

Hymn Searches 1953-1976

The entries list, where known and applicable: (1) publication date of the resulting booklet; (2) title; (3) cooperating entity; (4) number of entries submitted; (5) hymns that were published in at least a half-dozen hymnals; (6) notes.

- 1953 *Ten New Hymns on the Bible*
Bible Observance Committee, Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches
>500
“Break forth, O living light of God,” Frank von Christerson
“God hath spoken by his prophets,” George Wallace Briggs
“O God of light, thy word, a lamp unfailing” (“The Divine Gift”), Sarah E. Taylor
“Word of God, across the ages,” Ferdinand Q. Blanchard
The large “1952” on the booklet’s cover refers to the year of the search and the event celebrated, the publication of the *Revised Standard Version* of the Bible.
- 1954 *Eleven Ecumenical Hymns*
<500
“Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,” Georgia Harkness
“O Christ, whose love has sought us out,” John Edgar Park
“O Church of God united,” Frederick B. Morley
Inspired by plans for the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches, though sponsorship of the search was solely by THS.
- 1954 *Five New Hymns on the City*
Planning Committee for Convocation on Urban Life, Methodist Church
“O Jesus Christ, to thee may hymns be rising,” Bradford Gray Webster
“Where restless crowds are thronging,” Thomas Curtis Clark
- 1955 *Fourteen New Rural Hymns*
Department of Town and Country Work, Methodist Church
<300
“God of the fertile fields,” Georgia Harkness
- 1955 *Five New Hymns for Youth by Youth*
United Christian Youth Movement, National Council of Churches
“Creator of the universe” (“A Student’s Hymn”), J. Donald Hughes
The upper boundary on “youth” was set at 30. That enabled the selection of texts by persons who had completed graduate/professional degrees, including emerging writers Daniel B. Merrick and H. Glen Lanier.
- 1956 *Two More New Hymns for Youth by Youth*
United Christian Youth Movement, National Council of Churches
- 1957 *Three More New Hymns for Youth by Youth*

- United Christian Youth Movement, National Council of Churches
 “The Son of God, our Christ,” Edward M. Blumenfeld
- 1958 *Four More New Hymns for Youth by Youth*
 United Christian Youth Movement, National Council of Churches
- 1958 *Twelve New World Order Hymns*
 Department of International Affairs, National Council of Churches
 >200
 “O God of every nation,” William Watkins Reid, Jr.
- 1959 *Fifteen New Christian Education Hymns*
International Journal of Religious Education
 <400
 “Help us, O Lord, to learn,” William Watkins Reid, Jr.
- 1959 *One More New Hymn for Youth by Youth*
 United Christian Youth Movement, National Council of Churches
 The pamphlet notes that this “completes a five year cycle” and lists those in earlier booklets.
- 1961 *Seven New Social Welfare Hymns*
 Department of Social Welfare, National Council of Churches
 >200
 “Lord, whose love through humble service,” Albert F. Bayly
 Appended to the new hymns are seven older ones.
- 1961 *Ten New Stewardship Hymns*
 Department of Stewardship and Benevolence, National Council of Churches
 ~450
 “As men of old their first fruits brought,” Frank von Christierson
 “Glorious is thy name, Most Holy,” Ruth Elliott
 “God, whose giving knows no ending,” Robert Lansing Edwards
- 1961 *Thirteen New Marriage and Family Hymns*
 Department of Family Life, National Council of Churches, and Canadian Council of Churches
 ~450
 “Bless thou our Christian homes, O Lord,” Carlton C. Buck; most frequently appears in hymnals with the first stanza omitted and the second altered so that the opening line is “O Lord, may church and home combine”
 “O God in heaven, whose loving plan,” Hugh Martin
 8 texts on family life; 5 for weddings
- 1965 *Twelve New Hymns for Children*
 Philadelphia Chapter of the Hymn Society

- >400
“Walk softly in springtime,” Edna Fay Grant
- 1966 *Ten New Hymns on the Ministry*
Pacific School of Religion
107
- 1966 *Fifteen New Bible Hymns*
American Bible Society
365
“Tell it! Tell it out with gladness,” Georgia Harkness
- 1968 *Twelve New Lord’s Day Hymns*
Lord’s Day Alliance
350
- 1969 *Nine New Hymns on the Mission of the Church*
843
“The city is alive, O God,” William Watkins Reid, Jr.
“To worship, work, and witness,” Henry Lyle Lambdin
- 1970 *Ten New Hymns for the ‘70s*
>400
- 1970 *Contemporary Hymn Tunes*
published as *Paper XXVII*
- 1971 *Seven New Hymns of Hope*
>300
- 1973 *16 New Hymns on the Stewardship of the Environment*
>500
“God in his love for us gave us this planet” (“The Earth Is the Lord’s”), Fred Pratt Green
- 1974 *New Hymns, Songs, and Prayers for Church and Home*
“Eternal Spirit of the living Christ,” Frank von Christierson
“Lord, we bring to you our children,” Frank von Christierson
- 1975 *New Hymns for America 1976*
Philadelphia Chapter of The Hymn Society
>200
The text search was announced in 1974 so that a subsequent search for settings could be completed before the USA bicentennial.
- 1976 *10 New Hymns on Aging and the Later Years*
Church Relations Department of the National Retired Teachers Association and the

American Association of Retired Persons

>1200

“O God, thy constant care and love,” H. Glen Lanier