This packet contains refinements that I made following the Workshop on February 23rd

Primary Music Session 1 (9:00-9:50): Musicianship for Primary Singers

You may be the only music teacher some of these children will ever have. Let's explore some quick ideas for sparking an interest in musicianship during Singing Time.

Sister V's Personal Primary Music Mission Statement

Present thoughtfully chosen songs and hymns in a fun, musical, and memorable manner, inspiring our children to establish a lifetime connection to music; arming them with beautiful messages to reassure and uplift them throughout their lives.

Feeling the Beat

"Let's begin our singing time with Popcorn Popping (page 242). Who would like to set the metronome today?"

2. <u>Distinguishing between High and Low</u>

"Sister Partna is going to play a pitch on the piano, and then I'm going to sing a different pitch. If I'm singing higher than Sister Partna's pitch on the piano, put your hands over your head. If I'm singing lower, put your hands on your ankles!" "Now, who wants to be the leader and sing higher or lower than the piano?"

3. <u>Matching Pitches</u>

"Let's warm up today by matching some pitches. Sister Partna, let's start with 2 note patterns." (Start with a couple of step-wise patterns, like C to D, then maybe D to E. Then progress to 3rds, and possibly 4ths. If the kids are super good, move to 3 note patterns.)

4. Steps and Skips

"Am I singing by steps or skips?"

5. Timing

Show and explain a whole note, half note, quarter note. Hold up the counts on your fingers as you sing something like, "What note am I singing?" Sing in all wholes, all halves, or all quarters. It should be very obvious to the kids.

6. Songwriting

(with a staff on the board and post-it "notes"): "We're going to write our own songs today. Who wants to go first?" (Kids will then be given a note for each syllable of their name, plus 5 more notes for "...is a Child of God." They will place them on the staff, Sis. Partna will play the tune and we'll all sing their compositions. (Very popular with Junior Primary!)

7. Playing the Plano

(showing a keyboard picture) "Has anyone ever seen anything that looks like this before?" Explain the black note patterns. Find an F, A, F, C. "Who thinks they're ready to help Sister Partna on the REAL piano?" (Choose a helper to lead "When I Am Baptized" (my version in packet or page 103) while Rosanne helps the student pianist play with Sister Partna.)

Let's Share Some Ideas for Encouraging Budding Musicians

- Use your student musicians who are taking private lessons or performing in school.
- Assign a child taking piano lessons to prepare an accompaniment or a prelude.
- Assign a promising young director to prepare to direct a song, perhaps assign students to direct the prayer songs.
- **♥** Encourage those less-trained students by giving them a vocal solo, or bell part. Everyone, regardless of skill level needs to be encouraged to appreciate and participate in Primary musici
- Have music folders for Sr. Primary while they are LEARNING their harmony parts. Perform memorized, however.

Sister V Defines 3 Types Primary Music

- 1. <u>Activity or Fun Songs</u> (Do As I'm Doing, Hinges, etc.) Present Quiet Sounds (in the old orange soft-covered book called Activity Songs and Verses page 58. I'm sure these are sitting around on a shelf in your meetinghouse libraries.)
- 2. <u>Information Songs</u> (Books in the Book of Mormon, Old Testament, Articles of Faith, etc) *Present Our Sixteen Prophets* (in packet)
- 3. <u>Gospel Principle Songs</u> (most of all the other songs & hymns) *Demonstrate "cueing" with Have I Done Any Good In the World Today (Hymn #223)*

Primary Music Session 2 (10:00-10:50): Harmony In 2-0-1-3

Keep your singers interested by introducing harmony in your songs for 2013. Not only will we explore techniques for doing this, but you'll learn (and go home with) a repertoire of harmony parts for enough Primary songs to keep you and your singers busy this year.

Sister V Introduces 4 Types of Harmony Appropriate for Senior Primary

(Important Tip: Enlist another adult helper, especially at first!)

- 1. <u>Rounds</u> (You've Had a Birthday, pg. 285) (Teach them to clap on the rest in the last measure, then enlist 2 Accompanist Helpers one to play low C, and one for a high B-C chopstick on the rest in the last measure!)
- 2. Counter-melody (A Child's Prayer, pg. 12)_ (last note of part 2 change to D, if desired)
- 3. <u>Descant</u> (1. Discuss proper range for young voices; 2. It's been my experience that the best way to introduce harmony to Primary is with a few good singers, usually girls, singing a high part.)
- 4. <u>Soprano and Alto</u> (1. Discuss proper range for young voices; 2. It's been my experience that boys do well with an alto line. Stick mainly with 3rds and 6ths. Always double the exact Soprano and Alto in the piano.)

Introducing Descant in 2013 Music

I Am a Child of God (pg. 2 for accompaniment; in packet for modified descant) My Heavenly Father Loves Me (pg. 228, descant in packet)

Introducing Soprano-Alto in 2013 Music

If the Savior Stood Beside Me (in packet)
Families Can Be Together Forever (in packet)
When I Am Baptized (in packet)

Sister V's Greatest Hits-Descant Style

Truth from Elijah (pg. 90, descant in packet) I Love to See the Temple (pg. 95, descant in packet) Scripture Power (accompaniment and descant in packet) I Believe in Christ (Hymn #134, descant in packet)

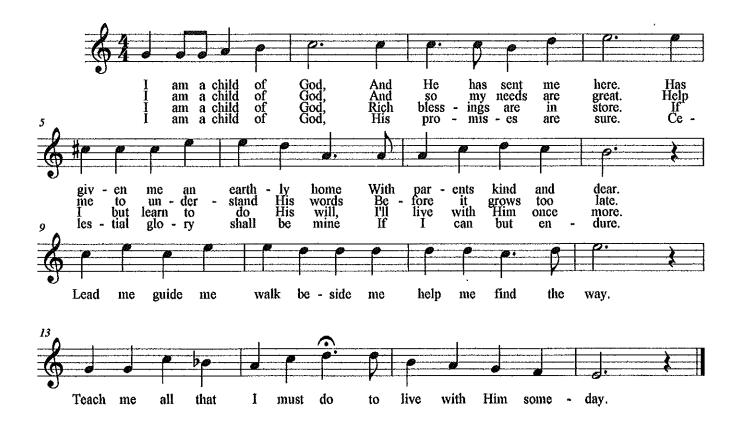
Also in packet:

Our Sixteen Prophets (in packet)

Remember: "Your most important visual aid is YOU!"

I Am a Child of God

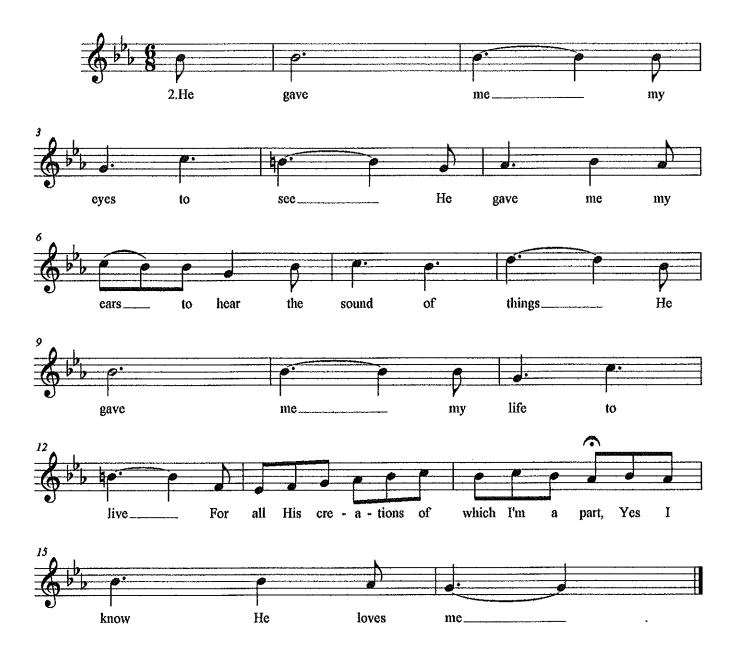
descant modified by Rosanne Valdivieso



After the kids learn this in the key of C (as written above and in the Children's Songbook), you may find this more comfortable to sing in the key of Bb. You can go to lds.org and run off "I Am a Child of God" in the key of Bb and have the accompanist play it in that key. But, while you're teaching it, do it in this key (key of C), having the accompanist play the accompaniment from the Children's Songbook (key of C), so that the descant and the accompaniment are in the same key. After the kids know it really well, then if you wish, have the accompanist play the accompaniment in the key of Bb. The kids will automatically sing the same "tune", it will just be a whole step lower. But, again, to avoid confusion while you're learning it, do it as written above in the key of C, using the Children's Songbook page 2 for melody and accompaniment. (Consider using the key of Bb accompaniment even if you use the descant as written in the Children's Songbook. It will just be a bit more comfortable for the children's voices.) Hope this makes sense to you!

My Heavenly Father Loves Me (by Clara McMaster)

descant by Rosanne Valdivieso



I simplified this from the full arrangement I handed out at the Workshop. This one is written in the same key as the Children's Songbook, so it's completely compatible, and will be considerably easier to deal with than the "Challenge Piece" I presented! I would simply have the kids sing the first verse in unison, then add this descant to the second verse.

If the Savior Stood Beside Me



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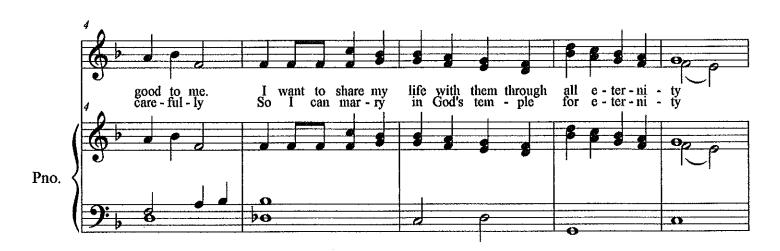
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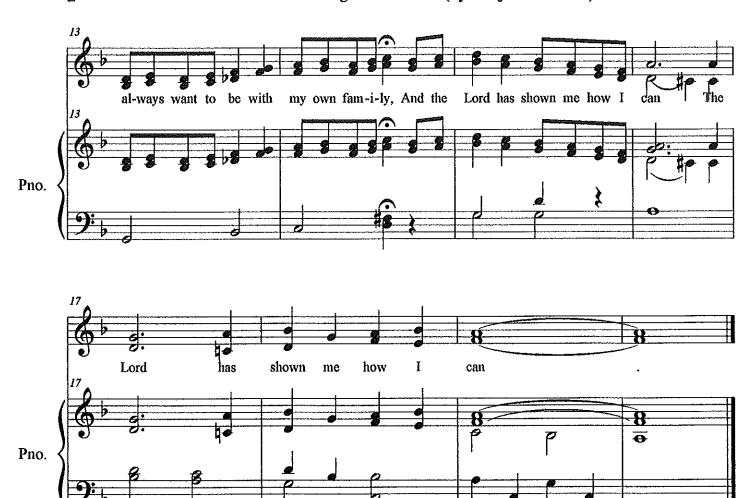
Families Can Be Together Forever (by Vanja Y. Watkins)

modifications by Rosanne Valdivieso



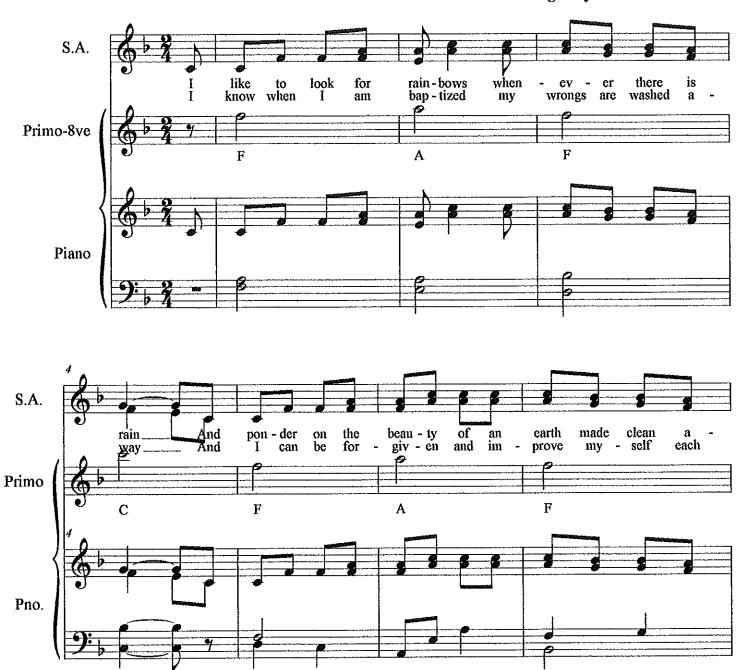






When I Am Baptized(by Nita Milner)

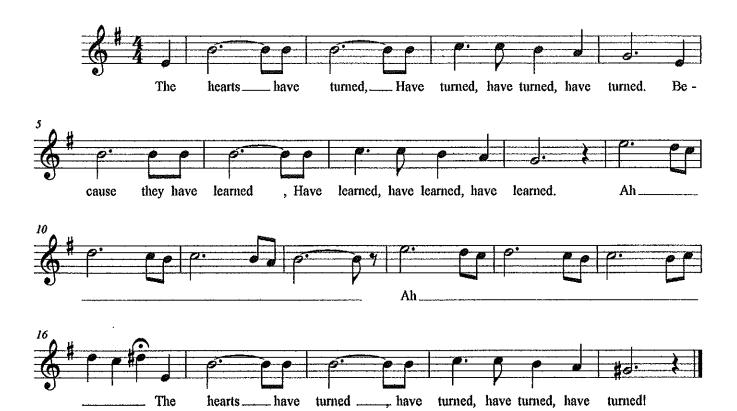
arranged by Rosanne Valdivieso





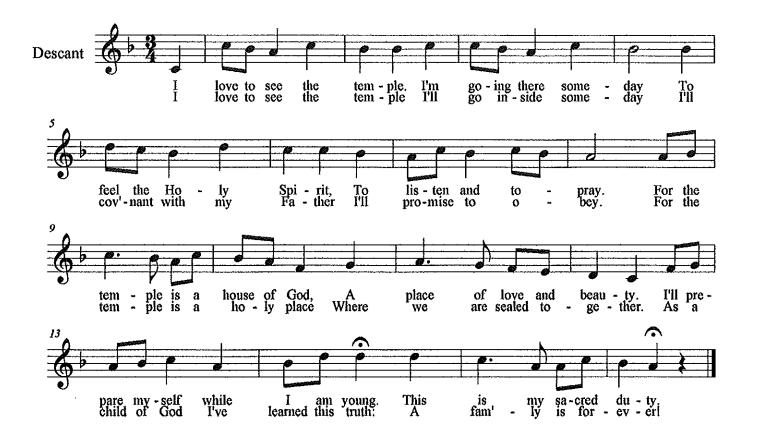
Truth from Elijah (by Vanja Y. Watkins)

descant by Rosanne Valdivieso



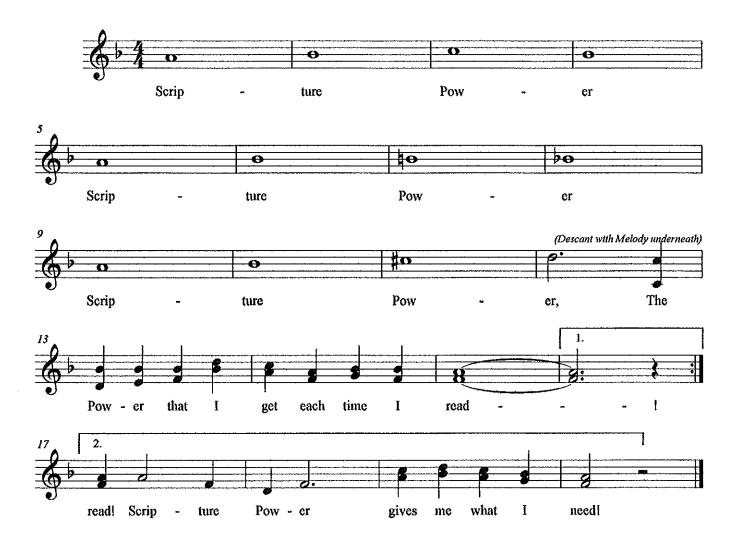
I Love to See the Temple (by Janice Kapp Perry)

descant by Rosanne Valdivieso



Scripture Power Chorus (by Clive Romney)

descant by Rosanne Valdivieso



I sing verse one, then the chorus. Verse two and then the chorus twice because it's so fun. The 2nd ending moves quickly from "read" to "scrip-ture". The kids will need to practice this quick but fun transition several times before it makes sense to them. The director will need to be clear, and the accompanist quick! I like to take the verses slow and emphatic, accelerating into the chorus for a rousingly good time!

Scripture Power



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Scripture Power-Piano 2nd Ending

RV



I Believe In Christ-Hymn #134

descant by Rosanne Valdivieso



I have written this in the key of D so that it matches the key of "I Believe in Christ" in the hymnal. After you teach this to your Primary, it might be more comfortable to sing this in the key of C. You can run off "I Believe in Christ" in the key of C (from lds.org) and have the accompanist play the accompaniment in the key of C. The kids will sing the same "tune", it will just be a whole step lower. But, to avoid confusion while you're learning it, do it as written above in the key of D, using the hymnal for melody and accompaniment. (Another plus to singing this in the key of C is that you can sing "I Belong to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints" page 77 which is in the key of C, and go right into "I Believe in Christ". It makes a powerful medley.)

Our Sixteen Prophets

by Rosanne Valdivieso

