



## Contemporary Christian Music History - 1966

If you were around in 1966, what was the Lord doing in your life?

The Soviets had a lot going on in space. The unmanned Soviet Luna 9 spacecraft makes the first controlled rocket-assisted landing on the moon. They also launched Luna 10 which later became the first space probe to enter orbit around the moon. The Venera 3 Soviet space probe crashed on Venus becoming the first spacecraft to land on another planet's surface. The U.S. had a few things happening in space also. In November, Gemini 12 carrying astronauts James A. Lovell and Buzz Aldrin splashed down safely in the Atlantic Ocean East of the Bahamas. 1966 was the year that John Lennon of the Beatles says "... we are more popular than Jesus.." sparking quite a controversy in the United States. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Miranda v. Arizona* that the police must inform suspects of their rights before questioning them. In music, Simon and Garfunkel released two albums this year... "Sounds of Silence" and "Parsley, Sage, Rosemary & Thyme". In January, "Shindig!" aired for the last time on ABC, with musical guests "The Kinks" and "The Who". On August 29<sup>th</sup>, 1966 the Beatles performed their last official concert at Candlestick Park in San Francisco. The first episode of "The Monkees" was broadcast on NBC. Popular songs included: Good Vibrations by the Beach Boys, Yellow Submarine by The Beatles, Along Comes Mary by The Association, A Groovy Kind Of Love by the Mindbenders and Born Free by Matt Monro.

And in contemporary Christian music, Phil Driscoll began recording Christian music in 1966. In the late 60's he left Christian music to work with Joe Cocker and returned to Christian music in '78. Another Phil began recording this year... Phil Keaggy began recording with the Squires.

I hope this brought back some memories for you. It is encouraging to look back, remember where we were then and see the hand of God in our lives. This has been a brief look at the year 1966 in the history of contemporary Christian music.