

FROM OUR AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Our CRC National Missions Sunday for 2020 is on Sunday 26th July, or a Sunday as close to that date that is practical for you. This is a great opportunity for us to focus on our CRC International Vision of a Presence in Every Nation by 2045.

Over 90% of our CRC Churches in Australia are actively involved in global missions and together we are touching, to varying degrees, about 70 nations. The CRC Missions Sunday is a time to highlight to your church what you, and our other CRC Churches are doing in global missions. Our people have large “forgetteries” and “out of sight is out of mind.” We need to regularly present our global mission’s involvement and the CRC International vision.

This year will be quite different for our Missions Sunday. Some of our churches will be meeting in person, but many will still be only able to meet on-line because of the coronavirus restrictions. However, the creativity that churches have shown for their normal Sunday services on-line, will ensure great Mission Day services.

IDEAS

What about?

- Music team on stage dressed in the national costume/dress of their country of origin.
- If all meeting in person, encourage everybody to come in their national costume/dress.
- An item from an ethnic group in your church.
- Set up a mission expo of nations where your church is involved – this could be a virtual display or a physical one depending on your circumstances.
- If meeting in person provide some delicious food after the service from different nations.

- There are many great mission resources and ideas available on the Missions Interlink Website (<https://missionsinterlink.org.au/resource/>). CRC Missions is a member of Missions Interlink.

MESSAGE

The following thought from Max Chismon of Living Springs International may stir your thinking for your message.

"The Old Testament is full of promises and prophecies of a worldwide ingathering of peoples and people into God's kingdom.

With the advent of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit these prophecies began to be fulfilled. The three thousand gathered in on the day of Pentecost soon became five thousand and the world Christian movement was under way.

Within a relatively short period of time the gospel had spread throughout the Roman Empire and churches were scattered from Jerusalem to North Africa, and from Syria to Britain. Christianity had become a movement and every believer was captivated with a sense of privilege and responsibility in participating with Christ in gathering in the harvest!

It was always God's intention that the end of the age come only after successive generations of believers have had the opportunity to participate in the growth of the world Christian movement. It's as if each generation has been presented with a portion of the harvest and given the privilege and responsibility to bring it in. This generation is no exception.

Some generations failed, others made feeble attempts and yet others have shocked the world with their fervour and single-mindedness, their love and passion for the lost and for unreached nations. How will the history books record the response of this generation? The book is open – entries are being made – the final chapters have yet to be recorded. We have the opportunity to be history makers!"

OFFERING

Each year we receive an offering on the Mission Day for a specific project. This year the offering will be to raise funds for equipment needed to maximise the use of Zoom and other on-line forms of communication. The details of this are on the attached brochure, and in the following letter from Ps Barry Silverback.

There is a short video on the CRC Missions website of Ps Barry Silverback for you to show your church explaining the new world of teaching, training, mentoring and encouraging on-line, which is enabled by the use of modern technology and not affected by travel limitations. Initially we are focusing on getting the equipment needed for the fields where Ps Barry Silverback is working closely – PNG, Philippines, India, and Ghana. Other churches are also taking up this form of communication and training which will be a part of the normal for most of us. In time we expect all our Fields will have reliable internet and equipment to enhance our opportunities working together.

The details of where to send the offering are on the attached National Missions Day brochure which is on the CRC Missions website.

Ps Mike Cronin