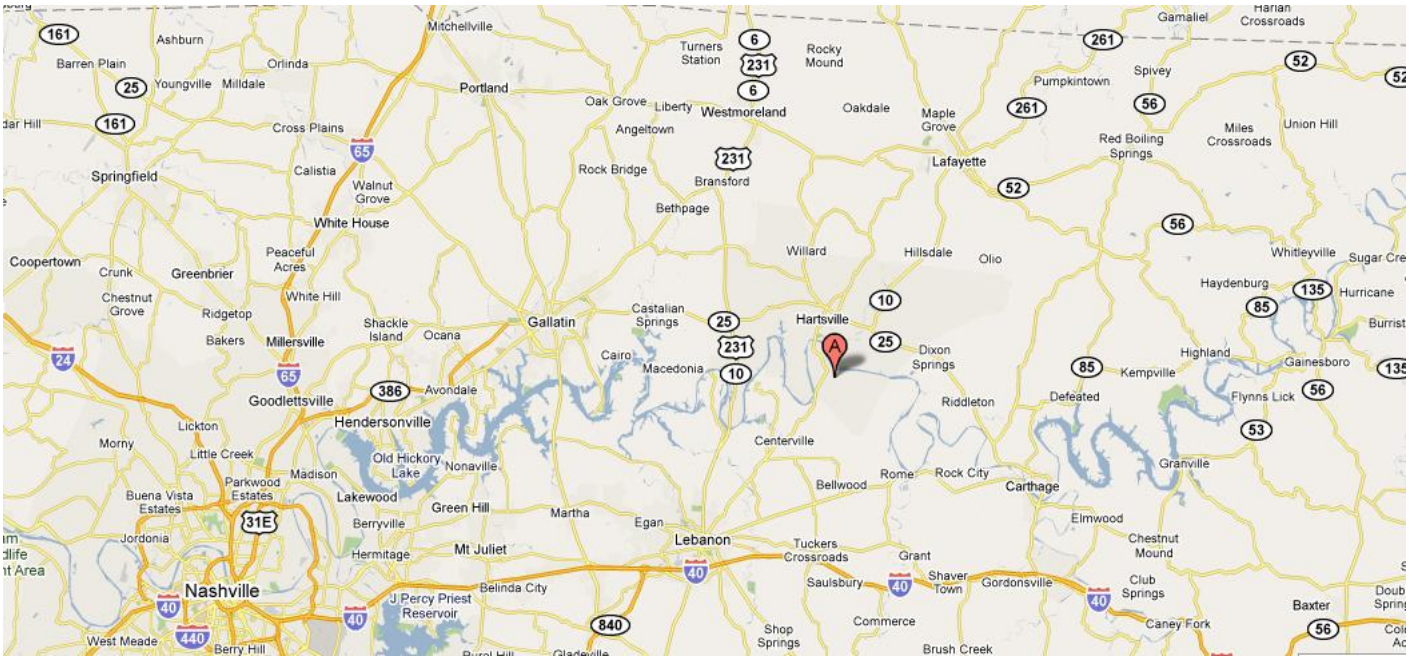
- **What is SHAPE week?** It is for students age 12 and older and be held June 8-13, 2025. All levels of instruction are offered, but the classes move a little faster and are geared toward the older students. There is an ear training and songwriting class for all students during SHAPE week.
- **What is the virtual class?** This is an online class for all levels (excluding songbirds). It includes classroom instruction, a sectional class, and an assembly. This class is now offered year-round.
- **Is my child a Songbird, Sparrow or day commuter**? Songbirds and Sparrows are all half-day classes. Groups are divided by age once all registration is complete. Be sure to pre-register as these classes have been completely full each year. If your child is mature enough to engage in classroom activities for an entire school day, they are welcome to register for the Day Commuter class starting at age 7.
- **If my child is a Songbird or Sparrow can I attend class?** Yes. We offer a special Beginner Adult class, which parents can attend free. Parents will also be allowed to attend the advanced classes in the morning.
- **Can I change class?** Yes. We want you to get the most from this experience. If you would like to change from Commuter to On Campus, please let us know. Also, if you need to move up or down, let us know. We will make the change. We encourage students to let us know if they need to be in a different class.
- **Will there be classes Saturday, June 13?** We will prepare for the Annual Tribute Singing. Those staying one week only must be out of their dorm room by 11 AM; students staying both weeks do NOT need to check out between weeks and will be expected to attend the Annual Tribute Singing, Saturday, June 13.
- **What if I have special dietary restrictions?** We will attempt to make accommodation for your needs, if possible. If special food is required, please bring your food in labeled plastic bags. Our kitchen staff will store the food and heat it up for mealtime. While we cannot meet every request, we do try to work with each family. Please contact us before registration day to discuss special requirements.
- **What is the Do Re Mi Museum?** Part of our mission is to preserve the heritage of the shape notes. A museum has been established and is currently located in the Do Re Mi Office building. Students are encouraged to visit. It is open daily during both weeks of the Academy and by appointment at other times. If you would like more information or would like to help in the development of this project, please email us. An old school building has been donated and moved to the Do Re Mi campus to house the museum. The Kelley McClard Fund has been established to fund the move and complete renovation of the building into the museum.
- **What is the House system?** Every student is placed in one of four Houses: Stamps, Speer, Gaither, or Vaughan. They work together daily to encourage each other and earn points toward the Memorial Trophy, which is presented to the House with the most points at the end of the week.
- **Can my friends come?** Yes, Monday is Friend Day, so your friends can come at no charge to see what we do. If they decide to attend, they can register that day and attend the Academy.
- **What if my child needs to leave?** Every year we have students who need to leave campus during the week. A parent must sign a student out and back in, any time they leave and return to campus.

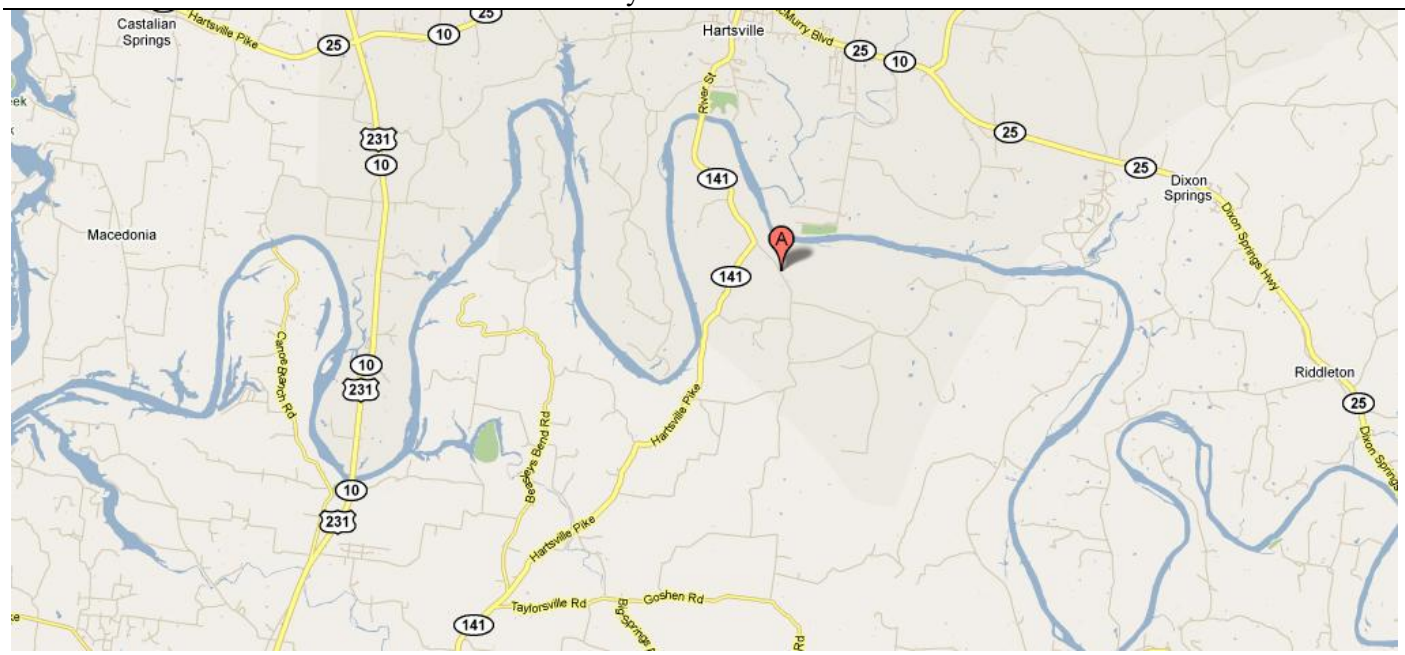
- **What if my child takes medicine?** At registration, complete the medicine form, and the dorm staff will keep the medication locked up. They will also assist each child in taking their medicine at the correct times. Please send medication in a sealed plastic bag with your child's name on it.
- **What is "Shout Out time?"** Each day before lunch, students are given the opportunity to give a shout out to someone or something that was good that day. It is a special fun and encouraging time.
- **What is the shaving cream fight?** It is exactly like it sounds. All who wish to participate gather in a designated area and cover each other with shaving cream. It started as a way to keep the students from messing up the dorms and has become an annual tradition. You may wish to bring a swimsuit for this activity.
- If you need more information about the Academy, email your questions to doremigma@gmail.com .

Key Dillard, President
Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy, Inc.
615-969-2708
keydillard@gmail.com

MAPS

Do Re Mi Gospel Music Academy

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Hartsville Pike
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Murry Blvd
River St
Macedonia
Dixon Springs
Dixon Springs Hwy
Riddleton
Carpe Branch Rd
Beasleys Bend Rd
Hartsville Pike
Taylorsville Rd
Goshen Rd
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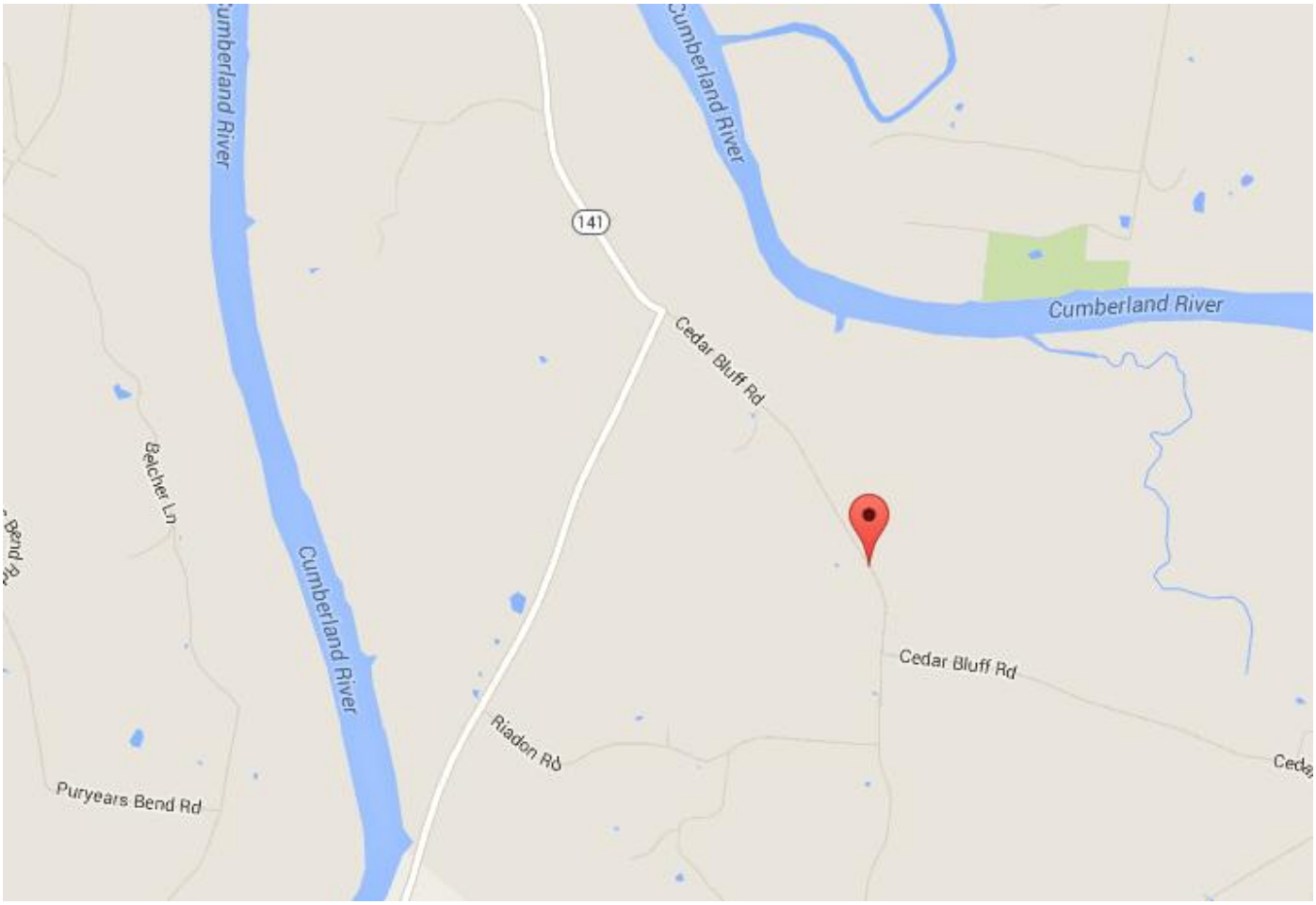
Cumberland River
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Cedar Bluff Rd
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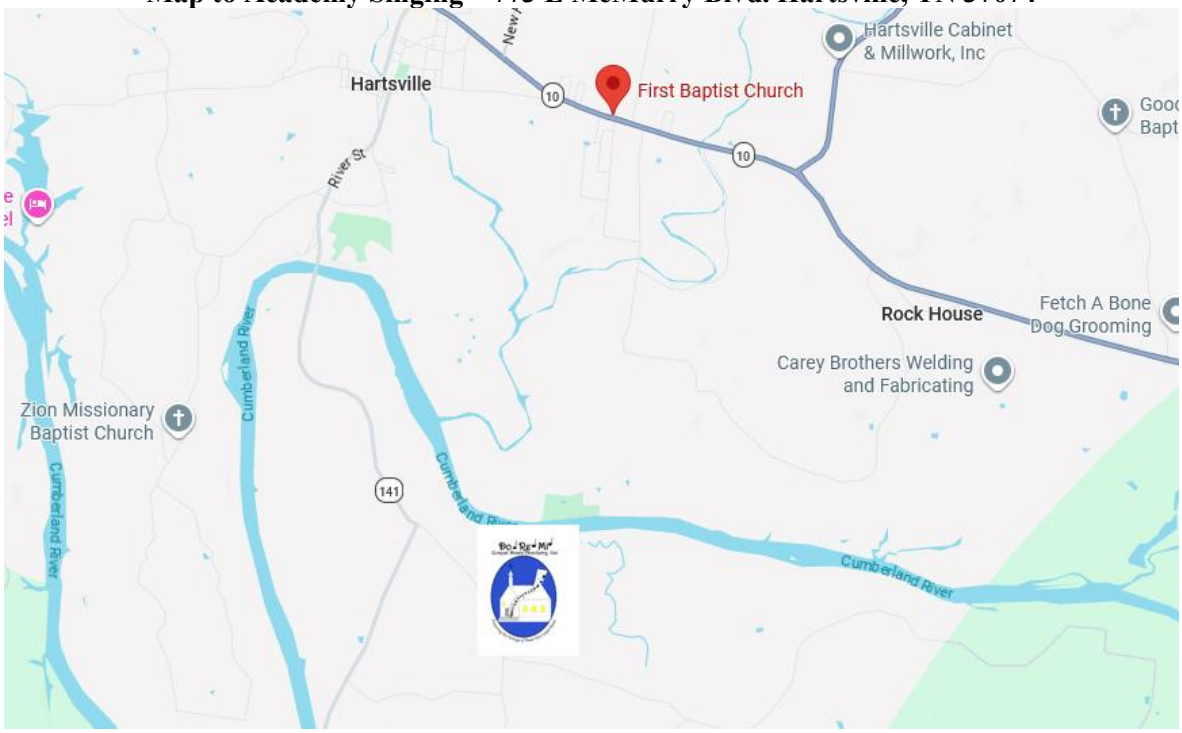
Belcher Ln
Riadon Rd
Puryears Bend Rd

Map to Academy Singing – 773 E McMurry Blvd. Hartsville, TN 37074



Classrooms
Deck
Lodge
Anice Jones House
Rest Rooms
Boys Dorm
Staff Parking
RV Parking
Girls Dorm
Office
NO Parking
Care taker
Do Not Enter Staff Only
Parking
Parking
Museum