



The Evangelical Covenant Church

November 2018

To All Covenant Congregations

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace to you as you gather for your congregational Annual Meeting/Celebration. It is a joy to greet you on behalf of the entire Evangelical Covenant Church. I am deeply grateful for our partnership in the whole Gospel. We join as mission friends to *proclaim* and *demonstrate* the good news of Jesus.

As we live into this partnership, I want to call the entire church to a renewed emphasis on the Holy Spirit. A conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit is one of our six core Covenant Affirmations. My prayer for each church in the Covenant – for your church – is that your reliance on the Spirit of the living God would continue to grow stronger.

Our mission is to join with God in God's mission to see more disciples, among more populations, in a more caring and just world.

Local Covenant congregations, regional Conferences, and the entire Covenant denomination are seeking to live and serve faithfully in what some term a post-Christian society. We are mindful of the challenges, but I remain enthusiastic about the great opportunities we have to share the Gospel in word and deed. More than 875 Covenant congregations in Canada and the United States are serving locally and partnering together to impact over 2.5 million lives, in over 40 countries, on five continents. Our kingdom impact is only possible through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit working in and among us.

As you gather to celebrate this past year of ministry and plan for the year ahead, remember that you are partners in ministry with many other Covenanters. Most importantly, know that the Holy Spirit will continue to comfort, strengthen, unify, and instruct you. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit continue to lead us deeper in Christ and further in mission.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

In Christ's Love,

John S. Wenrich
President