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HOW DOES A PASTOR FROM DEPFORD, NEW JERSEY with a bachelor's degree in social work and a stop in Oak Cliff, end up in Frisco? Fifth-generation minister Barry Lyons discovered the family-oriented Frisco quite by accident. "We were out for one of our drives going up the tollway and said 'Let's see where this goes,'" co-pastor and wife Kimberley Lyons remembered. "We knew right away Frisco was our destiny. It is a wonderful place to live and raise our two boys. They just love Frisco and all it has to offer."

Pastor Barry, who has preached in places from Philadelphia to Jamaica, said Frisco reminded him of his hometown and was "like a breath of fresh air." Kimberley, who hails from Philadelphia, is so pleased with the school system she will no longer home school her boys, Barry, 10, and Emmanuel, 9.

The east coast natives recently moved their Living Waters Family Worship Center (LWFWC) from Oak Cliff where he and Kimberley lived and ministered for four years before making the decision to move north. Like more than a dozen other new churches in Frisco, the Lyons' church temporarily meets in an elementary school.

The couple has also created a new CD packed with romantic music and more importantly, a message they are well known for: how to overcome the trials of marriage and family life. The Lyons' are requested to lead numerous marriage seminar workshops around the country. After 12 years of marriage and two kids, they say they've been "through it all."

"Our message is about love and anger and forgiveness and the family unit," Barry said of his sermons and his jazz/

R&B/pop mix CD titled "Barry Volume One: Soul of a Man." "The ballad "I Do" I wrote for my wife on our wedding day...it's a good feeling that I can still answer that call."

Other songs are about personal

on the CD.

The Lyons' continued their church in Oak Cliff for a time while living in Frisco before deciding to move LWFWC closer to their residence. They were quick to note that the commute was not the reason for relocation. Frisco fit the bill as an area with potential for growth and lots of young people with children—like themselves. New neighbors had also expressed the desire for his church to be in Frisco.

"I came to my first church in Texas (St. John the Baptist church in Oak Cliff) to preach at age 29 to a 120-year-old church that did not really want someone contemporary and free-spirited, so I don't think it was a good fit," Barry Lyons reflected. "After two years there, I started Living Waters at the recreational facility in Oak Cliff."

Roughly half of the 350 members of LWFWC drive up from the Oak Cliff area to learn more about family values and topics like how to be more loving.

"It is truly a blessing to be here," said Kimberley, who also loves photojournalism as a hobby. She has had one of her pictures displayed at the Dallas Museum of Art in the past. "Barry Jr. is going to play basketball through the YMCA and Emmanuel wants to play ice hockey at Stonebriar. We couldn't be happier."

The Lyons' CD is available on their church website www.lwfwc.org or at CD Warehouse.

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Pastor Barry Lyons and family.

photo by Chris Johnson

Pastor and Singer Barry Lyons

By Natalie Medigovich

milestones – like the day the Lyons brought their new baby home from the hospital and how they have had to work harder at making time for each other in today's busy world, something many people forget.

Lyons said he hopes people who purchase the 10-song CD walk away with more than good music but the main message of the importance of family. Lyons wrote many of the lyrics, composed, plays and sings with his wife