



Proclaiming Jesus Christ, Making Disciples, Growing Healthy Churches

C.C.C.C. Mission Church Project

Hosanna House Fellowship



Dear CCCC Family:

This letter comes by way of a reminder to help one of our C.C.C.C. Mission Churches in a tangible way. Too often we lament the great need and small amount of resources available to these Mission Churches. For that reason, Hosanna House in Saskatoon has been selected for a special National Conference project this coming July. They serve a good number of First Nations children and youth.

Pastors Rodney Mercer and Carol Kasper at Hosanna House have indicated that their children's ministry would be enhanced with a large screen television, a combination DVD / VHS recorder-player, a speaker system for amplification in an auditorium, and a portable A / V cart & stand. The "ball-park" figure for this acquisition is \$1,800.00.

I am very pleased to announce that funding has begun to come in for this appeal. We want to thank those churches that have already responded and others that have indicated they will be supporting this project. It will be so encouraging to present Hosanna House with the necessary funds at our upcoming conference in Saskatoon. If you haven't done so, please plan to support this cause in the very near future. You could raise money via a fund raiser bake sale etc., receive a special offering, or set up an on-going Hosanna House project fund in your church for the next five months.

We ask you to forward your offerings to Rev. Dr. Kathleen Horwood's attention at our National Office. She will direct your funds into a designated account for the Hosanna House mission project. If possible, the National Board of Directors would like to see a similar missions project in future years – targeting a C.C.C.C. Missions Church in whatever region the National Conference is being held.

Peace in Jesus,

(Rev.) Gerald Cressman
Atlantic Region Member
C.C.C.C.s' National Board of Directors

Greetings From Sri Lanka

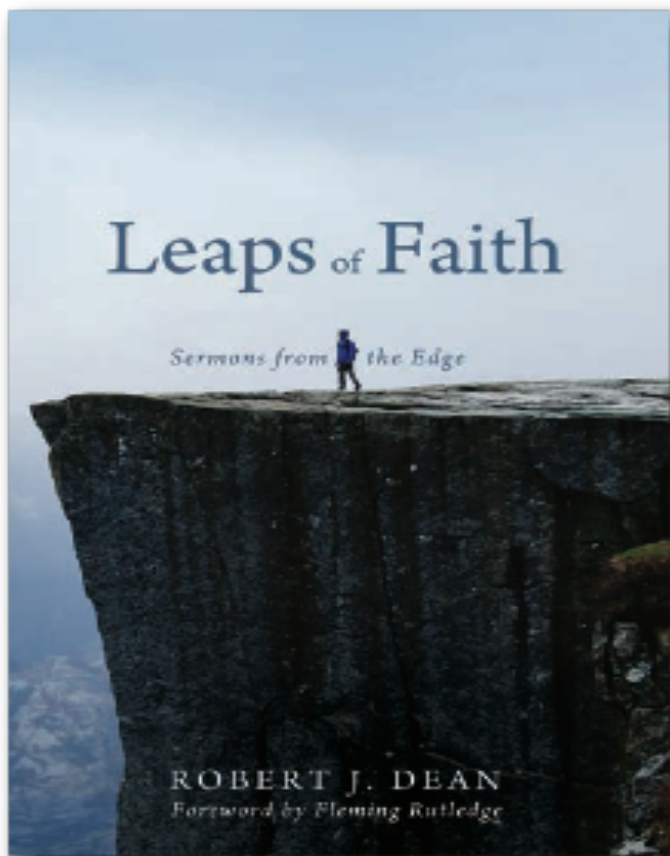
This is Pastor Abraham Emmanuel from Sri Lanka. Thank you very much for sending my Annual Report to all the CCCC Pastors. Here I am sending a link for the latest

pictures of the construction and the items list for the purposed building and also you will find the amount I paid to the contractor and the balance to be paid to him. The balance is Rs. 3,000,000 {\$28,521 CND}

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6m6NvU3tUTDbXdTT1h0OXIxelk>

May God bless you ,
Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Emmanuel.

Rev. Dr. Robert Dean Releases New Book



From the Back Cover: If you are passionate about participating in the recovery of preaching for the spiritual formation of God's people, then you will want to jump into this lively collection of biblically rigorous, culturally intuitive, grace-drenched sermons. Robert Dean sets the bar very high, even as he throws the gauntlet down, with these remarkable expressions of all that preaching was supposed to be and can still become.

Animated by the conviction that the preached word is the playground of the Living Word, the pages of Leaps of

Faith are populated by saints and sinners, pimps and prophets. Unexpectedly and delightfully, Bono works alongside Bonhoeffer, Dr. Phil learns a lesson from the Amish, and a discussion of body odor primes the senses for contemplating the mission of God.

Rooted deeply in the lives of actual worshipping communities, these wonder-laden sermons from the prophetic imagination of an emerging pastor-theologian dare the reader to leap into the continuing story of the Triune God and, in doing so, discover that all of life has been taken up in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Robert J. Dean (ThD, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto) is a Toronto area pastor and Adjunct Professor of Theology at Tyndale Seminary in Toronto. He is the author of *For the Life of the World: Jesus Christ and the Church in the Theologies of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Stanley Hauerwas* (2016).

Greetings from Smithfield Christian Congregational Church

It seems so long ago now, but I wanted to tell you about our church Christmas pot luck. The Ackers, one of our church families opened their home to about 20 people this year. We feasted on turkey, vegetables and all the fixings. Boy, were we stuffed when we were done.

But the highlight of the evening is our gift exchange. When we buy our gifts we are to not pay anymore than \$10. And we make a game of it. Each person is given a number and when their number is drawn they have the choice of picking a gift from under the tree or stealing from someone else. You can imagine the swapping that goes on. And if a particular gift is popular, there is a lot of banter. I have to add that if a person wants someones gift they have to pay .25 in order to get it. Would you believe that we raised over \$100? Now THAT was a party! Here is Jeff not wanting to give up the moose.



YOUTH! What Are You About?

I may be ignorant of what is happening regarding youth in churches across Canada because our children are adults and have moved on in their lives. Hopefully I am not aware due to my own fault and not because there either isn't any youth, or at least very few young people, in the CCCC or the youth that are active are so active they don't let others know what is going on with them. I am not up on the latest social media so that probably does not help. That might just be the case with others too but who still might have an interest in those young people who will be our leaders some day.

I often have questions but not always the answers. Young people, I believe, need to be engaged, respected for their thoughts and feelings, supported in worthwhile endeavors, plus given challenges and responsibilities. Given opportunities, youth can often surprise us with what they can do, rise to, or create. Following then are just some thoughts that might be potentially of use to those involved with youth.

Is there an awareness of what congregations have youth groups? Church schools, and/or young adult groups? What ages are participating? How does one maintain current contact lists? How could leaders or contacts of these groups be able to connect, if desired? This could be for the purpose of sharing ideas, activities and experiences. Hopefully there might be a potential to connect for mission trips, exchanges, mini-youth rallies. Where small numbers are involved opportunities of combining interested people to bring about something may be possible. When our children were young it was only through National Conferences and regional rallies that the majority of meeting with other like minded youth was able to occur.

Is there a person who is up on what youth are interested in and is prepared to actively engage youth? This could be in writing a blog regarding faith issues facing young people. It could be in reviewing media and commenting in thought provoking ways what is being seen by youth and causing them to hopefully think about issues from a Christian perspective. This person may be able to recognize where youth are at in their thinking, including their potential disinterest in church, and explore topics that would stimulate dialogue. I am not sure whether young people would read something specifically or

whether this material would be available to help leaders with current issues.

Are there any youth leaders developing their own Bible studies for the youth they lead? Could these be shared? Would the National Office be able to assist in distribution? What resources or curriculum are being used? Which ones might be recommended over others and why?

Family and mentors are extremely important to helping youth to bring the things of the world back to focus on Christ. What resources are available to help families and mentors do this? How is Christ brought to an active focus in a young person's life? Where can people be directed to, to potentially find material to assist in supporting youth in their walk with Christ?

Are there links that could be set up either on the CCCC website or distributed through a newsletter or blog? Who has items to share and the willingness to do so? How and where might these be brought to others' attention?

Are there people within the CCCC willing to share or highlight more about engaging and supporting youth? What about just letting people know of the existence and activities of the young people in your congregations? Thank you to Hosanna House for sharing with us your work with the youth you engage with.

We as a family, are blessed because our adult children are still actively involved in Christian churches in their communities. Part of the reason we believe that this is so is because of personal experiences while attending youth activities at National Conferences and regional rallies. Good programs, led by fine leaders, with lots of prayer support, and Holy Spirit engaging moments, helped our children to develop their own personal relationship with God. Through observing people living out their faith in Christ, our children committed themselves to Christ.

My desire is that many more young people will come to know the Lord. Thus, the overarching question is how can we engage, support, and encourage any young people in their Christian walk? I look forward to being overwhelmed with exciting news about what is happening with youth in CCCC.

Brian Glover
Retired Pastor