

# anchored deep in the heart of worship

Holland Davis joined the staff at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa to oversee the school of worship and the new recording studio. As he prayed for direction, God gave him a vision for the rebirth of Calvary Chapel Music—to highlight the work of the Holy Spirit through the new songs of worship from the churches of Calvary Chapel.

musician photos by Eric Lamph, Jake Harman, Dave Escalante  
worship photos by Eric Lamph, Jake Harman, Tom Price



Holland Davis

God richly blessed Maranatha! Music in the early '70s and allowed it to transform the way Christians approached worship. Through the *Praise* series, Maranatha! Music pioneered the way for the modern worship movement today. These songs were not written by professional songwriters, but by everyday people who used their own musical language to express their newfound love for Jesus. Since Maranatha! Music was sold 15 years ago, that tradition has been continued through Calvary Chapel Music.

Pastor Chuck Smith, CC Costa Mesa, says he wants to “capture the ‘new song’ that continues to emerge from Calvary Chapels around the world.” “Forever My Love,” “O My Redeemer,” and “I Will Stand” are three among a host of new songs currently being created by Calvary Chapel songwriters.

Pastor Chuck’s desire is for CC Music to create music that engages congregations—songs that can be sung and choruses that have meaning. He prefers hymn arrangements that stay with the original melody

and are not excessively stylized, which can make the great hymns of the faith unrecognizable and inhibit worship.

“Nothing should distract from focusing on the Lord and receiving directly from Him,” agreed Holland. “CC Music’s goal is to provide resources that encourage the worship life of every believer and promote the worship life of the local church.”

The website, [www.worshipsong.com](http://www.worshipsong.com), has been launched to provide free, downloadable chord and lyric sheets for all songs in the CC Music catalog. Part of the vision includes allowing churches to use the music without fees. Sound clips are included so worship leaders can learn the songs and teach them in their local churches.

The first songs available online include music from *Worship Generation*, *Worship Life*, songs of Calvary Chapel, Holland Davis,

and Danny Donnelly. Songbase Software is partnering with CC Music to create a customized worship planning software that will include the entire CC Music catalog. CC Music is also collaborating with various choral publishers to provide choral print resources for churches with choirs.

The CC Music vision is becoming a reality through *Worship Life* events, where people gather with worship leaders from all over the country to sing new songs of praise and adoration. Several *Worship Life* concerts have already been recorded at CC Costa Mesa. The first CD to be released includes Scott Cunningham of CC Costa Mesa and The Hollow from CC Redlands, CA. All believers are invited to participate on the last Friday of every month at CC Costa Mesa. Guest artists have included Tony Logan and Richard Cimino of CC Grass Valley, CA,



## the new calvary chapel music

## Holland Davis



Holland Davis, head of Calvary Chapel Music and director of Calvary Chapel School of Worship, became a worship leader as a teenager. He used to practice in his bedroom for hours at a time, worshipping from a Maranatha! Music songbook. Holland was later asked to lead worship at a Bible study, which eventually became CC Vista, CA. He was excited to hear that the church would be a Calvary Chapel. He had been timing his breaks at his Burger King job to coincide with Pastor Chuck's radio studies.

Davis' well-known worship songs, "Let it Rise!" and "Who is like the Lord," were born out of the personal worship time developed early in his life. He views worship as "prayer set to music," and says, "Any of us can pray, any of us can write a worship song." He adds, "I never got into the business of writing worship songs for money. My heart is to get songs out and let people use them."

John Lai, founding pastor of Calvary Chapel Escondido, a worship leader and songwriter as well, mentored the young musician. During his first Sunday morning at Escondido, 19-year-old Holland led the congregation in three songs, thinking he was finished. Then John got up and spontaneously led a

half hour more of worship before preaching his sermon. Holland gradually began to understand the ministry of worship leading. Together, they pastored people through worship—teaching through song lyrics—giving the congregation language in which to express their hearts toward God.

Holland learned the practical side of worship ministry—what resources worship leaders need, what type of training and advice, the challenges of a mobile 'church in a box,' and the stress it puts on team members—when he served as an associate pastor and worship leader for three Calvary Chapel church plants.

In 1996, Holland was invited to become the

director of marketing at Maranatha! Music. He was soon promoted and put together many worship projects, including the *Top 25 Praise Songs* and the *WOW Worship* series for which he earned gold and platinum records.

### Pastor Brian Brodersen invited Holland to direct the School of worship at CC Costa Mesa.

After hearing him lead worship at a sales conference, recording artist Kelly Willard told him, "You're not a record salesman, you're a worship leader." Holland had heard it before. Then on a trip to Israel, a prophetic prayer was prayed over him at the Garden

of Gethsemane. Holland said it was "kind of a shock," but he knew it meant a return to ministry. He became the worship leader at CC Laguna Beach, CA, while attending the School of Ministry at CC Costa Mesa, where his vision for a School of Worship was refined.

Last spring Pastor Brian Brodersen invited Holland to direct the School of Worship at CC Costa Mesa, a new concept in ministry. Both felt led to begin Calvary Chapel Music afresh as well, which was a new opportunity to step out in faith.

A recent trip to Germany highlighted for Holland the importance of making worship resources easily available, given the impact of music as an important evangelistic tool. Missionaries and pastors described how difficult it is to find the supplies they need to minister effectively. The new music website is a great way for those on the field to easily access worship materials. CC Siegen, Germany, is developing those resources for Europe by translating songs into a variety of languages and producing them with a European flavor for Calvary Chapel Music.

CC Music



Lindsay Skaar, Joseph Tata

and Marsh Shamburger of CC Albuquerque, NM. Upcoming artists include Joseph Tata of CC Pomona Valley, CA, and Danny Donnelly of CC Costa Mesa. *Worship Life* CDs are available through a subscription service or at any Calvary bookstore.

Holland says, "Worship music is part of the fiber of the life of the church and needs to happen where the churches are." *Worship Life* events are being planned in several other

locations, the first of which is in Vancouver, Washington. Brett Williams of Calvary Fellowship Seattle and Jason Ritchie of Crossroads Community Church are producing the event and beginning to develop CC Music Northwest.

The dream is to expand CC Music to include regional centers throughout the Calvary movement to reflect the distinct move of the Spirit in each region. Songs of

Calvary Chapel is a compilation series featuring recording projects produced by local Calvary Chapels. The first release is a mix of songs from CC Downey, CA; CC Lynden, WA; CC Siegen, Germany; CC Costa Mesa; Calvary Fellowship Seattle, WA; and previous CC Music releases.

Tony Logan, a *Worship Life* artist and worship leader at CC Grass Valley, CA, is a veteran of the Calvary Chapel Music scene.



Tony Logan



Neil Godding



Holland Davis

The website, [www.worshipsonline.com](http://www.worshipsonline.com), has been launched to provide free, downloadable chord and lyric sheets for all songs in the CC Music catalog.



# the new calvary chapel music



Tony Logan, Carrie Rinderer, Richard Cimino, Debbie Harrington, Lindsay Skaar.



Danny Donnelly



Tim Chaddick



Scott Cunningham

"I've always had a vision to see music carried out through Calvary Chapel, and I'm excited to see what the Lord is doing." He adds, "Calvary music must retain its identity as a ministry, not a business. This music is about blessing the Lord, not ourselves. We want to shepherd these young guys, involve them in ministry, stay in contact with them, and help them avoid typical pitfalls."

Aldersgate Street Records is the evangelistic division of CC Music. It is "youth culture-driven," but the bands being signed to the label consist, not only of "great musicians, but preachers and worship leaders." "We want them to go out and do anything a church needs," said Holland. "The whole idea is to do music that ministers to the kids." Aldersgate Street recording artist Tim Chaddick, guitar player for the melodic rock band, Smithfield, adds, "Our band is definitely a means to an end, which is to share the love of God. We need to be mindful of this and wary of the method contradicting the message."

Pastor Chuck wants the message clear—and available as well.

"For many years it has been my desire to provide worship songs from Calvary Chapels that churches could use without having to pay a licensing fee for congregational singing," said Pastor Chuck. Sermons by many Calvary pastors are now accessible free of charge on the Internet, providing opportunities for growth in the Lord. He would like music resources to be available in the same way.

"As part of our new vision, we will be working to develop a catalog of songs that Calvary Chapels can use without having to pay a fee."

The dream is to facilitate worship for every believer and every Calvary Chapel, large and small, at home and abroad.

**"As part of our new vision, we will be working to develop a catalog of songs that Calvary Chapels can use without having to pay a fee."**

**Pastor Chuck Smith**

## School of worship

Calvary Chapel is a unique work of the Holy Spirit, and worship is part of that. "Worship is born out of a relationship with God based on the Word," said Holland Davis, director of the recently begun Calvary Chapel School of Worship (SoW). An intensive one-year program, the SoW was launched in September 2002 at CC Costa Mesa to meet the growing need for well-trained worship leaders.

"We teach worship theology, basic theology, songwriting, sound and recording engineering, and music history with a host of practicum," said Holland. "We also teach music theory and how to apply it to the instrument and vocal techniques, also how to put a worship team together while focusing on heart issues and practical leadership."

SoW classes meet from 7-10 A.M. weekdays, followed by a heavy workload. Holland feels people need to be called to worship ministry. The time invested at SoW should be a season set aside to learn and prepare without outside distractions. Students should gain enough knowledge and training to be able to lead worship and serve wherever a pastor needs help.

When Holland was approached about directing SoW last spring, he and his wife,

Roxie, took several months to pray and seek the Lord's will about the position. He took the helm weeks before the semester began without any students committed. A lack of advertising did not deter 20 prospective worship leaders from signing up shortly before classes began. The curriculum and staff were in place.

The instructors of the SoW are experienced worship leaders with years of practical experience.

**The instructors of the school of worship are experienced worship leaders with years of practical experience.**

Noelle Cablay is a graduate of San Diego State University in music education; Danny Donnelly is a worship leader and an accomplished recording artist who is producing and writing new material; Mike Miskow oversees the sound ministry at CC Costa Mesa; Chris Taylor is the owner of Crossroads Studios and engineered many of the Maranatha! Music projects; Scott Cunningham is a worship leader at CC Costa Mesa; and Deven Berryhill is also involved with the worship team at CC Costa Mesa.

For those who are not able to make a year-long commitment, or who simply want to enhance their worship leading skills, Calvary Chapel Music has added additional training opportunities. The annual Calvary Chapel Worship Conference at CC Costa Mesa is scheduled for July 10-12. This year's conference will feature worship leaders from southern California and Europe. Other conferences are scheduled in Washington, Texas, and Maryland, and are being planned for 2004 in Germany and England.

One-day workshops, preceded by a night of worship, are designed to develop the worship life of the local church and are geared toward worship leaders and worshippers.

CC Music will host its first annual worship conference for youth worship leaders at CC Costa Mesa on May 30-31, 2003.

Calvary Chapel Music—  
[www.calvarychapelmusic.com](http://www.calvarychapelmusic.com)

School of Worship— [www.schoolofworship.net](http://www.schoolofworship.net)

Youth worship seminars— [www.worshipexcellence.com](http://www.worshipexcellence.com)

Software for worship leaders— [www.songbase.com](http://www.songbase.com)

### Calvary Chapel Music

3000 W. MacArthur Blvd.  
Santa Ana, CA 92704  
714-979-4422 x-3100

[hollanddavis@calvarychapel.com](mailto:hollanddavis@calvarychapel.com)  
[www.worshipsong.com](http://www.worshipsong.com)

the new calvary chapel music