

## **AFRICA E-NEWSLETTER**

Issue No.3/31 May 2021

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and Io, I am with you to the end of the age". (Matthew 28:19-20)

# SOME RWANDAN CHURCH LEADERS RECEIVED THEIR IMBC AWARDS AND CELEBRATED



In the above picture are some church leaders of Rwamagana, Rwanda and the environs who on Sunday 16 May 2021 attended an award function of Certificates and Diplomas in Christian Ministry and Theological Studies from and by the International Missions Bible College (IMBC) of Australia. It being the first of its kind in the country, it was colourful and very exciting. Thanks to God and to the leaders of IMBC and CRC Churches International in general for availing the courses that church leaders very much lacked to qualify being allowed to lead their churches and planting new ones.

SEE MORE OF THEM IN THE PICTURES BELOW:







In the above picture is Pastor Ferdinand Muriisa, one of the awardees. Popularly known as Pastor Fred, he is also the Chairperson of Rwamagana District Forum of Churches. In the middle is the Rwanda IMBC National Trainer, servant Dale Emmanuel Mutabiirwa who presided over the award function on behalf of IMBC. On his left is his wife, Pastor Tassy Anne Mutabiirwa who also was one of the awardees.



On the left are some IMBC students in October 2020 when they were still studying. They were under a shade of some trees revising their notes, on the ground of Africa Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) Training Center, Rwamagana.



In the picture above is a new class of IMBC Certificate course students in Kayonza, Rwanda who started their course on 28 April 2021.

# FROM PASTOR PHIL CAYZER'S DESK

# AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHURCH LEADERS TO TRAIN AND QUALIFY BEING ALLOWED TO LEAD CHURCHES

Believers in general and church leaders in particular around the world are invited to take advantage of a rare opportunity of affordable and convenient courses in Christian Ministry and Theology, offered by the CRC International Missions Bible College (IMBC) of Australia.

The college is a training arm of Christian Revival Crusade (CRC) Churches International. It equips men and women with relevant knowledge for ministry and missions of the gospel around the world. It offers a

year's Certificate course and a year's Diploma course respectively. Therefore, one is eligible for the Diploma course after completing the college's Certificate 4 level. The courses cover a wide range of foundational topics of the Bible and church management, also exposes the minister of the Gospel of what he should know and practice to succeed in his calling. To know about the college and its prospectus, kindly visit its website www.crccollege.org

You will then be in position to know the type of course you should apply for admission to the college. The best way to do so is via online through https://www.crccollege.org/application

The fact that the demand for theological and ministry training is growing daily, the college's online application system facilitates hundreds of students across many nations to register for the courses easily while at the same time meeting the official Australian Standard. For more information, kindly visit the college's website through the above provided link.

The fact that in Africa and elsewhere in the world, Governments have of recent made it obligatory for Pastors, Evangelists and Preachers in general to possess basic training in theological training or Bible Studies from a recognized institution, before being allowed to lead churches or plant new ones, compels us present and would be church leaders, to ensure we have relevant training and documents to prove it.

Lack of the same is one of the reasons over 6,000 church buildings in Rwanda, mainly of the Pentecostal denomination, were closed three years ago causing a crisis of thousands of their members to miss their usual places of worship. As a result, novices are likely to have backslid since using social media like Zoom for church services is not possible due to erratic Internet and for the reason that not all church members possess smartphones or laptops.

#### THE IMBC TEAM

Here below is the IMBC team.

It is a dedicated team to providing a space where believers and leaders can be trained and equipped for ministry of the Gospel. The team passionately believes in a lifelong learning and the development of the whole person so that the integration of our faith can be experienced and expressed across all dimensions of life.

Ps Phil Cayzer, Director, E-mail: phil@turningpoint.asn.au



Ps Phil has been a Senior Pastor of several churches over the past 40 years and has been instrumental in establishing Bible colleges in Australia and other countries. His passion is to see people trained in the world, to establish a foundation that will enable individuals to operate in a lifelong ministry.

Gloria Elia, Administrator, E-mail: patopsphil@turningpoint.asn.au



Gloria has worked in both Turningpoint Churches and Turningpoint School of Ministry for a few years now. She has ample experience in missions and has completed her Cert IV in Christian Ministry and Theology. She manages the administration and collaboration of resources through our online learning platform.



Roslyn, Trainer and Liaison Officer, Student Applications,

E-mail: crc.imbc@crcchurch.net

Roslyn grew up in a Christian home and is Pastor Norma Cayzer's sister. She has travelled overseas on a number of occasions, accompanying some CRC Missionaries on their

trips. She has extensive experience in Information Technology and Web designs such that she is well placed to assist trainers in using the technology.



Mari Meneses, Administrator, E-mail: Mari.Meneses@turningpoint.asn.au

Mari joined the team this year. She possesses a reasonable experience in teaching at universities and serving in Christian ministry. Mari coordinates IMBC student awards and ID cards.

#### THE SUPPORTIVE IMBC PRINTING SERVICE

I would like to introduce to you Ps John Masika who is pastoring in Njoro, Kenya at the Kenya Christian Revival Church.





Last year, 2020, he established a small printing business in Njoro that has so far made it possible for IMBC to have its Certificate and Diploma courses' notes printed easily and cost effectively, and accordingly supplied to most of our Bible schools in East and central Africa. Ps Masika has now taken on the challenge of keeping up with all the new Bible Schools starting up in all the various nations and we want to commend him for this great effort. For instance, within the last few months he has been able to send out notes for use in Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania Malawi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.







Above is an example of some printed notes. We are doing our best to send them to other areas as well.

#### A NEW CHURCH IN GOSOGWE REFUGEE CAMP, BURUNDI



It has been brought to my attention that Pastor Moise helped to start a church in Gosogwe Refugee Camp in Burundi.

The Governor's conditions for opening the church in his province was to have a finished building and a washroom, then pay the provincial fees.

I thank God for using Nyankanda church to raise the money for buying the building materials, including borrowing, and completed construction of the building in its current habitable state.

For everything was finished within two weeks.

They then called Pastor Moise to open it officially during the Pentecost Sunday.

Praise God for the Vision and Desire for the Kingdom.

I really appreciate the efforts and courage of all involved.

Together we will see the CRC in every nation by 2045.

Blessings.

# FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MISSIONS DIRECTOR PS MIKE CRONIN

When Jesus gave the commission to His followers to go and make disciples of all nations (people groups) it was not to people in easy conditions. They were a people under a lot of opposition and persecution from the Roman occupation army and from the Jewish leaders who were violently against the followers of Jesus. Yet it was in these adverse circumstances that the gospel spread by both Word and Power. In some countries where CRC personnel are working, there are may be threats of danger and persecution.



Yet the ministry of the gospel continues being carried forward. The COVID-19 pandemic, over the last year, has made particularly challenging circumstances for many people, but the ministry of making disciples and preaching the gospel has continued.

As many churches adapted to online services, our missions work adapted to Zoom and similar technology to teach, encourage, inspire and build up our leaders in other countries as we could not go there in person. As a result, Jesus' command has continued to be fulfilled.

Although 2020 was a very different year from what we expected, it has been a year of new steps, and taking up new opportunities that will better equip us for the years ahead.

### FROM PASTOR JOHN ZEMBWE'S DESK



#### THE CRC CHURCH AT NYAKANDA REFUGEE CAMP Burundi

I am delighted to update you on the construction of the church at Nyankanda Refugee Camp in Burundi. It is very encouraging to see how far construction of the church building has reached. It is a good and big surprise that our dream of believing that the money we sent was enough to complete roofing the building as planned. The church is relatively big, 30 metres long and 15 metres wide. It is the first big Pentecostal church building in the area and the camp itself.

Although the dream is not yet attained, the stage we have reached is very encouraging. Because of the big size of the building, the church's elders used a lot of timber that cost them a lot of money. I truly take this opportunity to thank our brothers and sisters in the Nyakanda church, especially Pr Magorwa and Brother Guy for their stringent supervision of the construction. It was through their such stance and efforts that made the achievement possible. Although construction of the building is not fully completed, the pace of the construction gives us hope to complete the construction soon.

The elders of the CRC Nyakanda refugee church asked me to deliver their report to you. They also urged me to express their gratitude to Pr Phil and Norma Cayzer particularly, to Pr Mike and Lois Cronin and generally to all CRC Australia leaders and all members of the CRC movement. They thank everyone for their financial and moral support and their strong partnership with the church at Nyakanda.

All the same, the Pastor of the CRC church and his church elders, continue to request you as their spiritual guiders (coaches) and supporters to continue supporting them until the church is completed. They said that through the construction of the church, CRC Churches International speaks loudly by actions and communicates pragmatically in Burundi.

The news that encouraged me and surprised many people, is what I heard from the Coordinator of the department of women. She said that due to the pain of not having a place to gather for worship, and especially the difficulties they encounter during the rainy season when they gather under trees, women themselves are strongly supporting the construction work with their own hands. Others sold their clothes and contributed the money to help in the construction of the church. She said that she encourages a big group of women to support the church builders with food to provide them with energy they need to continue constructing the church as they should.

I personally thank all of our Australian brethren for their considerable contributions in helping our brethren at Nyankanda Refugee Camp. I am also moved in the way those brothers at the camp, defy their destitute like status of being refugees and make their contribution to the construction of the church building in kind. They do so, knowing that although they have no money to contribute, they have life and strength which they owe to God. This is because they even get their food for survival from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR





This is the front elevation of the constructed CRC This is the side elevation of the church. Church in Nyakanda Refugee Camp, Burundi.

### TEACHING AND TRAINING ONLINE

**Pr Jeremy Steel** 



Unexpected events in the year 2020 caused us to learn how to use Zoom and it seems we shall continue doing so in the year 2021 even spend many more hours looking deep into the camera and at people's faces on screens of our gadgets.

Thank you for the amazing generosity of various CRC churches for their giving towards the technology needed to conduct online communication. Funds collected during the National Missions Day in July 2020 have been an amazing provision.

The funds have allowed us to improve the quality of the Zoom sessions at both ends, by purchasing laptops, video cameras and upgrading Wi-Fi connections.

However, there are still some issues that remain out of our control. For example, the 24-hour blackouts. This means, mobile phones and laptops cannot always be charged, and Wi-Fi Internet connections do not always work. But still we have been able to make significant improvements in the quality of our Zoom sessions.

Although I have not been able to physically travel to various nations and share God's Word, it has been a joy to be able to continue sharing the Word using technology in many different nations. This includes the following nations and ministry:

#### India

Weekly devotional sessions with the whole team in India: Imphal team, Assam church team and the Siliguri team. These sessions include training, encouragement and prayer. Spent times are a great joy indeed.

Training schools in India were closed for most of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic so we tried Zoom

sessions once a week with the students connecting themselves via their mobile phones. We gave it a good attempt, but between issues of poor Internet connection, flat batteries and no data, the same was not sustainable.

#### Ghana

The training school was able to reopen towards the latter part of 2020 so I was able to conduct weekly lectures to Ghana.

#### **Papua New Guinea**

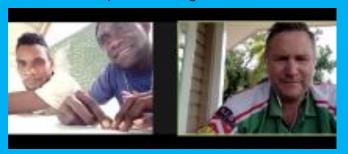
Throughout 2020 I was able to be part of the Bethel services in Port Moresby, chapel with the Bethel staff and students on a number of occasions, as well as regular time with the Frontier Evangelism team.



#### Other

In addition to the above, one other thing that I have been able to do is post online devotions, for about four months, through the Pathway to Missions Facebook group.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has shut down many things, the Word of God has continued to be carried out and planted throughout the nations.





### **NEW BIBLE SCHOOL IN MAURITIUS**

Report from Ps Vishnu in Mauritius.

Our CRC IMBC courses are going on well. We started a Certificate Course last year 2020 with 9 students. We are two Trainers, myself, Ps Vishnu Durgadoo and my Assistant Ps Atish Lugun.

At the moment, we are doing our eighth book titled, Bible Prophecy and will end the course with our ninth Book, titled Hermeneutics. God willing and He is willing, we shall conduct our first Certificates' award in September 2021.

Because of COVID -19 restriction, we are however obliged to do the classes on Zoom. This is because we are not allowed to meet in church or elsewhere.

Two other Pastors who were supposed to start IMBC courses for their students could not do so because of COVID - 19 restrictions and that not all students could have access to Zoom facilities. When I contacted them, they told me they will start the courses when the COVID -19 restrictions are lifted.

# THE BIBLE SCHOOL IN ARUA, UGANDA





The CRC church in Arua, Uganda



In the above picture are church members of the CRC Christian Revival Church in Arua involved in a community action of protecting themselves against COVID-19 by taking each other's body temperature and sanitising their hands before meeting physically and or entering the church.



Likewise, the CRC Church in Arua, Uganda, was involved in a food security action of the community around it by procuring and distributing food to needy families in the community around it, during the COVID -19 lockdown and restrictions. The family in the picture on the left with 2 bags of foodstuff received from the church is an example. Glory to God. That is what faith is about. When not so, it is dead (James 2:14-26). For, caring for the less fortunate in society is Jesus' way of expressing Christian love and care (Matthew 25:31-46), expected of us.

# THE BIGGEST TRAINING AND GRADUATION EVER OF IMBC STUDENTS IN KASULU, TANZANIA



Under the able leadership and mobilization of Pr Said Apambwe James, 115 students registered for the IMBC courses in Kasulu, Tanzania last year 2020. Out of them, 98 graduated recently as seen in the above picture. The rest are still continuing with their studies. We thank God for the achievement, particularly for enabling the big enrolment and for using Pastor James the way He did.

## A NEW BIBLE SCHOOL IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA



Above is a group of Pastors who started their IMBC Certificate Course in Lusaka, Zambiaon 31/06/2021, under the leadership of Pr Said Apambwe James.



The same Zambian Pastors who are being trained by Pr Saidi Apambwe James in Lusaka, Zambia, posing for a group photograph.

## **EDITORIAL**

Considering that the last edition of our e-newsletter was published in February 2020, it has been an unprecedented lapse of time. Many good and bad events have taken place during the lapse. Since they are many, let me single out some that affect us and the Great Commission in particular.

We thank God for the good events that include new churches which were constructed and opened in Burundi at Nyankanda and Gosogwe Refugee Camps respectively. We also thank Him for the new Bible Schools and the graduations that accompanied them. Likewise, we thank Him for a cost-effective printing press in Kenya by Bishop John Masika at Njoro which is another blessing to us and CRC work in Eastern and Central Africa. God who has enabled us attain that; He will also enable us to achieve what we have not achieved. For He is still on His throne to see us through. All we need to do is to stand right with Him

all the time, including being a source of peace with everyone around us, as far as it depends on us to do so and should be holy (Romans 12:17-21, Hebrews 12:14). We must also be sincere always in our hearts and in deeds without hypocrisy and lies. For without which, the Bible says, we shall not see God when we need Him and even on the last day (Matthew 5:8). God forbid. As His co-workers in everything we do (1 Corinthians 3:9), we must also submit and surrender to Him everything we intend to do before doing it for our plans to succeed (Proverbs 16:3). Out of His great love and mercy, God interestingly, without mincing words, reveals His secret to us on how to ensure we live long on earth. He says we should do so by fearing Him (Proverbs 10:27), including avoiding pride, telling lies and evil in general (Psalms 34:12-14). The Bible defines "fearing God" as hating evil, pride and arrogance and a perverse mouth (Proverbs 8:13).

On a sad note, we are sorry for Tanzania to have lost her God-fearing head of state, the late Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli on 17 March 2021. His death dealt a heavy blow to God-fearing people around the world, in Tanzania and the African continent as a whole. He was very much expected to contribute to facilitation of an enabling environment for the Great Commission in Tanzania and influencing the rest of Africa with the same, particularly Africa south of the Sahara. As renown Pr Dr Martin Sempa of Kampala, Uganda said immediately after President Magufuli's death, Africa lost a man of God. We miss him. We thank God for his patriotic and exemplary leadership.

Another bad thing is the recent incident of a disastrous volcanic eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in Goma, the Democratic Republic of Congo that occurred on 22 May 2021. It killed hundreds of people and devastated the area's biodiversity and property because of also the earthquake that accompanied it plus the repeated aftershocks. Following which, thousands of residents of Goma and the environs fled to neighbouring areas and countries, including our CRC church Pastor Jamari whose church property and that of his house was spoiled and vandalised. Therefore, he very much needs our prayers and material assistance wherever he is for his family, church members and neighbours. Although the area's infrastructure was disrupted including telephone communication, we should make an effort to call him individually to guide us on how we to send him assistance and send it to him. For doing so is obeying our Lord who commands us to do unto others what we wish them to do unto us (Luke 6:31). Pr Jamari's phone number is +243 993 408 253.

#### **APPEAL FOR NEWS ITEMS**

As you see in this edition, there is less news from individual churches and different parts of Africa. So is from elsewhere in the world where CRC and its training arm IMBC, work. It is a shame to us who are many to have failed contributing such news from our respective areas. On the contrary, much of the news was contributed by our leaders who are few in number despite their not being where we are physically. It is a shame to us for them to have reported events in our areas from their remote positions instead of us who are residents of the areas, capable of even sending more up-to-date news with more recent pictures than them! Their reporting should challenge us to do better next time. I thank them for enabling us to have what we are sharing in the newsletter from different areas and countries. Otherwise, we should almost have had nothing to share. Thank you Pr Phil Cayzer, Pr John Zembwe and Pr Mike Cronin and their support staff.

For when the newsletter is adequately informative, it will be a good forum for us to share and exchange news, information, experiences and prayer requests. Unfortunately, at the moment, we very little to share from individual CRC churches and IMBC Trainers. I appeal to you to make a difference in the next month issue of the June 2021 newsletter by kindly sending me news items well in time regarding the various

things you will have been involved in, including but not limited to, certificate or diploma students' training sessions and awards, Holy Communions, weddings, baptisms, children's dedications and washing of legs' events. Also, news about open air evangelistic crusades you will have conducted, Word teaching seminars, evangelistic visits to prisons and hospitals, and events of helping the less fortunate in society.

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