

Sami Sue Welch's musical debut began at the age of 3, when she was so happy, and she knew it, so she stomped her foot - propelling her forward over the people on the steps in front of her, and she's been singing and stomping loudly ever since; two traits that are indispensable in an elementary music teacher. Since Broadway talent scouts never noticed her at Henderson State University, she began her professional teaching career in Ozark, AR in 1986 as the elementary music teacher, and director of the Hillbilly Choir, and doubling as the choir director at Ozark First United Methodist. She taught them everything she knew in a 2 year time span, and began looking for another place to settle down, joining the US Army reserves in the interim as a computer programmer. In 1990 she joined the ranks of the fine music teachers of the Fort Smith Public School District, and is still there all these years later. She also still wears a Methodist hat, now at Goddard United Methodist Church since 1994 as the Associate Director of Music.

Her degree is in vocal music, but she enjoys playing anything except the piano, as they had a traumatic relationship back in the '70s. Some of her proudest moments occur when she runs into former students who recognize and remember her, and attribute their lifelong relationship with music to a seed she planted in them many years ago.