## MAGA//ZINE Issue 24: September 2022



**Music and Gospel Arts** 

THE SALVATION ARMY

Canada & Bermuda Territory

Four Aspects of Music Ministry

**BY SEAN VAN GULIK** 

There are four main aspects to creating a successful music ministry in our corps: physical (musicianship), mental (leadership), spiritual (discipleship), and emotional (fellowship). If any of these aspects are neglected, or they are not properly balanced, the ministry will not be effective.

This year, as we fall into the weekly rhythm of rehearsals for our music ministry groups, we need to look at balancing these four aspects.

We are so blessed to have the resources that we have to strengthen our musical abilities in the Salvation Army. To further our musical learning, we need leaders to show us how to use the resources at our disposal. We need to strengthen the relationships we have with the other members of our music groups to have a better sense of togetherness in our music making.

But what about the spiritual aspect of music ministry? What about discipleship?

In this issue of the Zine, we will be focusing on discipleship in and through our music ministry by exploring what it means to BE disciples of Christ, and what it means to MAKE disciples of Christ.

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MUSIC AND GOSPEL ARTS

Discipleship

BY HEATHER OSMOND

In Matthew 28, we can find the Great Commission:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

This is Jesus instructing his eleven apostles to carry the gospel around the known world. The Great Commission still applies to us as Christians today.

As musicians and artists within the Salvation Army, we are certainly afforded many various blessings. We have the opportunity to fellowship with others through our various music and gospel arts sections. We are able to hone our God-given talents. We can provide support to our ministry units, however they may look. But dare I say, if we do not have discipleship at the forefront of our hearts and minds, we may be missing the point.

Prior to coming to the Music and Gospel Arts Department at THQ, I was a professional musician and private teacher. I accompanied many soloists and choirs. I worked with individual students in piano, voice, and theory in a private studio setting. At the same time, I was involved with all aspects of music ministry at the corps from banding to songsters and worship team. What sets the professional music world apart from what we do as musicians and artists in the Salvation Army has to be the desire to go and make disciples. The message we carry in our music is far too important to act like it shouldn't take precedence. But what is discipleship? What does it mean for us to disciple another individual? What does it mean for us to truly be disciples of Jesus Christ?

In a very simple form, to be a disciple of Christ is to be a follower of Christ. Therefore, when He instructs us to go and make disciples of all nations, we are to do that if we want to be a follower (a disciple) of Christ ourselves. Others need to hear about His love and grace, and they need to hear about it from those of us who believe already. Remember that a soul who does not know the Lord is a lost soul and we need to understand daily the importance of sharing the gospel with a lost soul.

This means that music and gospel arts ministry becomes the vehicle with which to reach those who don't know the gospel. And once that door is open, we are able to "go and make disciples."

Does that sound like a daunting task? One that you feel unprepared for and unqualified for? Me too, quite often. So how do we prepare ourselves? We do it through prayer and studying Scripture.

Sometimes I want to make it more complicated than that, but if we study God's directions which are given to us in Scripture, alongside prayers for His direction, we will be provided the answers we need in all sorts of aspects of our lives, including how to go and make disciples.

I believe God values and inspires music and art, and that He wants us to use it in worship to Him, to connect with Him and help others to connect with Him, to witness, and the list could go on. However, I do believe that our music ministry will only be fully what it was intended to be if we go forward and make disciples of the individuals we encounter.



BY CAPTAIN JOYCE DOWNER

At Camp Sunrise in the BC Division, we had the opportunity to spend two days with the staff before the end of the summer to debrief the camping season. It felt especially important after two years without having overnight camping. The debrief gave staff the opportunity to reflect on how the summer had gone, to consider the impact they had on campers, to acknowledge the important ministry they were a part of, to celebrate the good work the Holy Spirit had done in their lives, and to spend time together before returning home or heading on to new opportunities in the fall. In reflecting with the staff, a few common themes emerged: confidence, connection, community. I believe these themes all relate to the discipleship impact of camp.

In the five years of being Divisional Children and Youth Secretaries, Josh and I have always said that we hold with equal weight the transformative impact of camping ministry for campers as well as the staff. Staff articulated the impact of the summer on their personal faith journey, on transferable skills that could be used in the workplace and in their corps/church setting, and in developing rich and deep friendships. These themes were a reminder that even after a pause, perhaps even more so, the transforming impact on staff is profound and long-lasting! One staff member said,



"Because of my summer at camp, I now am motivated to reach out to do ministry when I get home." The hope is that by seeing their own potential to lead ministry in a camp setting where they can accomplish hard things, care for children, and support ministry with children and teens, that they are inspired to lead in their home church context. The opportunity I see for all of us is how we can collectively work together with camp staff to take these learned skills, increased confidence, and passion for ministry and use it wherever they might find themselves. We want the growth to continue, to not be insular or limited to the camp experience. Our collective challenge is to build on the passion of our youth and young adults, allowing them the freedom and opportunity to lead back at home, to still seek after Jesus, and to remain connected with one another in addition to finding other supportive community at home.

Another cabin leader shared, "My time at camp has helped me to follow Jesus more closely by sharing in His heart for the little children. Camp has taught me how privileged I am, and that with great privilege comes great responsibility. I am more aware of the need which I am surrounded by and inspired to do my best to meet it." What a testimony of being a modern-day disciple! This individual wants to align with the heart of Jesus, and in response, feels compelled, inspired, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to support identified need in tangible and practical ways by using the skills and abilities God has given them. Also, an acknowledgement in this testimony is that that they accept the invitation to do their best, trusting the Lord will fill in any gaps.

A third staff member shared, "Camp has taught me the importance of spiritual community. When I got to camp, the inviting community allowed me to really flourish and be myself. I realized that I wanted to be closer with God. I now feel alive with a renewed spirit in Jesus." What a testimony to the value of community at camp, not only for the campers who attend week-to-week, but for those who choose to spend their summer here. The richness of a Christcentred community and Godly friendship is essential to a growing faith. I feel renewed in my own responsibility to make opportunity for teens and young adults to connect intentionally, to be able to share in a common purpose, and to serve and to be served.

This summer, our staff was comprised of a fairly equal number of returning staff from 2019 or earlier and younger/first-time staff. This combination allowed for the development of such rich community, where we could all learn from the new staff's desire to do well and to serve, and from the returning staff's breadth of wisdom and experience. God composed and choregraphed exactly who was needed to fulfill important ministry at Camp Sunrise, while also meeting individual and collective community needs for friendship and connection. I invite you to celebrate along with us, to continue to support camping ministry with your prayers, and to respond to a clear need to offer leadership and serving ministry opportunities for teens and young adults in your context, as well as give space for continuing community for our youth.



TMS 2022 has come to a close. It was our first year back to TMS since the pandemic, and we needed it. Many of the students expressed that they needed this week to refresh their musical abilities, and to rejuvenate their walk with God.





On the first day, the students and faculty were acquainted with the new venue, the Guelph Bible Conference Centre. Once the students were registered, they were off to mainstream for the first rehearsal.

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On Sunday morning, we were led in worship by Captains Kristen and Jason Dockeray, our Bible guests for the week. The focus throughout the week was the Parable of the Sower.





On Sunday night, we had the privilege of being led in worship by the Toronto Mass Choir. This was a highlight for many through the week. Some of the students and faculty got to join in and sing with the choir on their last song.



Monday night was Meet the Guest & Faculty night. We got to know our musical guest for the week, Matt Woods, as he sang two solos: *Everywhere* and *Spark of Creation*. The rest of the faculty put their various talents on display.

Tuesday night was Talent & Trivia Night. We had a good showing of a variety of talents from the students, followed by an intense game of trivia. The camp was split into 3 groups based on the mixed choruses. It was a tight game until the Rawlins Chorus came from behind to win it all!





Wednesday night was Electives & Mixed Choruses night. The Michel Chorus, led by Jonny Michel, sang a medley of *Kom* and *Soon and Very Soon*, and *Carpenters of God*. The Rawlins Chorus, led by Cameron Rawlins, sang *Psalm 23* and *Undignified Praise*.

Thursday was the last day of TMS. Our final program at Guelph Citadel opened with the massed chorus singing *Salvation for the World*. The 'A' Band closed out the program with *Balkan Dance*, a piece that featured five student soloists.



To watch the full program, scan the QR code: Or go to: https://youtu.be/FqhlMRJcUgc



Soprano I **Jamie Brown Erika-Shaye Gair** Katelyn Wilson **Alexandria Venables**  Soprano II **Elizabeth Borgela Julianna Gerard** Annie Robertson

#### 2022 'A' CHORUS Leader Matt Woods

**Flugel Horn** Jamie Brown

Katie Allington

First Horn Helena Matos-Pugh

> Second Horn **Ashlyn Anthony**

> **First Baritone Julianna Gerard**

Second Baritone

**First Trombone** Andy Brooks **Abigail Morson** 

**Bram Robertson** Hannah Jackson

> **Bass Trombone** John Lam

Solo Horn **Rachel Ewing** 

**Bill Way** 

**Colin Hopkins** 

Second Trombone

Katie Allington Lauren Brooks Hannah Jackson **Rachel Legge** Sarah Robertson **Abigail Morson** 

Alto

Tenor **Caleb Dalley** David Nku Bram Robertson Alexandre Seaman Sean van Gulik

Bass William Chinnery **James Corrigan Simon Hopkins Tyler Jones Carter Jones** Simon Gough

Soprano Cornet Sean van Gulik

Solo Cornet **Geoffrey Ho Carter Jones** Marcus Venables Erika-Shaye Gair

First Cornet **James Corrigan Aaron Dyke** 

Second Cornet William Chinnery Jacob Gower

## 2022 'A' BAND

**Bandmaster** Matt Woods



Euphonium Sarah Robertson **Cameron Rawlins** 

**Eb Bass Tyler Jones** Simon Hopkins **Rob Brown** 

**Bb** Bass Alexandre Seaman

Percussion **Josh Corrigan** Sarah Ball Michael van Gulik

Yes I Will! **BY MARCUS VENABLES** 

Musicians of all ages gathered in the middle of summer for a music weekend at Halifax West Community Church. Over the past two summers, music camp hasn't taken place in the Maritimes Division. In 2022, it was looking like a third year of no music camp was on the horizon. For years, the M.A.G.A. Camp at Scotian Glen Camp has been a time of learning and discovery. Like all music camps across the territory, these weeks of camp have seen so many young people's lives transform. Thanks to the determination of local leaders, led by Christine Richardson, it was decided to hold a music weekend to help fill the void of another missed music camp.





To help lead the weekend, Heather Osmond, Simon Gough, and Marcus Venables from the Music and Gospel Arts Department travelled to Halifax to give leadership of the bands, choirs, and worship.

Friday evening was primarily for the adults. Simon and the team led a time of worship where the song Yes *I Will* was presented as a challenge and theme for the weekend. Marcus then led the band in a rehearsal. Preparations for the Saturday evening concert and Sunday morning service took place during this rehearsal which was followed by the adult chorus. The eagerness and joy were evident in the group, so much so that requests to add a second rehearsal the next day were heard and met by the organizing committee.

Saturday welcomed the kids bright and early to the corps. When not enjoying the plethora of snacks that were provided throughout the day, the kids were split into band and choir, spending a good portion of the day in rehearsals. Once again, a time of worship and devotions was presented by the Music and Gospel Arts team. *Yes I Will*, now a little more familiar, was sung again and continued to challenge those assembled to say yes to what the Lord is calling of them.

Saturday evening was a chance to perform and share some of the items





that had been rehearsed. Equally as encouraging as the music being shared was the large congregation that gathered in support for the musicians. Both the kids and adults performed some of the music they had been rehearsing. Even the beginner brass class that had just started playing the previous day played *Hot Cross Buns* to a roaring applause.

As the weekend concluded on Sunday morning, we once again heard the challenge of saying *Yes I Will*. Both as a congregation and musicians, the unifying anthem that was raised over the weekend was proclaiming the lyrics of that song for our lives; that we would continue to say *Yes I Will* to what the Lord calls us to do as followers of Jesus Christ. On July 20th, Salvation Worship Volume 4 was released with the full set of resources that you have come to expect from this publication. It is available for free download at www.salvationworship.com. We were excited that all resources were available at the same time for this volume. In the past, we had a delayed release for the choral charts, but we were able to tweak the schedule to make it all happen at the same time. Special thanks to Music Editorial (UK) for their partnership with us in creating these choral arrangements for songster groups and community choirs.

You can read a short excerpt from the writers of each of the five songs below.



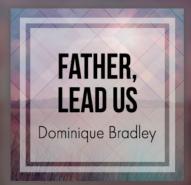


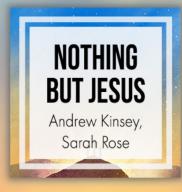
## **EMPTIED - OSEI STEWART**

This song came about because I was going through a rough patch in my walk with the Lord. I had begun to shift the focus onto me and what I was doing in my own strength. I had abandoned God in some ways and was so far away from Him, even though I was a full-time corps officer. While lying in bed after reading Philippians 2, I fell asleep and dreamed a complete song of surrender to God – from lyrics to melody, piano, strings, etc. Based on Philippians 2, the song reminded me that if Jesus was emptied and lowered Himself for me, I need to do the same and give over my selfish ways to Him so that I can be useful for the Kingdom work He has called me to do. The song is a call to have the same mind of Christ so that the focus can be on serving others above ourselves.

## FATHER, LEAD US - DOMINIQUE BRADLEY

This song was based on Romford Salvation Army's corps vision that was created under the leadership of Captains Mark and Julia Cozens in 2019: As disciples of Jesus, we will be passionate, prayerful, and led by His Spirit to deepen our relationships with Him and others, leading them to Christ. Our church will be a growing, diverse, friendly, and inclusive family, totally dependent on Christ, which serves and enhances our local community.



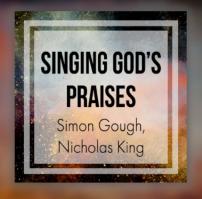


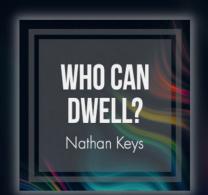
### **NOTHING BUT JESUS - ANDREW KINSEY, SARAH ROSE**

This song came to me during some free time I had at a Salvation Army leaders conference. I was reflecting on the faithfulness of God and how He was all I wanted and needed in life. I had the idea to rework the hymn and a new melody came to me. I sang it to my friend, Sarah Rose. She wrote some lyrics and helped me bring the song to life. It is a song that is a declaration that Jesus is all we need in life. He has the power to make us whole and restore our lives. I hope that when people hear this song that they are reminded of His goodness to us.

#### SINGING GOD'S PRAISES – SIMON GOUGH, NICHOLAS KING

Singing God's Praises is intended to be a song that congregations can use to proclaim how they want to live their lives. It's a song that declares how we choose to sing praises to God in all situations. I believe that if we want others to be inspired by Christ in us, we need to have joy as we share God's goodness with those who may not know Him. Sometimes, it can be hard to do this through certain times and seasons in our lives, but with an understanding that we have the enduring love of God with us for all our days, we can have that song of praise ready for all who meet us to hear.





## WHO CAN DWELL? - NATHAN KEYS

This song was inspired by Psalm 15. I love the imagery of a back-and-forth conversation between asking and answering the question of who can dwell with God that the psalm speaks about. It reminds us that the one who is blameless and righteous before God is not because of who they are or what they have done, but rather it is because of those who call on the name of the Lord. Those who are washed by the blood of the Lamb can be called children of God, therefore making us worthy to stand before God.



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https://salvationist.ca/music-gospel-arts/publications/maple-leaf-brass/

## COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS



Feel free to send us your ideas, articles, videos, posters and pictures. This newsletter is meant to cover all music ministry types from across the territory, and we need your help to reach every corner. Forward any information to Sean.van-Gulik@salvationarmy.ca and we'll do our best to put you in our next issue!



2022 Territorial Christmas Recording

This year, the Territorial Christmas Recording is also available as a streaming card. **What does this mean?** A streaming card is a postcard-sized item that can be given away at kettles and special events. It has the artwork on the front and includes a stream link and QR code on the back so anyone can scan and access the music online. In addition, the back of this card has plenty of blank space for your ministry unit to customize and personalize. We recognize that there are still many who prefer to have a physical copy so we will be producing CDs as we have done in the past.

#### The deadline to order the recording is October 10, 2022. \*\*\*This item is non-refundable and non-returnable

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