

## IMPETUS

DECEMBER 2018

Jesus Christ has a plan to reconcile all things to Himself.<sup>1</sup>

This reconciliation is based on amnesty: God forgives all people who accept Jesus Christ as the atoning sacrifice for all sin.<sup>2</sup>

This is how we know what love is, and it's the impetus that drives us to action. "Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."<sup>3</sup>

People who accept God's offer of amnesty, become citizens of God's

kingdom under the government of Jesus Christ. God has determined that The Kingdom must come. And it will last for ever.<sup>4</sup>

"The kingdom of God is wherever Jesus is king! If Jesus is king in your heart, the kingdom of God is within you. Because Jesus is king in heaven, then the kingdom of God is also in heaven."<sup>5</sup>

In supremacy by virtue of authority, and pre-eminence based on rank, Jesus Christ stands alone in matchless universal sovereignty.<sup>6</sup>

By the definition of Deity, it is impossible for God to revoke the promises of the kingdom, back down

on His plans, or scale back His program for it. The invincibility of the kingdom of Jesus Christ is a source of tremendous courage, and it energizes our relentless commitment to serve others on His behalf. **The life and example of Jesus Christ work powerfully to drive the mission of EMAS Canada: to heal, teach and serve those in need in a Christ-like manner.**

Dr. Peter Agwa  
Executive Director



1. Col. 1:19,20;
2. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19
3. 2 Cor. 5:14-15
4. Isaiah 9:7;
5. Dr. Warren R. Introduction "The Kingdom Life", Navpress 2010 p.7.; Luke 17:21; Psalm 103:19
6. Matt 28:18 & Phil. 2:9-11



## COMPASSION LEADS US TO ACTION

*"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."* (Matt. 9: 36)

Jesus responded to the needs of the people around Him. He healed all manner of diseases, He fed the

hungry, and He announced the good news of the Kingdom of God. (Matt 4:17)

During the last Myanmar medical team's visit, in a remote village in a mountainous region near the town of Lashio Dr. Scholtens noticed a two and half year-old boy who needed to

be carried by his mother all day long! As a result, the mother suffered from back pain. Since birth, the child had been almost unresponsive, lacking muscle control and unable to walk or sit without support. Living in extreme poverty, it was unlikely this little boy's needs would get attention.

# COMPASSION LEADS US TO ACTION

(Continued)

“We, the westerners, were moved to tears, reflecting on this mother and child’s current situation, but more, what the future held for them.” Dr. Scholtens said. “They live in this little village, far away from any medical help. The unpaved village roads are uneven. Mom won’t be able to continue to carry this child as he grows, wheelchair won’t work in this environment. May God have mercy on them.”

The team discussed how it could help: Perhaps a cart could be custom-made in Myanmar, or maybe a solution could be found in Canada. Back in Ontario, Gary Aikema, a builder and practical man who was part of the team observed how a jogging stroller, with big wheels, would be perfect for rough rural roads.

Gary found a stroller which would support up to 80 lbs. He also bought a bicycle tire pump in case the tires went flat from daily use. Now, how were they to get it to Myanmar? Months later, God provided a Canadian volunteer in Vancouver BC willing to take the stroller to Yangon City, Myanmar. Gary reached out to a friend in the shipping business and got the stroller to Vancouver at no charge. The final leg of the stroller’s journey from Yangon to the outskirts

of Lashio was a miracle of God’s providence. A local pastor happened to be in Yangon just when the stroller arrived in the country! And he agreed to take it with him back to the family who needed it. The stroller passed from person to person until it finally reached the woman and her son.



Right: Mother and Child, with stroller

impressed me. I wasn’t sure what to expect in terms of their knowledge and skills. I soon realized they were on par with any Canadian student at their level of training. Their enthusiasm, work ethic, and willingness to learn was quite remarkable.” said Dr. More MD CCFP. “The students said over and over how this elective would help them in their further training by giving them hands-on clinical work and instruction that they otherwise had not yet had in their training. It was my privilege to see these young people grow over the weeks we worked together. I’m proud to call them colleagues in the medical profession and would serve with them at a moment’s notice.”

Dr Marion MD CCFP added, “I found that working alongside Haitian medical and nursing students was truly rewarding. This was not only a learning experience for the students, but was also a learning experience for us; the mentors: learning about the Haitian medical system, the Haitian culture, and the values they hold of friendship, community and family. I was truly blown away by how 12 students, who did not all know each other prior to the elective, were able to grow this much together and form such tight knit bonds after just three weeks. How they were able to form a community and support each other through the challenges they met throughout the three weeks. After teaching this wonderful group of students and working alongside them, I can truly say that we were able to work hand in hand with our Haitian friends, whom I feel I can now also call family.”

On the northern extreme of Haiti another EMAS team has been teaching and preparing national healthcare providers for service. The Gambade Team trains Traditional Birth Attendants. (TBA) and Health Agents.

## TEACHING

**In southern Haiti the inaugural Université Lumière Interprofessional Student Elective initiative kicked off in February 2018.** It was the fourteenth EMAS Canada Hand in Hand with Haiti trip. After a year of planning the team arrived in Port-Au-Prince to offer six medical students and six nursing students from Université Lumière the opportunity to participate in a hands-on student elective.

Two members of the EMAS Team arrived a week ahead of the rest of the team to provide orientation teaching sessions to these local health care students to ensure that they were prepared to set up and manage the mobile clinic on the first working day. The students attended 10 full clinic days under the mentorship of Dr Plourde, Dr Marion, and Dr More. All students passed their elective and were presented with University of Manitoba certificate.

“And the Haitian students really



Left: Mother and child at the clinic



In March a teaching team of two Canadian maternity nurses in partnership with a Haitian obstetrician spent three days training traditional birth attendants and health agents in prenatal care, delivery, and post-delivery care. Using videos and model simulations they helped the participants learn and practice the techniques required for safer deliveries. Five expectant women also volunteered so that the TBA's could practice learned skills on real patients. 9 TBA's and 6 health agents took part in the program. This is an ongoing program.



photo: Teaching TBA's and Health agents in Gambade Haiti

Investing in these students and TBA's, we are making an impact in the quality of healthcare for present and future Haitians.

Aside from meeting the dental needs of 720 patients, the interdisciplinary nature of EMAS teams enabled the Zimbabwe dental team to empower 100 local church leaders and their spouses. In collaboration with Oakville Harvest Bible Church, the 2018 team offered a one-week theological training program



**EMAS Canada's activities are funded largely by donations made by team members who serve voluntarily and are also our main donors. Your monthly donations to the general fund will enable all our teams to plan for and prepare for 2019 and future missions. To set up monthly donations or to make a one-time donation, please contact: [office@emascanada.org](mailto:office@emascanada.org)**

## HEALING

China South Teams are an example of how the long-term commitment of leaders and teams has built trust for ongoing service. Every year for the past 25 years the China South team has brought healing in Kunming through surgical care for patients with burns, contractures and congenital abnormalities.

On Sept. 9, 2018 more than 200 guests gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the team's ministry and God's faithfulness. People traveled from across Canada: Vancouver and Ottawa and even overseas from the UK. Everyone gave thanks and worshiped our Lord for His blessings with songs, video

presentations, and testimonies from team members and patients.

In 1993 the team had seven members. Now we have 155 members. To date nearly 700 have been on healing missions as part of the China South team. From the original one team, there are now three functional units. Nearly 4,000 patients have received life changing care given on behalf of Jesus. Many patients and healthcare professionals in China heard about the God who loves enough to care for our disabilities and diseases. As for the team's budget: God has grown that from zero dollars 25 years ago, to \$350,000 in 2018.



Photo: China South 25 Year Celebration L to R: Dr. Keith Kwok, Evelyn Lau, Dr. Lawrence Lau, Dr. Tony Marriott, Susanna Yu and Margaret Lee..

# NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

## DONORS PLEASE NOTE

Because our volunteer team leaders are our fundraisers, they may receive contact information for donors to their team. We do not disclose private financial information. If you would like to opt out of this practice and would prefer we do not share your information, please check the box on your donation card or contact Sandy at the office.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & TEAM LEADERS RETREAT

Toronto, April 12th-14th 2019.



Did you know you can donate your AirMiles to EMAS? Transfer them to AirMiles # 8900 512 1314.

## RIDE FOR REFUGE UPDATE

\$15,767 raised by 3 teams, 27 participants and 191 donors.

Funds will go to Gambade, Myanmar and our General Fund, where most needed.



Ride for Refuge Myanmar contingent. 2018

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
FROM THE  
EMAS CANADA  
OFFICE**



## THANK YOU TO DR. IAN MA



We wish to thank Dr Ian Ma for his 28 years as volunteer team leader of our China West team. His leadership over these years has promoted the EMAS Canada mission to share God's love by providing medical aid and being the hands and feet of Jesus to many in China. Dr Ma passes the baton into the capable hands of Dr Vincent Wang and Isaac Yeung.

## UPCOMING MISSIONS

### ECUADOR

Jan. 29 - Feb. 6, 2019

### HAND IN HAND WITH HAITI

Feb. 13 - March 6, 2019

### VIETNAM

Feb. 17 - March 3, 2019

### ZIMBABWE

March 28 - April 11, 2019

### CHINA SOUTH SURGICAL

May 2019

### CHINA WEST

June 17 - 30, 2019\*

\*Tentative

For more information go to: <http://www.emascanada.org/join-us/upcoming/>

## GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

If you would like to volunteer to serve locally or abroad with EMAS Canada there are several opportunities available.

To volunteer, please contact Peter Agwa: [peter@emascanada.org](mailto:peter@emascanada.org)

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BLOG

<https://www.emascanada.org/ed/>



Find out more at  
[giveconfidently.ca](http://giveconfidently.ca)

## YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Your donations and prayers make all the difference. Many receive the healthcare they need because of you.

## THANK YOU!

To donate Online go to:  
<http://www.emascanada.org/donate/>

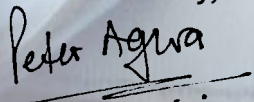
# IMPETUS

We do medical missions because we are moved by the generosity of our Lord Jesus; He became poor to make us rich. (2 Cor. 8:9)

Join us in reaching our goal of \$120,000.00 in unrestricted donations for 2019.

Please make a one-time gift or become a monthly donor.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Agwa, Executive Director



**EMAS**  
CANADA



# THANK YOU

**Please return the enclosed mail-back card with your donation.**

**You can also make your donation online at <https://www.emascanada.org/donate/>  
Apply your donation to the Overseas Ministry Support Fund under Donation Details.**

Receipts will be mailed to you promptly



[www.emascanada.org](http://www.emascanada.org)