

ROO STEWART

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Quick Profile

FULL NAME ANDREW GEORGE STEWART

DATE OF BIRTH 22 JULY, 1980

NATIONALITY NORTHERN IRISH **MARITAL STATUS** SINGLE

QUALIFICATIONS BACHELOR'S (4 YEARS) IN MUSIC & EDUCATION (QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST, 2002)

Relevant experience

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP [FULL-TIME]		
2007–present	Hollywood Parish Church	Director of Worship & Technology
WORSHIP LEADER		
2011–2013	New Horizon Christian Conference	worship leader
2009, 2007, 2005	Global Day of Prayer national televised services	worship leader
2002–2006	Christian Fellowship Church, Belfast	worship leader, kidzone worship leader
TOURING AND ALBUM RECORDINGS		
2011, 2009, 2004	Robin Mark Album Recordings	keyboardist, vocalist
2006–2012	Robin Mark European, US & Canada Tours	keyboardist, vocalist, supporting artist
2010	Paul Baloche European Tour	keyboardist
2007–2012	Roo Stewart/'Leawood Saints' Album Recordings	keyboardist, vocalist, composer
GOSPEL CHOIR		
Sep 2009–Jun 2010	Belfast Community Gospel Choir	keyboardist, arranger, band director
SCHOOL TEACHER [FULL-TIME]		
Sep 2006–Dec 2006	Rockport School, Hollywood (ages 4–16)	interim Head of Music
Sep 2003–Jun 2006	Malvern Primary School, Belfast (ages 4–11)	class teacher, plus music, drama & IT
Jan 2003–Jun 2003	Mersey Street Primary School, Belfast	class teacher, plus music & drama
CONFERENCE SEMINAR SPEAKER		
2010	Paul Baloche Leadworship.com conference	vocals workshops
2004–2006	Worship Belfast conferences	children in worship

My Spiritual Journey

My family had no connection with any church until a school crossing patrol worker invited my parents to send their children to the local Baptist Church Sunday school! I was presented with a simple and clear gospel message from an early age and was asking Jesus into my heart almost nightly, in case he hadn't heard the first time!

After some difficult family events in my early teens that put my simple faith to the test, my parents committed their lives to Christ and we got baptised, becoming active members of the Baptist church. It was there that I found great discipleship and growth in my Christian walk, as well as my first opportunities to lead worship in small groups and eventually with the whole church.

When I moved away to university I became involved with Christian Fellowship Church in Belfast and began serving in a couple of worship teams for Sunday Services. At the invitation of Robin Mark, worship director at that time, I began leading worship with my own team. I also trained up and mentored some younger musicians to form an additional band that led worship in our Sunday morning Kidzone; one of those young musicians is now Leader of Youth Ministry in the church where I am currently working!

John Ortberg's book 'If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Gotta Get Out of the Boat!' impacted me deeply and, with

the encouragement of my friends and home fellowship group, I decided that I would step out in faith, leave my steady job as a school teacher and answer the call to full-time church-based ministry. For many years I have had a heart for North America, so that is where I focused my attention when looking for a place to serve. At that time, however, that door seemed to remain closed, and just when I was really starting to wonder if I had made the right decision, I received a phone call out of the blue from a church only ten minutes from my home in Belfast, asking if I might consider working for them!

I've been in Holywood ever since, where, with the assistance of a part-time organist and around 80 volunteers, we hold five distinct and diverse services each Sunday, from traditional to next-gen, creating opportunities for spiritual and numerical growth through the pursuit of excellence in our music and arts ministry and associated support technologies.

After over six fulfilling years in Holywood, I feel well equipped and ready for the next stage in the adventure. My understanding of faith, church ministry and people has deepened considerably in that time, along with my passion to continue to use the gifts and abilities God has given me in the place where they will bear most fruit for him.

Other Skills

- ▶ Advanced classical pianist; also play guitar, basic violin, drum set
- ▶ Desktop publishing using PagePlus
- ▶ Video editing with Final Cut Pro
- ▶ Sound recording, programming and editing using Cubase & Ableton Live
- ▶ Music scoring with Sibelius and NoteWorthy Composer
- ▶ Live camera production
- ▶ Live sound board mixing

Other Interests

- ▶ I visit Northern Ireland's high-security prison, HMP Maghaberry, to assist in a 'Kairos' course run by a team of Christians from a broad range of denominations.
- ▶ I am passionate about the powerhouse of prayer and worship events for mobilising the church to pray and impact the nation. I regularly contribute to prayer and worship collectives in Northern Ireland. I have visited the International House of Prayer in Kansas City several times and listen online as part of my devotions.
- ▶ I have starred in and directed amateur theatrical productions. I arranged and recorded all the music for a professional production of 'Snow White' in Nov/Dec 2011. Acting performances have included 'Tom Sawyer', 'Oliver', Buttons in 'Cinderella' and the title role in 'Mother Goose' (in lurid yellow dress and beehive wig!).
- ▶ Some friends and I produce music as 'Leawood Saints', influenced by Sufjan Stevens, Brian Houston and Duke Special that communicates God's heart to music lovers

Referees

- ▶ The Rev'd Roger Elks, vicar Holywood Parish Church [vicarroger@ntlworld.com] +44 28 9042 3622
- ▶ Mrs Michelle Wooderson McMurray, friend and musician [michellewooderson@hotmail.com] +44 7876 654 617