

Press Release

Christian musician Chris Driesbach is homeless and couldn't be happier about it. In June of 2006, he paid off his debts, sold his home and belongings, and got in his car to travel the country.

Driesbach, a Christian musician originally from Montana, was a member of Crown of Life Lutheran church in New Orleans. When hurricane Katrina hit the city, however, his condo as well as his church were flooded and nearly destroyed. What followed is a wonderful story of rebuilding and rebirth as his church body rallied to restore the church buildings and many members' homes. To Driesbach, that was reason enough to drop everything and hit the road to share his music and his message of thanks.

"It had long been a dream of mine to do this," he said. "I'm very grateful to have had this amazing experience!" Chris has performed over 3000 concerts and worship services in more than 780 Lutheran churches in 41 states since then, and recorded seven CDs of original Christian music, including songs for children and two collections of favorite hymns.

(insert a descriptive blurb such as the following)

Saturday evening April 16th at 6pm, and Sunday morning the 17th at 8 and 10:30am, Chris will add his songs to worship at St Matthew Lutheran Church, 766 W Wabasha St in Winona. He will also present a one-hour concert with Powerpoint between services beginning at 9:15am, telling about his journey from atheism to Christianity.

The road that led Driesbach to becoming a Christian is anything but average. He grew up in a dysfunctional household, he said, and turned to alcohol at 14 to cope. Before long, the coping mechanism became a long-lasting addiction. All the while, Driesbach was a proud atheist, renouncing the idea of a God and willing to debate with anyone who disagreed.

That all changed one morning, however, when Driesbach woke up with the shakes – the beginning of the end for a drunk.

"It really scared me because I realized I was dying of alcoholism," he said. "I was desperate and I was dying."

Driesbach joined a 12-Step Program for alcoholics and has been sober for 30 years. Nine years later he met a Lutheran pastor who invited him to a Bible Information Class. "What I really wanted was to argue with him, but the Spirit won the argument! That absolutely changed my life," he said, "but I don't take credit for that. God gave me the gift of faith working through his Word."

Musically, Driesbach's songs are varied: country, reggae, folk and some rock and roll. The lyrics, however, are much more important, he said. Each song is about his Christian life path, the inspiration he takes from the Bible, and the hope he holds for the future.