

MUSICIANS, NARRATORS AND DANCERS

Double Bass: Victor Bateman

Percussion: Fernando Berru-Chavez & Janet London

Guitar: Brian Cook

Narrator for Christmas in the Trenches: Dan Nicholson

Narrator for Bread and Roses: Ramya Ramanathan

Bagpipes for Mairi's Wedding: Gunars Rundan

Dancers for Mairi's Wedding: Donald Holmes, Kendra Beliveau, Bill Barber,
Dorothy Lothian, Sheena Gilks, Max Fothergill,
Fiona Alberti, Erica de Gannes

WHO WE ARE

Conductor: Isabel Bernaus

Assistant Conductor: Kristin Lindell

Accompanist: Susanne Maziarz

Section Leads: Sarah Edmonds, Heino Nielsen, Steve Taylor, Janet London,
Michelle Munk, Valerie Clowes, Heather Walters

Social Section Leads: Jane Field, Bob Biderman, Laura Schein, Carol Gordon,
Maxine Hermolin

Conductor for CTKids: Leanne Piller

Accompanist for CTKids: Sherry Squires

Stage Manager: Angela Mae Bago

Lighting & Sound: Jason LaPrade

Administrator: Helen Nestor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Brian Cook

Vice-President: Nick Keresztesi

Secretary: Heino Nielsen

Treasurer: Rashmi Nathwani

Members at Large: Marion Bonafos, Valerie Clowes, Chelsea Mohler

Common Thread Chorus is a charitable organization and we accept donations of any amount. Please visit our website or our Canada Helps page to make a donation.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Sae Lon for your help on the Korean pronunciation for Arirang.

Thank you to all of our concert volunteers for your help with making things run so smoothly.

A huge thank you to all of our donors and supporters. We couldn't do it without you!

SAVE THE DATE

Be sure to join us at the Estonian House on May 25, 2019 for our final concert of the season featuring *Emma's Revolution* with Pat Humphries!



Celebrating 20 years



Common Thread Community Chorus
presents

Woven Dreams

Songs for our Community

Featuring *Common Thread Kids*
With Special Guests *Gathering Sparks*

Saturday, December 15, 2018
7:30pm

Eastminster United Church
310 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

commonthreadchorus.ca

ABOUT US

COMMON THREAD

We are a non-audition chorus which promotes a sense of community by performing joyful and empowering music. We sing music that celebrates the dignity of all people and their struggles to create a better world. We sing for recreation, for reverence, for learning and laughter, for struggle, for hope and for understanding.

Would you like to sing with us? We are taking new choristers in January. Please visit our website for more information and to register.

commonthreadchorus.ca

COMMON THREAD KIDS

Common Thread Kids began in 2011 as a partnership between Common Thread Chorus and West Neighbourhood House (WNH) Music School. CTKids welcomes children ages 6-13. No auditions or previous experience required. Fees are based on a sliding scale. Rehearsals are Mondays 4:30-5:30 at WNH, 248 Ossington Ave at Dundas St. Under the leadership of conductor Leanne Piller and accompanist Sherry Squires the choir sings a variety of genres and languages encouraging vocal and social development as well as social consciousness. The choir is currently accepting new singers to join us in January. For more information about CTKids or other music programs, please contact Sherry Squires, coordinator of the Music School at 416-532-7586 x127 or email sherrysq@westnh.org

The Kids: Ilan Argote-Reid, Anik Bernaus Townsend, Cynthia Chen, Lydia Chen, Ivy Elliott, Quinn Hodge, Alex Hodnett, Ella Kennedy, Moonnina Kha, Mabel Liebster-Gladstone, Nina Loganova, Kiran Mayadunne, Kara Paulus, Miyoteh Pechawis, Mika Raso, Gabi Urbabz-Quintana

GATHERING SPARKS

You will come to listen, and walk away singing. GATHERING SPARKS is the graceful collision of Eve Goldberg and Jane Lewis—musical friends who blend tight harmonies, finely crafted songs, and a love of participatory singing to create an intimate and uplifting experience. Their inclusive approach embraces folk, pop, blues and gospel influences tastefully played on acoustic guitar, piano, accordion, and ukulele.

With their infectious mix of styles and compelling vocal blend, Gathering Sparks has been making some big waves. Their debut 6-song CD was nominated for a 2014 Canadian Folk Music Award for Vocal Group of the Year, and they have quickly become an audience favourite. Whether they are belting it out acapella style, tugging on your heartstrings with a folky original, crooning a jazzy swing tune, or getting into the spirit with a gospel-inflected singalong, Gathering Sparks performances make fans out of listeners with their stellar harmonies and fine musicianship. They are currently recording their first full-length CD. www.gatheringsparks.com

SING WITH US

You Made Me a Pallet on the Floor

You made me a pallet on the floor

Oh, yes, you made me a pallet on the floor

When I had no place to go, you opened up your door

And you made me a pallet on the floor

Bringing in the Light

We are bringing in the light

We are singing through the longest night

Keep the fire burning,

have faith we are returning,

returning to the light,

The glorious light, the glorious light.

We are bringing in the light.

Many Sparks Make a Fire

Many sparks make a fire, many hands lift us higher

Come on and share your light, burnin' through the night,

Many sparks make a fire.

Let Me Rise

Let me rise in the morning, feel the joy in living

Let me open my heart like a flower unfolds.

When my burden is heavy, would you walk beside me,

Would you open your heart, shine a light for my soul?



SING WITH US

Common Thread

Verse responses:

We will rise all together we will rise.

Chorus:

We will rise like the ocean, we will rise like the sun.

We will rise all together, we will rise.

We will rise all together we will rise.

Oye!

Oye, are you listening? Oye, can you hear them calling?

Oye, we are calling to you. Oye, are you listening?

Oye, can you hear them calling? Can you hear us?

We Shall Not Give Up the Fight

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started (x3) [x2]

Together we'll have victory, hand holding hand (x3) [x2]

Never ever put to flight, we are bound to win (x3) [x2]

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started (x3) [x2]

Mairi's Wedding

Step we gaily on we go

Heel for heel and toe for toe

Arm and arm and on we go

All for Mairi's wedding



PROGRAMME

Common Thread Kids

Music Changes The World	Jim Papoulis
Lift Our Voices	Nancy Boone Allsbrook & Glenda Goodin
The Kazoo Concerto	Mary Donnelly arr. George L. O. Strid

Common Thread Kids and Common Thread Chorus

Vois sur ton chemin	Bruno Coulais & Christophe Barratier
One Voice	Ruth Moody
Common Thread	Pat Humphries

Common Thread Chorus

Bread and Roses	Mimi Fariña & James Oppenheim
That's What Friends Are for	Burt Bacharach & Carole Bayer Sager
Christmas in the Trenches	John McCutcheon
Arirang	Traditional Korean Folk Song
Oye!	Jim Papoulis
We Shall Not Give Up the Fight	South African Freedom Song
Mairi's Wedding	Traditional, words by Hugh S. Robertson

INTERMISSION

Refreshments, raffle tickets, t-shirts and CDs are available for purchase

Gathering Sparks

Tend Me Like a Garden	Jane Lewis
You Are My My Sister	Eve Goldberg & Jane Lewis
I Ain't Finished With	
This Journey Yet	Eve Goldberg
Hey Marguerite	Jane Lewis & Eve Goldberg
Right Here	Sam Turton

Common Thread Chorus

You Made Me a Pallet on the Floor	The Weavers
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Common Thread Chorus and Gathering Sparks

Let Me Rise	Eve Goldberg
Bringing in the Light	Jane Lewis & Eve Goldberg
Many Sparks Make a Fire	Jane Lewis & Eve Goldberg

ABOUT THE SONGS

Vois sur ton chemin

Written by: Bruno Coulais & Christophe Barratier

Vois sur ton chemin is a song about the positive effect of community singing for children who are lost and who have been forgotten in a school board ("...lend them a hand and lead them towards another future").

One Voice

Written by: Ruth Moody Arranger: Marcelline Moody

This song is the first track on The Wailin' Jennys debut full-length album, 40 Days. The album was awarded the 2005 Juno Award for best roots/traditional album (group). The lyrics are allegorical - describing, literally, the joy of singing in harmony and, symbolically, the process of community-building. A two-time Juno Award winning singer-songwriter from Winnipeg, Moody has been recognized by the USA Songwriting Competition and the International Songwriting Competition for several of her compositions, including One Voice.

Common Thread

Written by: Pat Humphries Choral Arrangement by: Linda Morrison
Our theme song of unity in diversity.

Bread and Roses

Written by: Mimi Fariña & James Oppenheim Arranger: Isabel Bernaus

The best known musical setting of this poem which speaks of sharing both life's toil and life's glories. Popularized when the title was adopted as a slogan in the 1912 textile strike in Lowell MA, where the (mostly young female) workers demanded better working conditions and pay.

That's What Friends Are For

Lyrics and Music by: Carole Bayer Sager & Burt Bacharach Arranger: Susanne Maziarz
It was first recorded in 1982 by Rod, but it is better known for the 1985 cover version by Dionne Warwick, Elton John, Gladys Knight, and Stevie Wonder. This song was released as a charity single for AIDS research and prevention. It raised over \$3 million for its cause.

Christmas in the Trenches

Written by: John McCutcheon

This ballad is from John McCutcheon's 1984 album Winter Solstice. It tells the story of the 1914 Christmas Truce between the British and German lines on the Western Front during the Great War from the perspective of a fictional British soldier. Although Francis Tolliver is a fictional character, the event depicted in the ballad is true. The version that the choir performs tonight is the reading of the poem with Stille Nacht heard humming in the background.

Arirang

Traditional Korean Folk Song Arranged by: Sonja Poorman

A love song. Arirang is "the unofficial national anthem" of Korea, about 600 years old. It is a unifying force in both North and South Korea. Both South Korea and North Korea submitted Arirang to be included on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list. A very beautiful song, the community being Korea!

Oye!

Words and Music by: Jim Papoulis Edited by Francisco J. Núñez

This song was written when the composer was working with young children in Mexico from economically challenged areas. He wrote this song to capture the dream that these small voices will be heard.

We Shall Not Give Up the Fight

A South African rousing song with repeated lines to inspire working together.

Mairi's Wedding

Traditional, words by Hugh S. Robertson Arranged by: Bob Chilcott

Also known as Marie's Wedding, the Lewis Bridal Song, or Mairi Bhan, this is a Scottish folk song originally written in Gaelic by Johnny Bannerman for Mary McNiven using a traditional Scottish tune. Hugh S. Robertson translated the Gaelic version into English in 1936. We chose this as an upbeat song of celebration in community.

You Made Me a Pallet on the Floor

Written by: The Weavers Arranged by: Isabel Bernaus

A high energy song about helping those who are down and out that reminds us that we need support others because we may need "a pallet on the floor."

Let Me Rise

We sing this song with Eve Goldberg, half of our special guest group, Gathering Sparks. This song is from her recent CD "A Kinder Season."

In Eve's words, *"I once spent a weekend in the desert near San Diego, California, with a few friends. The desert was in full bloom, a beautiful thing to behold. For some reason, the flowers that I remember most were the small white flowers that opened very early every morning and carpeted the ground, only to disappear by mid-morning as the sun got too hot for them. I feel, in so many ways, we need other people to get by in the midst of a world gone crazy."*

Bringing in the Light

Written by Jane Lewis & Eve Goldberg

A song for the Winter Solstice, when the days are short and the nights are long.

Many Sparks Make a Fire

Written by Jane Lewis & Eve Goldberg

When the troubles of our world seem insurmountable, remember that each of us has something important to contribute, and together we can make a difference.