

Singer reflecting his faith

BY CARLA HINTON
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Mitch McVicker's new album, "Always Believe," was recorded in a Wellin studio instead of in Nashville, Tenn. The contemporary Christian musician chose the relatively remote location with the hope the compilation would reflect the "nuts and bolts" of his faith.

"There wasn't a lot to distract from the recording process. I just wanted it to feel real," he said.

McVicker's metro-area fans will get to hear his new songs at two concerts, the first Thursday at Seeker Church in Norman.

McVicker, 36, said he wanted "Always Believe" to go beyond the "slick, clean, precise productions" emerging from the music industry these days.

"Being a Christian, I know that life is often anything but," he said.

The ups and downs of life are not new to McVicker, hence his quest to convey authenticity.

McVicker was in the 1997 auto accident that killed his friend, popular recording artist and songwriter Rich Mullins.

"When the wreck happened and the rug was pulled out from under me, so to speak, I really was having to figure out what it means to trust," he said.

The years after the tragedy have found McVicker learning what that trust in God means. "Every day is a new opportunity for us to trust in the Lord," he said.

His wife, Paula, and their daughter, Brooklyn, 3, have brought him joy. So has his continued ability to write songs, record albums and tour the country singing of his faith.

"A lot of people are saying this sounds like a more mature version of my first CD," he said.

"I feel like I'm trying to get back to why I'm doing what I'm doing, but hopefully infused with the growth that has taken place."