



## THE HAPPIEST MUSIC ON EARTH!

Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie - Jazz Band is a unique, traditional jazz band located in the hills of Chattanooga, TN. AJWD's distinctive sound is kindled by the belief that music should be fun and awaken joy in others. With a style of collective improvisation inspired by spirituals, blues, ragtime and traditional jazz, AJWD creates the "Happiest Music on Earth!"

Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie - Jazz Band (AJWD-JB) began in May of 2020. During the pandemic lock down, Kimberly, RubyMarie and Jim Altenberg were all at home desiring an activity that would bring them joy. Playing music was a past time they could enjoy together. They gathered their collection of saxophones and settled on Dixieland Jazz. They were drawn to the music's cheerful sound. Soon they added a trombone and a banjo by inviting Gordon and Velma Willis (Kimberly's parents) to join them.

They mastered a handful of songs and Kimberly's vision became sharing the joy of their music with others who were lonely during the lockdown. She called her idea "Jazz Caroling". They travelled to shut-ins and "Jazz Caroled" on the front lawn. Word quickly spread, and soon requests from families were flooding in.

AJWD Jazz Band quickly developed a strong, local following and area businesses and festivals hired them to play. The band expanded again adding more instruments: Dr. Barkey Bryant (trumpet); Seane Crews (wash board and percussion). This is when Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie (AJWD) began perfecting its current, unique sound.

Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie - Jazz Band The Happiest Music on Earth!

[aint-just-whistlin-dixie.com](http://aint-just-whistlin-dixie.com)



## AJWD – JB MUSIC VIDEOS



## DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE



## JOSHUA FIT THE BATTLE OF JERICHO

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"They are a spirit raising  
jazz band!"

The Daily Citizen - Dalton

"They are super  
entertaining!"

Deputy Director Hamilton County  
Parks



"They are incredible and  
they put everyone in a  
good mood!"

David Karns WRCBtv

"As I listened to their  
music God brought joy,  
peace and hope to me."

Amy Mann CTN Cleveland

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## MEET THE BAND



### Kimberly Altenberg

Alto Saxophone

Joined band - May 2020 - present

**Instruments:** Piano, Organ, Percussion, Alto Saxophone

Kimberly has a broad music background. She began playing the piano at age 9 and has been playing ever since. She studied Piano Performance in college, graduating from Olivet Nazarene University. Kimberly also played percussion instruments in her grade school band. She currently plays alto saxophone in the Bayside Baptist Church Orchestra. She has also enjoyed singing in various choirs throughout her life. She currently teaches piano, saxophone and voice at Silverdale Baptist Academy. She began playing the saxophone in 2020.



### RubyMarie Altenberg

Tenor, Baritone & Soprano Sax

Joined band - May 2020 - present

**Instruments:** Piano, Tenor Saxophone, Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Clarinet

RubyMarie began studying the Piano at the age of 9 and has been playing and taking lessons ever since. She sings in the Silverdale Baptist Academy (SBA) Choir, Bayside Baptist Prayz Choir and the SBA Highschool Praise Band. RubyMarie began playing the saxophone at 11. She plays the baritone saxophone in the Bayside Baptist Church Orchestra, SBA Highschool, Marching Band, SBA Concert Band and SBA Jazz Band.



### Jim Altenberg

Soprano & Tenor Saxophone  
Clarinet

Joined band - May 2020

**Instruments:** Tenor Saxophone, Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone, Clarinet

Jim began taking saxophone lesson at 9 years of age. He played the Alto saxophone in his grade school band. Jim currently plays the alto & tenor saxophone in the Bayside Baptist Church Orchestra. He also began playing the clarinet in January of 2021.



## Gordon Willis

Trombone

Joined band - June 2020 - present

**Instruments:** Trombone

Little Gordon started playing the trombone at the age of 9. He played trombone in his grade school band and then graduated to his high school marching band. Gordon spent many years singing in choirs, a gospel quartet and an ensemble with his wife and children. He also volunteered as the choir director in his church for around 40 years. Gordon currently plays the trombone in the Bayside Baptist Church Orchestra.



## Velma Willis

Banjolele & Tambourine

Joined band - June 2020 - present

**Instruments:** Piano, Banjolele, Tambourine

Velma started piano lessons around the age of 9 and by 13 she was the pianist at her church in Gulfport, MS. She has been playing the piano ever since. Velma played piano for her husband's (Gordon) quartet, for various choirs and she played piano and sang with their family ensemble. She began playing the banjolele in June of 2021.



## Seane Crews

Percussion & Wash board

Joined band - September 2021 - present

**Instruments:** Percussion, Wash board, Guitar, Cajon, Dulcimer, Ukulele, Banjolele

Seane started playing the guitar at the age of 12. He has been playing for over 45 years while learning other instruments as well through the years. Seane also enjoys building and playing cigar box guitars. He played guitar in a classic rock band - Greystone Drive, and he plays the guitar and the Cajon in the Ooltewah Baptist Church Praise and Worship Band.



## Barkey Bryant

Trumpet

Joined band - July 2022 - present

**Instruments:** Trumpet, Piano, Bass, Drums, Guitar

Dr. Barkey Bryant started playing the piano at age 11 and the trumpet at age 12. He studied trumpet performance at TN Technological University. He received a MM in Jazz Studies from Western IL University, and a MM in Classical Studies, and a DMA in Jazz Performance from University of IL. He has held positions thru the years as a worship leader, band director, music professor as well as teaching private lessons. Barkey has kept busy performing in big bands, symphony orchestras, and various ensembles. He has performed with The All-American College Band at Disney World, an 80s cover band - Edison's Medicine, the New Orleans Jazz Machine, The Dexter Thomas Band, The Tower of Power, and many others. For more information about Barkey go to [www.barkeybryant.com](http://www.barkeybryant.com)

**Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie – Jazz Band plays a variety of music that includes Traditional Jazz, Spirituals, Gospel, and Blues. Combined with our style of “collective improvisation” occasional vocals, we make the “Happiest Music on Earth!”**

Our Playlist of music includes fan favourites songs such as (and many more):

All of Me

Amazing Grace

Bill Bailey

Jambalaya

Bourbon St Parade

When the Saints

Get Happy

Battle Hymn

You are My Sunshine

Are You Washed

I'll Fly Away

The Unclouded Day

I Saw the Light

His Eye is on the Sparrow

This Little Light of Mine

Just a Closer Walk w/Thee

Joshua Fit the Battle

Down by the Riverside

This Train Bound for Glory

Over in the Gloryland

Mansion Over Hilltop

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# APPEARANCES



Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie - Jazz Band The Happiest Music on Earth!



## CONTACT US:

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvmBwTQeAAWIBPMrb2k8VuA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dixieland.Jazz.Band/>

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