



## Urban Christian Outreach (Ottawa)

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Update #87

November, 2021

Dear Friends-in-Christ,

Christ's Blessings to you! We hope that you are well. Thank you for your ongoing support of our ministry work! We are carrying on through this pandemic, as Christian soldiers, trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

By Grace, I have been in the habit of waking early, usually at around 4 a.m, to pray and to have quiet time with God. However, lately I have been sleeping in! What a joy it was this morning when the Holy Spirit woke me at 5:00 a.m. and put a hymn on my heart. Don't you love it when he does that? I was filled me with that beautiful **Peace that passes all understanding**.

The hymn was, 'Here I Am, Lord' by Dan Schutte, and I remembered that God had also put this same hymn on my heart, over and over, when he first called me to work with the poor many years ago. I remember being reduced to tears hearing it at the time. You may be familiar with it:

### ***Here I Am, Lord***

*by David Schutte*

*"I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?"*

*Here I am Lord; Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain  
I have borne my people's pain  
I have wept for love of them  
They turn away  
I will break their hearts of stone  
Give them hearts for love alone  
I will speak my words to them  
Whom shall I send?"*

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go Lord, if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend  
the poor and lame. I will set a feast for  
them, my hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied, I will give my life to them, whom shall I send?*

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.”*

Jesus is the Peace that can change the world, but we must respond! Can you imagine what our world would be like if everyone had the Peace of Christ within them? Is this not what we all long for, especially as our world struggles with new disease variants? Those we encounter on the sidewalks are seeking this Peace, but sadly many turn to drugs, alcohol, and other addictive substances to fill this void.

***Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved. Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Philippians 4:1, 4-5***

We are grieving the loss of one of our dear friends of Urban Christian Outreach, but celebrating that he is in Paradise with Jesus! We had the pleasure of working with him for many years, as he struggled with poverty, addiction, poor health, and homelessness. By Grace, we were able to share the love of Christ with him and I was able to visit him many times in the hospital. Although he was poor himself, and confined to a wheelchair, he had such a beautiful heart for helping others. Praise God for his life and example!

Despite being in the middle of a pandemic, the Lord blessed us financially in abundance in 2020.

However, 2021 has been a challenging year, and so we appeal to you for your help, as we put our hope and trust in the Lord to provide.

With the blessing of our Board of Directors, we feel that God is calling me to take a one year Sabbatical in March 2022. During this time, I hope to devote myself to the Lord, in a time of rest, refreshment, and contemplative prayer, and to revisit the calling of planting a Christian Community for the poor, with a residential treatment centre for healing. God is raising up people, including former and current Board members and volunteers, to carry on the work while I am away. More information will be sent in our March update. We would so appreciate your prayers and donations during this time.

May our Precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, fill you and your loved ones with Peace and Joy as we celebrate his birth, and by Grace, may we all be born again this Christmas morning.

**O Come Let Us Adore Him!**

Jill

**How to Donate:**

1. By **Interac e-transfer** to: [donate@urbanchristianoutreach.ca](mailto:donate@urbanchristianoutreach.ca)
2. **By mail**, send a cheque to:  
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