

CLC 2015 Central Region grows in its Spirit, its Community and its Mission.

Greetings to all Members of CLC. As Advent approaches, Central can truly reflect all of the rich experiences of faith, hope and love we can recall from the past year. As we grow in our awareness of how often we meet the Lord in everyday life and how blest we are each and every day, our humility grows as we recognize how the Holy Spirit enters the picture and fills us with its wisdom and grace, bringing us reconciliation and inspiration.

Central Region has been on the move in 2015. Starting with our “Mea Culpa” for not submitting our donations to National, we ask the forgiveness of CLC Canada and hope we do better in the future. In our most recent Regional Assembly, we unanimously approved to submit past dues, in gratitude for the patience of the National Assembly. We are beginning to understand better where our disposition affects National, the World CLC and the World at large. This concept of co-responsibility is truly mindboggling for some as it is so difficult to harmonize Spirituality with Financial responsibility. We have concentrated on personal sharing of our relationship with Christ so much that we have become out of balance for our other Pillar of Community and Mission.

Central CREXCO followed the signs and chose “Family” for our Theme at our Regional Assembly. The non-conforming ideas of family were explored and more appreciation of the stories of individual witnesses brought us to greater understanding of the many differences that can be found in family formation and how Jesus is present in any of those dynamics. Indeed we felt blest and more unified in the Holy Spirit as we all left for home. A final celebration occurred with the commitment of more than 12 members at the meeting. There was much celebration.

Of course, the Formation Team has undergone rigorous transformation last year as many members took on the responsibilities of hosting in first stage, or leading through second stage or supporting in third stage, all under the wise oversight of our Liaison to CREXCO, Peter Nightingale and his wife, Elaine. SKYPE communities have been developed, which gave another option to those persons in Diaspora who might be looking for a community or those who live very remotely from each other. They plan an annual face to face meeting instead where possible.

The Coordinator of Community position and Treasurer position was assumed by an entire community, Upper Room. With mentoring, they developed and managed the CREXCO meetings in a smooth continuum while sharing the responsibilities. This one year experiment has come to an end and Central is hoping that another community might step up to the plate or support and help a member who is interested in this role. We ask for the prayers of CLC Canada.

Another real treat occurred recently when the KW cluster met at St. Brigid's Villa at the Jesuit Loyola Centre in Guelph, to explore and experience the blessings to be found in the letters of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our Animator was Jack Milan, a former President of US CLC and a dynamic support to the first CLC communities in the Region. Such a day can not be forgotten as it has inspired a desire to repeat this kind of meeting, where we feel we are still walking in the shoes of Ignatius after all these centuries.

Finally we look forward to our next Central Region Council Meeting in May as we are currently developing a working group to create and or update our Mission Statement.

Life is full and there are so many opportunities to meet the Lord every day, every moment. Central Region takes all of you into its prayer this Advent and ask you for yours. We are all in this together, one body in Christ.