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March/April 2022 Newsletter

Praise the Lord for His endless love and guidance as we work towards building capacity of Christ centered educational institutions in Ethiopia!

Lent reflection... During this season of lent, to help us focus on repentance and reflection, we have been meditating on Psalm 25:4 “Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.” and using the second paragraph below taken from the Liturgy for Reflection used by Global Trellis – “Liturgy for Reflection on One Year and Preparing for the Next”.

*“As I reflect on the year that’s passed
Open my eyes to see how
Your hand was at work
In every situation
That my heart might respond
In worship to you, God
For in every loss
You are worthy of praise,
You who make all things beautiful
In your time”*

Prayerfully wishing you a blessed Lent.

Building Capacity 2022... Seminar 2022 activities “Building Champions for Life” are progressing well. We continue to work closely with the

authors of “Timeless Leadership Principles – Building Champions for life” Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier and Mr. Jim Kunau. One of the direct outcomes of this effort is the move towards designing a Christ centered individualized coaching program for leaders. That is, by creating a platform, utilizing the individual’s spiritual and professional growth plan, to facilitate personal and organizational success for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To help us design, individually tailored (IT) one-on-one mentoring/coaching model, as a pilot, we have begun the process of offering IT coaching sessions. Serving at this capacity, utilizing both spiritual and professional experiences in equipping brothers and sisters who know The Lord is rewarding and humbling. I now can see application of my 30+ years, professional journey to serve The Lord in the mission field.

As our ministry focuses on Psalm 25:4 “Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.” during this Lent season, I am grateful to The Lord for leading me to this phase in serving Him and for opening my eyes to see what He is doing through this ministry. **Thank you for your prayers and support!**

Virtual Seminar... the March seminar was on “Unleash the Power of Purpose”. Our presenter **Mr. Jim Kunau** is an accomplished coach, educator, and leader both at the high



school and university level for over thirty years. In addition, he has spent several years teaching in the Concordia University Irvine’s Master in Coaching and Athletic Administration program helping to develop transformational coaches and leaders in athletics. We are grateful for his willingness to share his talent and experience to be part of building capacity of current and future leaders at Mekane Yesus Seminar (MYS), Mekane Yesus Management and Leadership College Addis Ababa (MYMLC-AA), and Meakne Yesus Management and Leadership College– Bishoftu (MYMLC-B).

Although the entire seminar was highly educational, one area that spoke to me personally was the section on “*the common purpose we all share as Christians*”. That is “*the Great Commission, Cultural Commission and Character*

Commission". In describing Cultural Commission – *"whatever culture, society, wherever we happened to find ourselves, wherever He has deliberately placed us on this earth; that we are to be the salt and light, that we are to affect and infect the culture with the love and grace of Jesus."* In addition, his explanation regarding purpose, *"something compelling that drives us, motivates us, inspires us, to continue onward in a noble and worthy manner way pursuing something that the Lord has placed in our hearts and our minds."*, and the two primary components - vision and mission, **using relevant cultural and spiritual examples.**

Mr. Kunau's concluding section message was on *"Overcoming Obstacles to Your Purpose – James 1:2-6"* emphasizing that *"every great and noble purpose is rooted in our faith in Christ. And so, we go forth with the confidence knowing who ultimately has control of everything and we hand it to Him with full faith and trust that He will be with us and help us in every situation"*. We were blessed with the entire seminar and **thankful** for his humble, educational, and genuine contribution to equip and encourage brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our ministry continues to seek out individuals like Dr. Schlichtemeier and Mr. Kunau in building capacity and equipping current and future leaders to serve the church in advancing the Kingdom's work where The Lord has placed them. Furthermore, with the current situation of the world around us, at times, it is hard to focus and see

God's purpose in our lives. However, as the Apostle Paul encouraged the Christians in Philippi - Philippians 1:6,



ESV: *"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."* And in Philippians 3:14, ESV *"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* We too are encouraged, and we press on prayerfully seeking His guidance in fulfilling His purpose through our lives.

In closing, I would like to share with you one of my favorite sections from *"Timeless Leadership Principles – Building Champions for life"* book authored by Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier and Mr. Jim Kunau.

"The best leaders are in the "people growing business." As you think about the vision for your life and for your organization, it is compelling to remember that sociologists believe even the most introverted person will influence 10,000 others in their lifetime. Our lives are like great rivers, reaching places their sources never know. You could stand at the headwaters of the river representing your life and see its immediate impact, but you cannot see the hundreds of additional miles the 'river' of your life will flow with all its offshoots, tributaries, and streams. This humbling realization heightens the importance of personal stewardship. Whatever we pour into our own headwaters will be carried downstream into the lives of many others. We have the responsibility to

keep the pollutants away from ourselves and, by extension, from those we touch downstream."

Thus, our ministry's goal and prayer for 2022, through *"Building Champions for Life"* activities, is driven by realizing that leaders are not only leading for now but laying the groundwork for sustainable leaders that will last for generations. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Please pray for:

- The People of Ethiopia,
- Rebuilding of MYS efforts,
- Funding towards expansion of dormitory at MYMLC-B,
- Coordination efforts of Spring 2022 Leadership Seminars,
- Leadership team, faculty, and students at MYS, MYMLC-AA and MYMLC -B,
- Renewed energy and health while navigating ministry work in 2022,
- New partners to support his ministry and fund-raising efforts,
- Upcoming new ministry opportunities in leadership training.

To provide tax deductible gift to support this mission work, please go to

<https://missionofchrist.org/service/kinde-haragewen> Or send your gift to the address below and specify the support is for:

Haragewen Abraham Kinde Mission Partner in Ethiopia work.

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