

Music of Minister Year-End Report 2023

(Presented April, 2024)

As I look back on my first year of ministry at Founders, I can only be in wonder of God's blessings, and God's doings! I have been blessed to work under someone who was a dear friend first, before he became my pastor and my overseer. I am also blessed to be working with dedicated praise teams in both the 10am and 1:30 pm services, who have shown themselves to be dedicated and committed. I am blessed to know that I can count on them.

- **January 15, 2023.** I started my position as Music Minister and Office Administrator.
- To help keep me organized and our weekly selections somewhat fresh, I have been keeping an Excel spreadsheet of all the songs that we have sung, and the dates sung. In the 15 months since my start, we have performed **148** different songs/choruses, with many of the popular ones being sung several times.
- I strive to conduct rehearsals 2-3 times a month, mostly all on Wednesdays. To cut down on costs to heat or cool, and light the sanctuary, we have moved these rehearsals to the chapel.
- Sunday Rehearsals generally start shortly after 9am.
- **November 12, 2023.** I began to substitute for Peter Kirkpatrick's duty of Music Director for the ICM congregation as he started a 3-month leave-of-absence. Praise Team rehearsals transpire on most Thursday nights, with Sunday rehearsals at 12:30.
- **November 12, 2023.** Became the principal PowerPoint creator for the weekly Sunday PowerPoints after Norm Cox' unfortunate collapse and subsequent passing.
- **December 24, 2024.** Presented an original Christmas cantata.
- **February 11, 2024.** Accepted the position of Music Director of the ICM congregation. In the 5 months since starting as the substitute in November of 2023, we have performed **64** different songs/choruses.
- I have participated in the Creative Worship Team's Wednesday 2-hour meetings that transpire several times a month, along with a couple bi-annual 5-hour long-range meetings.
- I have been involved in the planning and performing of non-Sunday events: Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pride Saturdays, Anniversary Concert.
- I have been blessed to work with, and present some spectacular soloists: Steve Harper, Reece Whitaker, Taj, Alexandra Grey, Keith Tyler, Dr. Stephan Scoggins, Adrian Christian, TL, Lakhiya, and let's not forget our praise team soloists Kevin, Ava and Roger. I have also been hugely blessed to count Jodie as my right-hand guy most of this time! Additionally, I cannot forget those who make us sound good!—the team of Don Mueller, Pat and Reyna on sound! And let's not forget the talents and dedication of Larry Rodriguez, Sandra and Jair on the cameras and background tech.

Blessings,
Louis Ramirez, Minister of Music