

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Joan Hubert

We invite you to join us at Missions Fest Alberta 2018! First and foremost, Missions Fest is all about Jesus Christ and His passion for the lost. Prayer is a vital part of this ministry--it is only through the prayers of God's people that lives are changed and people are "thrust out" into the Harvest.

Our theme "Do you want The King to come? ...then *finish* The Job!" is based on the Scripture from Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Many years ago we saw a short video clip from a message that Dr. David Thompson spoke at a Youth Conference. David shared when he was a student in college he was given the news his missionary parents were murdered by communists in SE Asia. Dr. Thompson relives that crucial moment and moves us to a deeper understanding of what it means to trust God. On that day God asked David, "Do you trust me enough to thank me?" For Missions Cinema we will be watching the entire message titled "Finish the Job" you won't want to miss it, for further details see the 2018 Missions Cinema Page.

The Lord has put some thoughts on my heart over the last couple of years, one was "Are you preparing My people for My return." I wondered what the Lord would have us to do and it all came together this year after I read a booklet called "Red Skies @ Dawn." Here is an excerpt from the back of the booklet: *Significant storms loom on the horizon of the western world. Some we are already experiencing: attacks on our faith; attacks on the Bible; attacks on evangelism; attacks on the Church. Observe a week in the lives of two married Christian couples George and Carol, Sanjit and Yvonne. Experience their questions and concerns... employment loss as well as accusations of bigotry and intolerance -- even from their own family. Learn what persecuted Christians can teach us about facing and preparing for coming storms. Find out how you can best prepare for the challenging days ahead.* When I finished the booklet the Lord woke me up early the next morning and as I looked out the window the sky was red, this was my confirmation what we were to do for our conference. The authors Paul Estabrooks & Jim Cunningham also wrote a book called "Standing Strong Through the Storm", this was written in response to asking Christians in regions of persecution: "What would you tell Christians who have never experienced persecution to do – or change – to be prepared to respond biblically?" I felt led to invite Paul Estabrooks to be a keynote speaker, he let Jim know and he decided to come to the conference as well. Paul and Jim will be doing a couple of sessions from "Standing Strong Through the Storm" at Intensive Training Day I "Great Commission Coaching" on Friday, see Intensive Training Day I for registration details. Paul will also speak on "Red Skies @ Dawn" at a Seminar on Saturday, see Seminars. (Purchase the books at Exhibit A-12.)

Our other keynote speakers for 2018 are Shoaib Ebadi from Square One World Media; Reverend Hyeon Soo Lim from Light Presbyterian Church, Mississauga and Maralee Dawn from Maralee Dawn Ministries. They will all be sharing their personal stories (see 2018 Keynote Speakers for their bios).

We welcome you to our 24th Conference. This is a family conference with children's ministry for ages 3 - 12, see Children's Page; and activities for youth and young adults starting Friday evening (see *Youth & Young Adult Activities*). Intensive Training Days I & II have amazing sessions and presenters (see *Intensive Training Days I & II*). The conference schedule provides all the details for the weekend. You will find additional information in the Table of Contents. Consider bringing others with you, using a bus, van or carpooling to provide transportation to West Edmonton Christian Assembly.

The organizations in the Exhibit Hall represent ministries ranging from local missions to provincial and national outreaches, international relief organizations, training schools, camps and support organizations. The Exhibit Hall feature areas are: *The Prayer Area and the Missions Search Centre* (see *2018 Exhibitor Features*.)

Missions Fest Alberta is supported financially a number of ways, see 2018 Financial Information for further information. Because of these sources of funds, there is no general registration fee required to attend the conference. There is a cost for only two events: Intensive Training Days I & II and the MFA Luncheon. The conference is facilitated by hundreds of volunteers annually, and we are thankful for those who dedicate their time and talent to serve each year. **Join in and experience the blessings!** (For areas of service, see *Volunteer Brochure*.)

What is God doing around the world? Through articles and reports at the conference, you will read and hear about the mighty moving of God and how millions are being reached with the Gospel. Let's keep our eyes focused on Jesus and be about the Father's business.

We hear amazing stories about how MFA has played an important role in bringing life-changing experiences to many people, altering the direction of their lives and helping them to become Kingdom-minded as they learn where God would have them get involved in the Great Harvest.

We would like to thank West Edmonton Christian Assembly, their Leadership Team, Board, Staff and Missions Committee for welcoming Missions Fest Alberta 2018. Join us as we pray for the conference; and please access the Prayer Bulletin, available on our website. Our spiritual preparation is vitally important! The Prayer Room is open throughout the weekend, and the prayer team is available in all Sessions and in the Exhibit Hall. Please pray that God will work mightily to accomplish His purposes in hearts and lives for the praise, honor, and glory of His own great Name. Take the challenge to pray for a nation for one year, see *Praying For The Nations*.

Our prayer is that Missions Fest Alberta 2018 will help you "Find Your Purpose, Make A Difference" (MFA Missions Statement). We look forward to seeing you and hearing about how you have been impacted. May God richly bless you as you seek to do His will and His work!

Until all have heard,

**Joan Hubert**