How Songs Were Chosen for Voices Together

CURRENT COLLECTIONS

- Hymnal: A Worship Book (1992)
- Sing the Journey (2005)
- *Sing the Story* (2007)

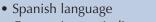






COMMITTEE SCREENING

- Open submissions
- Single author collections (text committee, tune committee)
- Other hymnals
- Global songbooks (intercultural worship committee)
- Contemporary worship music (popular idiom committee)



CONSULTING GROUPS

- Connections to Indigenous communities
- African American
- American Sign Language
- Individuals representing additional Mennonite culture/ language groups
- Kernlieder (Russian Mennonite heart songs)
- Psalms
- Ecumenical core repertoire
- Songs from Taizé
- Texts and tunes from before the Reformation
- Chorales (organ)
- Female composers/authors
- Sixteenth-century Anabaptist
- Other Anabaptists (Church of the Brethren, Mennonite Brethren)
- Camp songs
- Songs accessible to children
- Short and paperless songs
- Secular songs with spiritual sentiments
- Interfaith resources

FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW

- Songs rendered anonymous
- All assigned a 1 to 5 star rating ****



FULL COMMITTEE IN-PERSON DISCUSSION

- Songs with higher review scores grouped by table of contents
- Sing and/or read each item
- Discuss merits, drawbacks, possible revisions
- Propose changes, vote to gauge support for changes
- Update star ratings



EDITORIAL TEAM DECISIONS

- Balance within table of contents areas
- · Slates of material from consultants
- Committee ratings
- Balance checks



TEXT COMMITTEE

- Text research (comparison to historical and ecumenical versions)
- Text revisions
- Collaboration with writers
- Additional languages

TUNE AND ACCOMPANIMENT COMMITTEE

- Tune research
- Key, chords, vocal arrangements
- Accompaniments
- Pairings of text and tune
- Inviting new compositions

BALANCE CHECKS

- Heart song survey data
- Key themes and functions within table of contents areas
- Balance of musical idioms overall and within table of contents areas
- Presence across historic Mennonite collections
- Geographic balance across the collection
- Representation of female composers/authors
- Balance of contributors (names of authors/composers/artists restored)
- Consulting groups

PRODUCTION

- Copyediting
- Engraving
- Proofreading
- Permissions
- Indexing





