



# Dance for Children and Youth

*April 2018*



*Photo: Clay Dance Company, Uganda*

How precious are the young ones in God's sight. They have so much to learn, explore and discover. For them life can be an adventure and it is our responsibility as adults not to quench their spirits but to nurture and to give encouragement where we are placed in God's vineyard. They have the ability, same as any adult, to hear God's voice and to make a difference in God's Kingdom as is illustrated in the following testimony given by Belma Vardy:

Have you ever woken up so discouraged and said to the Lord, "All I want is a hug from You today".....

I went to church and had a hard time getting into worship—as I felt heavy in my heart. I sat down during the offering and then it was as if I felt two hands on either side of my face turning my head to the right back hand side of the church. I saw a little four year old boy sitting on his mother's lap and watched as he jumped off her lap, ran along the wall, stood in front of me, looked deep into my eyes — it was like those eyes looked through me—like Jesus Himself looking at me and said, "I came to give you a hug!" I opened up my arms and as this little boy hugged me I felt something impart into me. He then released me, jumped back and said, "I have to go back to my Mommy now!" and I watched him run back and jump back on his mother's lap.

God wants to use children to speak for Him, sometimes just to hug for Him. The embrace of a child, sometimes exactly at the right time, can heal a broken heart. Children are so dear and precious and I pray we can receive from children, just as they receive from us.

Do you need a hug from Jesus today? Where ever you might be—open up your arms and receive a hug from Jesus. I pray Jesus would give a special touch to you. The Lord is faithful, He will strengthen and protect you. Psalm 31 ... "The Lord preserves the faithful. Be strong and take heart all you who hope in the Lord."

# Network for Dance for Children

The Children's Dance Network is for all who are or would like to be involved with teaching and leading children in Christian dance. We aim to hold regular (every six months) networking cyberforums so that we can share ideas, teaching methods, learn from one another's personal experiences in teaching children, share dances, share resources.....and most of all share our hearts. We desire to be available to mentor those who would like to serve in this area of ministry within their church, other Christian organisations, school, or community.

We are looking for a person with a passion for children to join Belma Vardy as Network Leader. If you feel called to this position please mail us at [icdfworld@gmail.com](mailto:icdfworld@gmail.com)

To find out more ... <http://icdf.com/en/networks/dance-children>

Facebook ... [Dance For Children - International Christian Dance Fellowship](#)

Blog ... <https://icdfnetworks.wordpress.com/category/childrens-dance/>

## Children in Church ... Dance

*There are many ways for Children to Dance in Church. Some churches have Children's Dance Groups that meet mid week or before Church. Some work on choreographies for presentation. Some have Dance Schools where children learn to dance and prepare technically for examinations. Some use dance to reach out to children in the community - through dance and fun showing the love and joy of Jesus. The question I've been asked is, 'What did we do?'*

My work in dance with children in church started seriously when I was asked to coordinate our Church's Children's Ministry. Dance was already an accepted part of worship in Church and, at this point, became a natural part of our teaching programme with children. The purpose for us was to give tools to the children for their time in church services, especially tools for worship and prayer. We also explored dance in storytelling.



It wasn't about performance, it was about worship.

All of the church children were taught about the place of dance in personal worship in church and also in leading of worship through dance. When in church, there was space for them to dance in their own worship. There was also space to dance when presenting. Personal worship, then, was the foundation for any presentation as we were preparing the children to be 'worshippers'.

How did we do it?

- we taught creative dance, dancing with flags, ribbons, dowel rod and staffs with all children. The children who went to dance classes outside of church, brought their ballet, freestyle, etc
- we created choreographed pieces with the children ... not always for presentation but as part of their teaching programme. We used dance, props, puppets and parachute in creative storytelling
- we modelled dance as we were dancing in our own worship

In addition

- we provided opportunity for the creative arts ... in clay, painting, writing, cooking ... using these also from time to time in church as part of our response / prayer especially in all-age services
- we taught the children about missions
- we taught the children to pray

Alongside this, we were also teaching on the Gifts of the Spirit, likening these to 'a toolbox' ... the Gifts were given by the Holy Spirit and were available for children as well as adults - that God would use them now, as children, in ministry. The Fruit of the Spirit was also taught as we made application for living our lives for Jesus.

I am no longer involved in the Children's Ministry at this Church but dance lives on in the church and the children have opportunity to dance in their worship. Two of the children, now young people, danced with their parents at their baptism and confirmation service. We have much for praise!

This is our story. I will look forward to hearing yours! If you would like to share about "how you do dance" for children in your church, please email me at [icdfworld@gmail.com](mailto:icdfworld@gmail.com) and I will have your story posted to the Networks Blogs.

*Jan Dyer*

# The Children of Kwadacha

*Belma Vardy is well-known in ICDF for the work she is doing among the First Nation people living on the Reservations in Canada. In this contribution she shares about her recent experiences with a group of children.*

I work a lot with the First Nations children on the Reservations. This past summer my co-worker, Becky Thomas, and I were teaching children on the Reservation.

One of the villages we flew into is called Kwadacha which consists of 350 people in a remote area in the middle of nowhere—2 hours south of the Yukon River. A huge trading area, lots of animals, traplines set around many lakes and rivers, this Reserve is situated on the Finley River. Originally all the people of Kwadacha were the outcasts of other tribes and independent of each other. If you couldn't live peaceably with your tribe you were taken off the territory and brought here to live because it was so inaccessible. Everyone from this village had been expelled from their tribe and no one got along. Think of the wild west—it was that type of atmosphere. Back in the day when people were expelled from Australia and sent to Britain to be put into prison—Native people didn't have prisons so they all ended up in this territory — “no man's land” and settled here.

When the government became aware of the people living here, they started sending in planes to round up the children and take them to Residential School. Every Christmas they would return the children and leave them by the river. So one man built a cabin along the river so he could be there when his children came home. The rest of the families began to build in the same area so they became loosely connected just based on the fact they were all waiting for their children to come home. Sad thing is not all these children ever made it home. The children that did make it back are now all the elders and descendants. Even from the air one could see the depression and poverty that had gripped this village. Every house had 2 or more windows smashed in which is the result of people drinking and then throwing their bottles through the windows.



*Children on the last day walking home with the ukuleles on their back carrying their flags*

When we arrived on Kwadacha Nation, the Chief was there to greet us and welcome us on to his land. We could see the children and youth coming through the wilderness to greet us. Within an hour of landing we started teaching the children and youth. Becky taught ukulele and I taught Hawaiian and worship dance. Every morning Jeanie and Henry, a couple who had driven up with our props, would pick up all the children and bring them to the church where we were teaching. Jeanie and Henry had brought \$1000 worth of food as their love offering to both these villages and would feed the children and youth a healthy breakfast so they would be energized for their ukulele and dance classes. Part-way through the week we piled all 40 children into different vehicles and we took them to a place called Sucker Lake where they got baptized.

Every day the children and youth came to class more excited than the day before. At the end of the week they did a presentation of ukulele songs and dances. Most parents did not show as they were either fighting hang overs from the night before or had started their drinking early for the night. It was heartbreaking to see the longing in the children's eyes and then to see the disappointment written all over their faces when the parents never walked through the door.

Nevertheless they did a fabulous job —had so much fun—their favourite song being a rocky version of “Jesus Loves Me”. The children screeched, laughed and jumped up and down a lot doing that song.

After the presentation there was another feast of food provided by Jeanie and Henry. As our time came to an end, we gifted the children with a ukulele and songbook, Hawaiian grass skirts with leis and flowers, beautiful shawls for the girls, flags for the boys, and T shirts for all. We left behind Becky's music and many of my books. With many hugs, kisses and tears our good byes were said and we watched the children walk back to their homes, ukuleles on their back, wearing their shawls, grass skirts and leis and carrying their flags.

What Becky and I were most excited about on this trip was being able to put tools into the hands of the people —the combination of my story and Becky's music —to be able to leave behind tools to help them worship and to heal.

I share this story as dance does not always have the same look, is not always done in a classroom or out for evangelism - but sometimes takes us into the most remote places to bring a little bit of joy and restoration. We pray that our Creator—Father God—continue to pour out His blessings upon “children in dance”.

*Belma Vardy*

## DA:NCE

ICDF is a supporter of DA:NCE(dance awareness: no child exploited) that endeavours to protect children from an unsafe dance environment and speaks out against the hyper-sexualization of children in dance. For more information go to <http://www.icdf.com/en/publications-inspire> and download the document "da:nce: educational or sexualized?" by Mary Bawden

# Network for Youth Dance

Just over a year ago I began exploring the possibility of starting of an ICDF Network for Youth Dance. I found this idea really exciting as I have a real heart for seeing young Christian dancers encouraged to use their skills. The main platform for connecting with the Network is the Facebook Group. This has been growing really well. The next step is to increase the interaction so we can start connecting, enabling members to share, fellowship and support.

If you are a young dancer or have contact with young dancers please join the group, if you haven't already, and comment on some of the questions and posts that I am going to be sharing over the next few weeks and months. In addition, please get in touch with me directly if you have any questions or just want to share testimonies and experiences. Let's start to share what exciting things God is doing with the youth.

Facebook Group ... <https://www.facebook.com/ICDF-Youth-Network-1841914606071797/>  
email ... [youth.icdf@gmail.com](mailto:youth.icdf@gmail.com)

*Steven Turner*

## Testimony: Aligning the past, present and the future

*For countless youth the dance company has been a place of refuge and growth. Here we have the testimony of Jacquynne Tumusiime from Uganda, who now is one of our youngest Country Representatives in ICDF. She speaks about her growth as a dancer in her youth, a Christian and more recently as a leader.*

One cannot harvest what hasn't been tilled. We don't have many seasons in Uganda except for hot and rainy seasons. These seasons in the recent past all co-exist. We go from a heavy down pour in the morning to a very hot afternoon and vice versa. But the season of autumn for me resounds harvest. This is a season for dance in Uganda to harvest what has been tilled and cultivated in ministry through the year.

I come from a nation that thinks everyone can dance. The thought of dance in a learning setting get many laughing and wondering how that is possible. We can't blame them. No! I honour the anointing of those that have gone before us in dance. Those that bore the scorn and held the banners high. I honour the men and women of God that gave us opportunities to experience dance beyond the traditions and forms of expressions we knew. The churches, projects and festivals that opened their doors for our learning and allowed us as youth to take to the pulpit and minister. Those that believed in us and even those that didn't. They all gave us a drive to keep going.

Something new is happening in dance here in Uganda. As a language, now more than ever dance in Uganda is uniting churches, families and giving many a sense of belonging. First dance in churches just drew youth to Christ. I am one of the youth that stumbled into a church building and never left. My purposes and divine calling started in dance.

I can witness to many destinies aligned through dance from the testimonies I have heard over the years. One such phenomena is with Clay Dance Company, a dance group that mentored me for the most part of my dance life. Many over the last 10 years have testified that when they joined in dance, they felt loved, belonged to a family, and discovered their potential through dance. They felt like they belonged to a family of Christian believers that accepted them. Such is the story of Clay Dance Co.

We all come from all walks of life and Clay Dance Co. became a home and nurtured us in all varied abilities, callings and purposes. I have said this before and will say it again, my background in dance made multimedia and live production a breeze of a success. The dancer on stage and the excellent behind the scenes person I later became showed forth much fruit to the glory of God.

It is this same fruit that got me yearning to see more in dance and out of media as I pursued an unknown path, pushing my limits into dance education and now creative arts education. I am amazed every day and I could go on and on.

But let's get back to the point here, dance in churches in Uganda is part of the huge revival. First with uniting churches and then getting into another level of ministration. We have come from a place of ministration where many are touched and are entering a place where lives are changed; lives of those that came for healing, restoration and redemption are changed forever. This for me is a prophetic word we already have spoken. By the leading of Holy Spirit as we yield to the truths of the Word, it has to and should manifest its designed power for the completion and fulfilment of our purposes in worship unto Christ Jesus.

When we take to the pulpits this year, as our destinies are aligned the congregation will be aligned too, broken bones will be restored and hearts will be mended. As a minister in dance specifically in administration, I have the honour to build on the foundations we have in dance worship, dance education and later creative arts education in my country. ICDF gives me such joy to serve in this capacity. For this year our focus will be Unity of the Church. ICDF Uganda will host inter-church workshops where dancers will be sharing and learning from one another, in the Word, dance worship and prayer for the glory of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

*Jacquynne Tumusiime*



Photos: Clay Dance Company, Uganda

# CDFB: A Fellowship for All Ages

*The Christian Dance Fellowship of Britain was the first ICDF country to recognise that the youth needed a special focus and place within the fellowship. This was achieved many years ago by appointing a National Youth Coordinator. The present coordinator is Steven Turner. Steven writes ...*

Photo: Provided by Steven Turner



For a few years now I have been the National Youth Coordinator of CDF Britain. Over this time it has been my privilege to represent young people's opinions on National Committee and teach Youth workshops all over England. Through the Youth Leaders' training course I completed a few years back, I gained tools that enabled me to take on board the opinions of young people and then represent them to the wider community.

One of the biggest strengths in CDFB is the diversity of people that it contains, on the other hand this also creates its challenges. Over time culture changes - from the dance performance styles used, to the means of communication that the youth of today use. However, having said that, the best "youth workshops" I have taught have been when we have all ages there.

With the pace of modern day life, I have found that it is best to use lots of different styles and techniques in a dance day for young people and keep moving. The key is to develop a safe working environment where everyone is having fun and, when this is done, then you can get people interacting across the age spectrum and learning from each other.

*Steven Turner*

## Interview: Paulo Martinez

*Who are the youth in dance? What are their profiles? Looking for a young dancer to interview for the newsletter, we found that our timing was perfect as we heard that such a person was already in the sights of Lucy Jarasius who lives in Sydney, Australia.*

Paulo Martinez, now in his mid-twenties, is a faithful member of Living Bread Ministries, Wesleyan Methodist Church at Mt Druitt, Western Sydney, NSW Australia. He has been a welcome participant in The New Thing (TNT), ICDF's recent initiative in Australia which, this year, is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the first Christian Dance Fellowship ever by Sydney-based Rev Mary Jones.

During the "Brill Drill" segment of February 11th's TNT afternoon gathering, Paulo was brave enough to be subjected to a barrage of interview questions designed to hassle brilliant interviewees for information, wisdom, and inspiration... not to mention, just for the fun of it!

### **snapshots**

**Favourite colour?** Blue

**Preferred beverage?** Coconut juice or Aloe Vera drink

**Least-liked food?** Durian & Chicken Liver

**Music/song at the top of your playlist right now?** Earth, Wind and Fire - September

**Place you feel most relaxed?** Anywhere spacious where I can be alone. A park, pool or somewhere with a great view.

### **serious big shots**

***I've heard you're a dance-minister... when, where, why, and for how long?***

I was introduced to hip hop dancing in my teenage years and from then on I was hooked to dance in general. From about when I was 15 till about 22 I was dancing 3-4 times a week. It ranged from being in dance competitions, being a part of a dance crew, attending dance classes, teaching dance classes and eventually heading up a dance ministry in my local church. Dance was not only fun, social, healthy and challenging, but became a great outlet for me to express myself and to glorify God.

***Can you tell us a funny/embarrassing incident that happened one time when you were performing?***

I can think of two particular moments which were definitely embarrassing at the time.

The first one was a performance at a shopping centre. There was a particular part of this dance that involved partner dancing between a girl and a guy, myself being the guy. Unfortunately right before the set, my female companion injured herself. This left me doing a partner dance for almost a whole minute without an actual partner ... hahaha

The second one involved a dance video I filmed. Halfway during the filming my pants ripped in half right down the middle. Luckily I had spare shorts in the car however for anyone who looked closely at my dance video, my bottoms continually change through the video due to the editing ...hahaha

***Do you have any creative goals for 2018?***

I definitely want to revisit my passion for dance and ease back into it. This might involve helping facilitate other dancers or myself dancing, whether that be a live performance or a video.

***How do you think ICDF in Australia's The New Thing (TNT) will help you achieve them?***

I believe ICDF offers great support, accountability and inspiration. As creatives, it sometimes feels like we are expected to follow the norm. God calls us to be passionate people, who break out of the mould. I know that when like-minded people gather for God's glory, great things are going to happen.

*Lucy Jarasius*

Link to a film clip from Paulo's past

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YP\\_e0VY81sA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YP_e0VY81sA)

# Spotlight

## on the Caribbean and Americas



### ICDF Cuba

Hello my dear ICDF family!

Here in Cuba things are improving thanks to our Heavenly Father. As you may know the hurricane hit us leaving a path of destruction and many crops were devastated but God has been so merciful to us.

The dance ministry is growing little by little. We're unifying Christian dancers from different parts of the Island belonging to different Christian denominations. We had several individual workshops and Christian dance training at the local churches where we had the chance of sharing experiences and knowledge about the movement arts and how we can use them for the expansion of the

Kingdom of God in this country, to keep on reaching souls for Him. By the end of the year we had unified dance activities where people from the different parts of Cuba came together to rejoice and celebrate dancing to the Lord as a single body. That's something that fills my heart with an overwhelming joy.

*Ailyn Rodriguez Isaac*

### CDF Suriname

The Christian Dance Fellowship Suriname is in transition at the moment. God is so faithful. It is so important that we are sensitive for the Holy Spirit. After we have been seeking God's face for quite some time now about the direction of the Christian Dance Fellowship Suriname, the Lord gave us some strategic keys. For some time it seemed like we felt in some kind of dormancy as an organization. We were struggling with quite some issues, especially the direction of the Fellowship. But I do believe that the Lord is about to do something new and something fresh.

The last few weeks all of a sudden we have been approached by ex-members as well as by non-members. When they approached me I asked the Lord, what do you aim at with these contacts? The Lord brought me back to the early years of the Christian Dance Fellowship Suriname when we had the first and only Christian Dance school in Suriname. Back then we were also the first school in the nation which organized dance festivals. The people that connected with us were asking questions about what we are doing. They have the need for good dance training. A few days ago we got an invitation from a church to do a workshop. And this is a church that doesn't open their doors easily for other denominations or organizations. That is what God is doing. We are working out a plan to restart our Christian Dance Fellowship school. This is also a good way to gather members. We have planned a 2-days dance seminar in the month of June and a worship night later this year.

*Noel Filemon*



### ICDF Jamaica



#### God's Unmerited Favour

2017, what a year! It started and ended so quickly, but there were significant moments where I had to really ask, "Father God, what is man that You, the sovereign God is mindful of us?" As a nation, Jamaica celebrated 55 years of independence; was spared devastation from hurricanes Irma, Harvey, Jose and Maria and united in a nation-wide day of prayer on December 2, 2017. Even though we are known as a Christian nation, urgent prayer is needed for the Church –the body of Christ, to awaken in Jamaica, to unite across denomination, geographical location, age, social status and race.

It is our prayer that ICDF Jamaica be used by our Lord Jesus to unite Christians across the Island by creating a network through which Christian performing arts ministers, ministries, dance educators, dance schools and studios can impact this country for Jesus.

Representing ICDF Jamaica, I participated in a dance conference in August 2017, entitled "Worship beyond the Veil", teaching flag dance. Additionally, I ministered with my church's dance ministry, Armour of Praise (AOP), throughout 2017.

Without the presence of God, how can we live? In every area of life – ministry, career, relationships, health and enjoyment, we need to strive for "Coram Deo – living in the face of God". In 2018, may we delight ourselves in God and experience His Spirit saturate our lives individually and collectively.

*Tendi Henry*

## CDF USA

Currently CDF USA is only active through their Facebook Group, but we are praying for God's direction in the year(s) to come. The purpose for the Facebook group is to encourage fellowship and the exchange of information regarding dance and movement arts ministry and worship.

*Dawn Churchill*

Let us pray with them as brothers and sisters of ICDF for direction and strategy on how to go forward as a fellowship.



## ICDF Trinidad & Tobago

As eager minds fill the auditorium, the chatter of expectations could be heard softly across the room. Children from four years old to mature adults signed up for the workshops and for just a few hours there were no age barriers, all were accepted and appreciated as one.

The morning started with congregational worship where, for the first time, some were exposed to corporate worship via movement. The cheerful smiles and jubilant songs coming forth from the participants were breathtaking. It was almost as if pure joy was being funneled into the room via angels. To see the entire room moving as one gave hope of great things to come.

Yoga was next on the agenda as effervescent instructor Jacob aligned us physically and biblically fusing yoga positions with scriptures and inspirational encouragement as participants stretched and exceeded their very own expectations. At the end of the session there were a few sore spots but from the boost of mental uplifting, we soared non the less.

Caribbean folk was next on the list. An array of colourful bele skirts (half circle apron skirts as they are called in parts of the Caribbean) filled the room. A brief history of culture and movement redeemed for the Glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ were shared as patrons shuffled, skipped and pranced across the floor to Christian Caribbean music. Breathless and drenched, patrons still were hoping for more at the end of this class.

The day went on with prophetic warfare and worship, ballet, modern and interpretive dance, instruments and choreography sessions. The life changing segment for most was the free worship and prophetic release. During this time many were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Glory of God truly visited that evening and no one left the auditorium the same. Today, many stand as unashamed worshipers and bold believers for the Honour and Glory of God.

As we draw closer to another time to gather again we pray that hearts, minds and more technique can be impacted and imparted. In love and service, ICDF T&T.

*Celeste Olivierre-James*

## ICDF Canada

ICDF Canada has been active thanks to CDF Calgary, a group who were able to host Paula Douthett shortly before Paula passed into glory; and, in May of this year, they will be hosting a dance leader/minister from Ontario together with a leader/minister from Alberta. While Canada on the whole has not been active with ICDF for quite some time, I have a good feeling I can't quite articulate, because Alberta has chosen to host a dance leader/minister from several provinces away, incorporating more of Canada into the active part of ICDF Canada. It could be the start of something.



At some point, I am hoping ICDF Canada will be truly Canada-wide, but for now, God might be quietly doing something behind the scenes in preparation for what He wants to happen. My hope is that, little by little, churches will come to appreciate movement art for its ability to convey things words cannot and touch people in ways their current "programming" doesn't. How many sparks does it take to make a flame?

*Jennifer Balshaw*

## ICDF Brazil

What makes us different from the rest is our focus on Zoe Dance classes, a high energy dance form that has more than 500 teachers around the world. Through these classes many lives are reached.

In addition, we are planning for a worship event with the participation of 1,500 dancers and a Flash Mob of 2,000 dancers during the March For Jesus in Brazil that usually brings together 7 million believers throughout the country.



*John Bassi*



Greetings from ICDF Costa Rica. This year we are very excited about having two great events. The first one is Project Dance Costa Rica on June 22-24. ICDF Costa Rica will be sponsoring this event. We are having guest dancers from USA, Guatemala, Salvador, Nicaragua and many more. Project Dance Costa Rica is an evangelistic open-air concert where we will be doing dance presentations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday; and then on Sunday we will meet to have workshops taught by great professional instructors. This is our 4th year of sponsoring this event.

Our second event is on August 3-5 when a great team of worshippers, musicians and dancers will be coming from Saint Louis, Illinois to Costa Rica to teach on the prophetic.

This year we are teaching in the following nations: Nicaragua, Perú, Colombia and USA. Please pray that we will have an impact on these nations. Pray for our nation and the leaders who were just elected. The people chose a new president that is bringing changes that are not based on Christian values.

We are excited about what God is ready to do through ICDF Costa Rica. Please come and visit us and be part of what is happening here.

*Patricia Brearley*

### prayers of a TROUBADOUR

For all poets and painters,  
for all dancers and singers,  
for jugglers and fire-eaters,  
for tumblers and free-runners,  
(and all the drummers  
joyfully announcing  
unconditional friendship)

we pray:

a blessing on them all!  
A BLESSING ON THEM ALL!

We pray for street artists and musicians,  
for all who help us to celebrate and live well,  
for tellers of tales and weavers of words,  
for memory-keepers, and singers of sad songs,  
for truth-tellers who cause us to weep,

and we say:

give us more!  
GIVE US MORE!

We pray for those who are a voice for the voiceless,  
those who give a hug to the homeless,  
become a friend to the friendless,  
treating the refugee with respect,  
with dignity,  
who bring comfort to the widowed:

and we say:

God of the vulnerable, stretch our hearts!  
GOD OF THE VULNERABLE, STRETCH OUR HEARTS!

Those who reject easy answers,  
who are not frightened to ask questions,  
who speak out against injustice:  
let their voice be heard!  
LET THEIR VOICE BE HEARD!

Bless-ed are the dreamers, the prophets  
and kazoo-players!  
the hungry, the unloved,  
the young, the unheard,  
the makers of magic,  
the children in love with the world:  
God who believes in us, bless us all!  
GOD WHO BELIEVES IN US, BLESS US ALL!

- Andy Raine

### Photo Diary of a Dance Chapter



These photos were taken at some of the monthly dance workshops hosted by the CDF Calgary Chapter, Canada





# ICDF News Update

## 30th Birthday celebration 2018

At their recent Regional Dance Day and AGM, CDFB Midlands West joined the worldwide ICDF 30th Birthday Celebration with a cake and a balloon. What an added blessing this joyous interlude brought to their day!

Other countries or groups are invited to celebrate the international connection at any of their scheduled events, or they could go all out and plan an event with an international theme. As we celebrate we thank God for His guidance during all these years and we pray for His glory to shine forth and be magnified in all that we do.



## International Christian Dance Week: 13 - 20 May 2018

ICDF celebrates International Christian Dance Week during the week before Pentecost 13 - 20 May 2018.

It is however not only ICDF countries that can celebrate International Christian Dance Week but also groups or individuals. This can be done through an outreach, a ministry opportunity, a workshop or even just a group of dancers coming together for their weekly gathering and while doing so record it. Let us give God the praise for the work He is doing in this earth through us.



How to take part:

Decide how you want to celebrate with us during the International Christian Dance Week

- Take a video or photos of the event
- Post on the social media and make use of hashtags (ICDF Facebook group, Instagram, Twitter)
- Mail us the photos or video footage (Make sure you have the consent of the people in the photos / video)

**ICDF Nigeria** will have 2 days of workshops and have an opportunity for ministrations afterwards. They will also be featuring an evening of dance where they will celebrate the ICDF 30th year anniversary.

**ICDF Canada, Calgary Chapter** will be joining the 'round the world' celebration during the weekend May 25-26th with Belma Vardy (Ontario) and Darlene West (Alberta) as their guest teachers, both of whom are ICDF Network Leaders. This Workshop Weekend will also promote the worldwide ministry and work of ICDF.

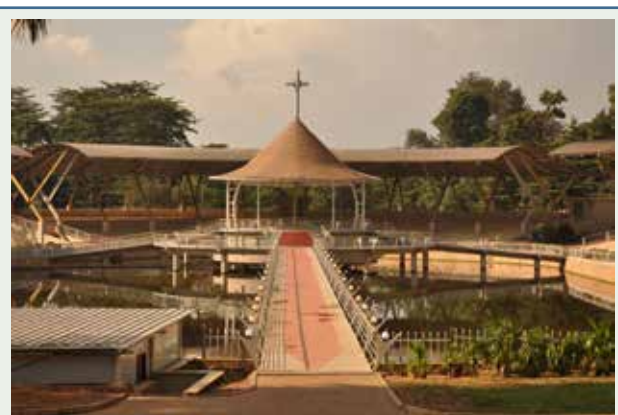
## Pentecost Prayer Watch: 20 May 2018

May 20th is Pentecost Sunday. You are invited for this weekend or close to it to arrange a time for yourself or a group to gather for prayer with movement. The theme for this year's Prayer Watch will be announced in the May Newsflash.

**#christiandanceweek #christiandance #icdfdanceweek #icdfprayerwatch**

## Prayer for a Time such as This

**Jacqlyne Tumusiime sent us this prophetic prayer for Uganda, but we invite you to own it for yourselves, your families and your countries.**



*Photo: Taken at the Uganda Martyrs Shrine at Namugongo, Uganda. It is said that it was on the blood of the martyrs that was shed between 1885 and 1887 that the Christian church in Uganda was built.*

May GOD drop the deepest things in your spirits not only to stir up your fancies but so you can love Him more and open your hearts and spirits to how great and big He is. The Bible says, the entrance of His Word brings light (Psalm 119:130); and that light is flooding and quickening your spirits in the name of Jesus! He is placing eternity of understanding the times, understanding your season, your period, your story, your testimony, your life in your spirits in the name of Jesus.

Your lives can not be the same! You are going upward and upward only, coming up hither in the knowledge of Him. Your life is changing, your family is changing. Your life can not be the same again, your story can not be the same again, you are changing and translating, you are being converted; you are moving in the healing of God, in the understanding of God, in the power of God, in the anointing of God, in the glory of God, in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding that guards your heart in Christ Jesus.

You are more than a conqueror through Christ that strengthens you, you have overcome the world that frustrates potential, you have overcome that which frustrates revelation or vision, you have overcome the frustration of inspiration, growth and multiplication. You have overcome!

You are above limitation, bondage and weakness in the name of Jesus. Child of God you are ABOVE, for the Bible says He that cometh from above is free. You are FREE! You carry liberty, peace, joy, and righteousness in the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus!

These are our times! And they shall be longer than we shall live in the body for we will still have effect, and our story will still be told even when we are long gone. Our children will hear what came out of us and it will be brand new to their ears in the name of Jesus; it will be fresh because it is eternal, and what is eternal can not decay, it's incorruptible. We are begotten of the incorruptible seed which is the Word of God which lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1:23) and that is our life, our story, our testimony, our legacy and our posterity - for us and our children. In Jesus' might name! Amen!

*Jacqlyne Tumusiime*