

“I love what I do and I’m lucky I get to play a small part in God’s plan in helping others through music.”

–Wayne Kerr

Christian artist Wayne Kerr performs for fans around the world and also serves as the worship pastor at Grace Fellowship United Methodist Church in Katy

# SERVING THROUGH SONG

Katy Christian artist Wayne Kerr encourages people across the world through his inspirational music

*Written by Natalie Cook Clark | Photography Courtesy of Colt Melrose Photography*

*Since 1995, Katy Christian musician Wayne Kerr has been inspiring people of all religions. Whether he is performing to a group of 40 or 12,000, Kerr has the unique ability to connect with his audience and see things from their point of view. With the recent release of the Wayne Kerr Band's new album *Love Stands Out* and several upcoming summer concerts, Kerr is making a name for himself as a hometown musician with heart.*

## **BUILDING A BRIDGE**

Kerr wasn't always the artist he is today. "When I was a kid I was always the 'art' kid, but I never thought I would write music or perform," he shares. "It wasn't until college that I picked up the piano." It was during summer camp in 1995 that he saw how God could work in teenagers' lives. He decided he wanted to be involved in that, quit his job, and dove into music full time. "Sometimes in life, you get affirmation and doors start to open when God is working in your life," he says.

Since becoming a musician full time, Kerr's music has reached many in the community and around the world. "Music builds a bridge no matter where you play," he explains. Up until last year, he and his band were performing up to 200 dates per year around the U.S. and abroad, most recently in Japan and Singapore.

He has shared the stage with artists like Leeland, Chris Tomlin, The Afters, and Kirk Franklin, but it's spending time with the youth that makes him the happiest. "When kids go to a camp or an event, they are always amazed that my band and I hang out with them," Kerr says. "One time, we sat down and a student looked at us and said, 'You eat food?' It is always important to me to spend time with those I perform to."

## **INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES**

For each new musical project, Kerr finds inspiration through the hand of God and the lives of real people. "I love writing songs that really hit home," he says. "My experience with God overflows into my music." For Kerr's latest album, *Love Stands Out*, his band went on a five-day retreat where they wrote all the music.



When the group made a music video for their song “The Mirror,” Kerr wanted the project to send a huge message – God’s message – to his fans. “The world is telling you that your worth is external, but Jesus is concerned about the heart,” explains Kerr. The video takes on an *American Idol* feel, but really it’s the contestants who are judging themselves.

Katy resident Maegen Benedetti has been a fan of Kerr for many years and always enjoys seeing him live in concert with friends. “I took my fiancé Michael to see him live at the Berry Center in Cypress for the *Brand New Day* CD launch concert,” she shares. “It was great to experience something so important to me with my future husband. I am looking forward to sharing his music and the message he shares with the world with my kids one day.”

### BLESSED TO GIVE BACK

“I still have a hard time accepting how lucky I am,” says Kerr. “I am doing what I love by being a faithful, good steward of what God has given me. It’s my job to honor Him.” Currently, he is also serving as the worship pastor at Grace Fellowship United Methodist Church in Katy. Now, Katyites don’t have to go far to see this international performer.

This past May, Kerr led the National Day of Prayer for his hometown and expects to continue his active role in the

community. “I’m honored to have a job in the town that has helped me so much,” he shares. “Without my success in Katy and Houston, I would have never been able to continue and grow the reach I’ve had in sharing God’s word.”

He is getting ready to take on an even greater responsibility this fall. Kerr and his wife of 10 years, Kelley, are expecting their first child, a little girl, this September. “I love what I do and I’m lucky I get to play a small part in God’s plan in helping others through music,” says Kerr. “And I’m thankful for the role Katy played in my start. All the churches work together so well. Everything is about the bigger goal.” **KM**

*NATALIE COOK CLARK is a native Katyite, author, and journalist, who enjoys sharing stories of her hometown friends. She lives with her wonderful husband, beautiful daughter, loveable dog, and sweet bunnies.*

**Don’t miss the Wayne Kerr Band’s upcoming concert Aug. 26 at Grace Fellowship United Methodist Church in Katy. To learn more, visit [waynekerrmusic.com](http://waynekerrmusic.com).**

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