

Worship and Music Resources

In this newsletter a little while ago, I raised the possibility of a small collection of CDs to accompany the hymn book *Voices United* for when a musician was not available. Your response played a major role in shaping this resource. The first 9 CDs are now out and the remaining 3 will follow as soon as copyright has been cleared. We sold out the first 2 volumes and had to make a whole new batch. The remaining volumes average sales of nearly 300 copies each. So, thank you! Clearly you know what is needed for good worship in your congregations.

Summer days may seem far away for us now, yet soon worship leaders will be deciding their vacation plans and worship committees will be thinking of pulpit supply. Does it feel like a burden, the annual challenge of finding someone? Or, perhaps it feels like a welcome change? Maybe, you close your church for the summer since fewer worshippers attend and leaders are hard to find.

Would it make a difference if you could offer a nearly complete worship service for a volunteer to build upon – easily?

Gathering is a subscription of worship resources written by United Church worship leaders – ordered and lay - across our land. It provides prayers, sermon helps, hymn suggestions etc., and it comes out three times a year, according to the church year. There is a volunteer national team responsible for its oversight. At their January meeting, the idea of a special issue was born offering 5 to 8 complete worship services especially for the summer months. For the first two years (2011 and 2012), the issue would be sold separately and at minimal cost.

Would such a resource be of interest to you? Would it make a difference when you ponder summer worship?

We would like to hear from you! You can email me directly at blschwab@united-church.ca. Let's talk again! *Betty Lynn Schwab*