

COMING UP: Free concert at Springvale

# Songwriter sharing his hymns, stories

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When John Moore entered the church ministry, something inside him awoken his ability to write music.

The result was one of the most well-known Christian hymns - Burdens are Lifted at Calvary. Mr. Moore wrote it in the early 1950s.

Since then, the transplanted Scott has written the lyrics and music to more than 150 Christian hymns.

*Grant Gordon, a member of Springvale Baptist Church's senior group, recently heard the hymn while attending a service in Romania.*

"Not all your songs get recognition like that, but many of them are being sung in different places in different churches around the world," the Stouffville resident said.

Grant Gordon, a member of Springvale Baptist Church's senior group, recently heard the hymn while

attending a service in Romania.

"It showed me how popular that one particular song is," he said.

For people who want to hear Mr. Moore's Christian hymns and the stories behind them, he will be performing at Springvale Baptist Church, 3885 Stouffville Rd., Feb. 3 at 1 p.m. The concert is free and open to everyone.

"I love the stories of songs. ... It helps you to appreciate the song," Mr. Gordon said.

Some of Mr. Moore's inspiration includes his own questioning of how much he loves Christ and his unworthiness of God's love.

One of his hymns - I'm Depending on You, Lord! - was written one Sunday morning while Mr. Moore and his wife, Esther, were driving to Toronto, where he was to lead a service.

"(I was) taking the opportunity to whisper a prayer. I said: 'Lord, I'm depending on you for this service today.' Without realizing it, I began to sing the words," wrote Mr. Moore in his book *My Songs and Their Stories*. "That was the first time I had ever composed a chorus while driving a car."



STAFF PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

Stouffville's John Moore will sing his sacred songs and play the concertina at Springvale church.

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