

# Morinville's Vestby releases debut Christian Contemporary album

by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

Andrea Vestby is a mother, wife, worship leader and Christian Contemporary Singer /Songwriter who lives in Morinville with her husband, Chad and blended family of 10 children. She's happy, following her dreams and has the support of her family and friends. This wasn't always the case. In 2008, Vestby found herself in a time of distress, anguish and hurt as her marriage of 15 years came to an end. She felt rescued from the pain of an abusive relationship but it all came at a cost — being a single mom of 6 children, having to change her life plan and picking up the pieces wasn't easy. She turned to song writing as her creative outlet and she believes that God gave her these songs. Her debut album, *Beyond the Fallout*, is inspired by her feelings of being lost, and feeling pain, and having the guidance of God to help heal her heart.

The album has seven songs that were professionally recorded. Vestby says, "I have a wooden box I have kept my songs in for over 10 years. I've kept them to myself and shared some to only family and close friends." As part of her redemption story, she had an incredible man enter her life who has encouraged her to share her songs and not keep them hidden. Her husband, Chad Vestby is her Manager and believes that the process of producing her music to share, has helped to bring some closure to her past.

Having no previous experience in the music industry, and no network to initiate anything with, the husband and wife team set out to learn! They put a few rough recordings on youtube to get some initial exposure, and Chad brought Andrea to the Gospel Music Association of Canada, Covenant Awards in 2017 as they were held in Edmonton. He says, "I wanted to show her that these people are just like her — they are regular people who are further ahead in their journey." In April of 2018, he came across a social media post that was thanking Mark Troyer of Evergreen Sound in Calgary for the work he did on a music recording project. Chad reached out to Mr. Troyer and sent him some preliminary notes about Andrea's project. When they had their initial meeting, Troyer encouraged Vestby to start with songs that tell her story and will help bring closure. This is where *Beyond the Fallout* originated and blossomed.

Starting with piano tracks recorded at the Prairie Bible College on a grand piano, to having a band record tracks on 4 of the songs, to recording vocals and back up vocals and adding in artistic touches of an orchestrator /composer; the mixes were reviewed by mid December. Vestby's first single, *Hardest Time of Year* was released on November 30, 2018 and emulates a message that although Christmas is a beautiful time of year, it is the hardest time of year for some people. The song was written



Morinville singer/song writer, Andrea Vestby is set to release her debut album: *Beyond the Fallout*, this week on Friday March 29th on all digital and streaming platforms.

After hiding her written songs in a wooden box for 15 years, she has ventured out with the encouragement of her husband, Chad Vestby, to share her words, her story from which the album is based. Since the album was inspired by healing from an abusive past, Vestby will be giving 10% of all sales /donations for this album to local organizations committed to end domestic violence. --photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

during the first Christmas when Vestby was alone with her children following the end of her first marriage.

Both Andrea and Chad claim to have a new appreciation for the music industry. They note that in Canada, we are very big US music consumers and that there is so much talent in Canada that goes unrecognized. Vestby says, "in taking this step to share my songs, I hope to inspire others that have hidden their talents to share them. You never know who you'll meet or who you will encourage." She adds that her main objective is to share her words in hopes of bringing healing to those who can relate to her story.

*Beyond the Fallout* will be released on all digital and streaming platforms on March 29th. Her title track is released to 3 radio stations at this time — 1 in Ontario and 2 in the US. 10% of sales /donations from the album will be donated to local organizations who are committed to end domestic violence, including the Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation based in Morinville, and the Sexual Assault Association of Edmonton. Vestby will be performing a Songs and Stories session at 10:30am on March 31st at The Father's House meeting at Lilian Schick School in Bon Accord. Members of the worship band will accompany her as she sings and plays piano. Vestby says that she feels accomplished in completing the album and now realizes that "there is hope in the midst of chaos." She hopes to soon return to the recording studio to start working on a worship album.



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