



ICDF

International Christian
Dance Fellowship

December 2021



With many of our ICDF countries now celebrating their 30 year anniversaries, we thought to join in the celebrations by sharing photos from the very first ICDF conference that was held in Jerusalem in 1991, also 30 years ago. At this time we think of our pioneers, the people who with vision and dedication laid the foundations for the network that we know as the International Christian Dance Fellowship. We remember the contributions from all the dancers and leaders who through the years kept the dream and vision alive by giving their time and sharing their gifts so unselfishly. Along with those who have gone before we honour those who are currently standing with us as we continue to minister to the world the love of our King and Saviour. Thank you for your support and love during all these years. May you all have a blessed Christmas season and a time of refreshing.

Jan Dyer, Saartjie de Wet and Liesl Townsend

O come, let us adore Him



Over the last few weeks I have been watching “*Universe*” with Brian Cox. It is impossible for the human brain to really take in the vast distances and huge numbers of objects in space – about a 100 thousand billion stars, many with planets, in our galaxy, the Milky Way alone and an estimate of two trillion galaxies in the universe. The Hubble telescope in its 21 years in space has taken pictures of events 1.4 billion light years back. Its successor, the James Webb telescope is to be launched December 24 or soon after in French Guiana, South America, and will be several times more powerful than Hubble. This is the universe God spoke into being and must enlarge our picture of God.

At Christmas we wonder that to our small planet in this huge universe, Jesus came as a human baby to a poor family and in a stable, coming to show us what God is like and to be our saviour. As Paul says in his letter to the Colossians: “God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross” (Col.1:19-20).

So hard to grasp... to take in! Let us worship afresh with humility, wonder and thankfulness. “Oh come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him – Christ the Lord.”

Some of you will be dancing at your church this Christmas to express your worship but whether you have this opportunity or not, all of us can dance to him in our own homes or surroundings. After this year of so many restrictions, pain and challenge, I encourage you to make a time and place to worship with your whole being, expressing your gratitude and worship to the one who has given everything for you.

Mary Jones - ICDF Founder

From the Joint-Coordinators' office

Dear Fellow Dancers

Once again we reach the end of an eventful year and together we want to give you an overview of what has been happening in the ICDF office. As in 2020 we had to cope with the reality of Covid-19 but, in retrospect, this opened up new possibilities for working and connecting, for us and for the ICDF countries.

ICDF is a huge operation with many different parts all coming together to make up the whole. So we have the Steering Committee, the Countries, the Networks, the Prayer Circle, the Foundation and the Diploma.

For this year we have been active on a few fronts that we want to mention briefly:

- First of all there is the daily correspondence of replying to emails
- We had four Steering Committee meetings during the course of the year
- Much of our focus was on the updating of the ICDF documents
- There were the monthly publications of the Network newsletters and the Newsflashes
- The website was monitored regularly for updates
- Meetings were held with the Sweden Conference Committee
- The Social Media team went all out to build on our online presence
- The ICDF Networks became more visible
- The new ICDF Online Shop was launched
- The Prayer Diary has been updated for 2022



Needless to say, a team is needed to cover such a wide range of activities and we want to thank all members of the Steering Committee for their commitment. They are Barbara Wood, Lucy Jarasius, Noël Filemon and Sue Sutherland.

Update of Documents

This is by far the most time-consuming project that we have undertaken and is still in process.

- 1) The ICDF constitution has been taken apart and examined from all angles and was voted on by the ICDF Wider Committee at the recent AGM
- 2) The Memorandum of Understanding and the Letter of Agreement for countries have been brought in line with the new proposed constitution
- 3) The guidelines for Network Leaders have been updated looking at current practises and ways of connecting by making use of available technology
- 4) We are still in the process of updating the ICDF Manual one chapter at a time

Prayer Circle

Led by Kaye Strauss, anybody can join to pray for the ministry of ICDF. This group prays for the many countries connected with us and for the work of ICDF. You can join by going to ...

<https://www.icdf.com/en/support-us/support-us>

Social Media

The Social Media team that was formed last year found their rhythm and has driven our online presence by specially focussing on the events hosted by the Networks. This team is led by Liesl Townsend and they are working on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter. Liesl is joined by Medina Potter, Taryn Ulster, Peter Hothersall, and Celeste Ollivierre-James

- YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UC8qmQVDheUHRIPsAflxT-Pw
- Instagram: icdfsocial (#ChristianDance #ICDFworld #ICDFfamily)
- Facebook: International Christian Dance Fellowship (page and group)
- Pinterest: icdfsocial (boards: Instruments; Health; Garments; Teaching; The Word; Quotes)
- Twitter: @ICDF (announcements only)

ICDF - Creating Space For Diversity

ICDF Diploma in Dance Ministry - Congratulations!

We are happy to announce that three of our students have completed their courses during the year:

- Esme Clarke (Australia) - certificate
- Noël Filemon (Suriname) - diploma
- Christine Jayakaran (India) - diploma

2022 Trimester Dates: February 14 - May 6; May 23 - August 12; August 29 - November 18

We thank Dr Debbie Bright as Director of the ICDF Diploma and all the lecturers for their commitment and hard work. More information can be found on the website at

<https://www.icdf.com/en/education/icdf-diploma-or-certificate-dance-ministry>

ICDF Foundation

The Foundation under the chair of Jenny Dennis, has announced that it is supporting two dance groups - one in Australia and another in South Africa - to film Online Christian Dance Workshops. These workshops will be freely available to download from the Foundation website early next year. Lucinda Coleman of fAITHdANCE Perth (photo right), and Melanie Erasmus, Coordinator of the International Christian Dance Fellowship of South Africa, have received assistance to film three workshops each. Both projects are very exciting and very different from each other. We eagerly await their release

<https://foundation.icdf.com/>



Photo: (L-R) Sarah Christopher, Samantha Coleman, Claire Forrest, Georgina Earl, Marcella Teo, by Lucinda Coleman, in Fremantle, WA ©2021, used with permission.

ICDF Networks

Besides the monthly newsletters the ICDF Networks hosted a Cultural Dance Network online workshop in August and an online conference in October facilitated by the Dance for Children Network, the Dance Teachers Network and the Network for Academics, Writers and Researchers. As projects the Messianic Dance Network had a video project in March and the Network for Deaf Signing produced teaching videos. All the newsletters and videos from the workshops and projects can be accessed through the ICDF website (www.icdf.com)

Conference 2022

Theme: "I came to give life with joy and abundance"

Dates: 1-7 August 2022

Place: Gullbrannagården, Sweden

Conference Fee: To be announced

<https://gatherings.icdf.com/>



See the conference programme on the website

Information will be added to the website and announced in our Newsflashes as it becomes available

Leadership Change

We welcomed the following new ICDF leaders:

- Patrik Pettersson as National Coordinator for **Psalto-ICDF Scandinavia** and Ruth Overgaard Kristensen as Vice-Chair;

and Lynda Cleland representing **ICDF Ireland**.

- Our thanks to Gunnel-Maria Palmqvist (Psalto-ICDF Scandinavia) and Julie-Anna Richmond (ICDF Ireland) for their years of service to their countries

- In addition we welcomed Anna Gilderson as Joint Leader for the **Network for Dance for Children** and Tonia Nifong as Joint Leader for the **Academics, Writers and Researchers Network**

Board of Reference

In July we announced that Leen la Rivière and his wife, Ria, joined ICDF as members of our Board of Reference. The Board is composed of people who are key figures in the Christian Arts Community and who will give reference to the integrity of ICDF's values and practices

Online Shop

The first phase of providing ICDF Online Resources has been completed by launching the ICDF Online Shop, which is linked to Spreadshirt. There are more plans for resources such as bespoke items and books to be made available ... <https://icdf.com/en/node/252#!/>

"Enlarge the place of your tent,
stretch your tent curtains wide, do
not hold back; lengthen your cords,
strengthen your stakes."

Isaiah 52:2 (New International
Version)

Financial Support

This last year has seen faithful giving to help us fulfil our mission calling. This financial support to ICDF has come through country tithes, regular giving, and donations for projects and bursaries. For the part you played, a HUGE THANK YOU to each one of you. Anybody can become one of our supporters and to find out how go to <https://icdf.com/en/support-us/support-us>

In conclusion

We are grateful for the year that was - for opportunities, new ventures and answers to prayer. At the same time we looking forward to building on all we have done for the next cycle. It promises to be a big year with even more opportunities for dancers to grow and connect internationally

ICDF Calendar 2022



February
19 February
Deaf Signing Workshop



July
2 July
Online Workshop



March
Network Project



August
1-7 August
ICDF Conference in Sweden
*Theme: I came to give life
with joy and abundance*



April
2 April
Online Workshop



September
Network Project



June
*Celebrating the
Goodness of God*
30 May-3 June
Christian Dance Week
online workshops and video
releases celebrating the
ICDF countries
4-5 June
Pentecost Prayer Watch



October
8 October
ICDF Networks
Online Conference



November
5 November
Online Workshop

ICDF - Visible, Available, Relevant

Country News

ICDF Ireland

At the start of the year we planned to hold monthly dance workshops via Zoom. These were facilitated by the lovely Hannah Mettler from the Ad Deum Dance Company. Three sessions were held in total: January, February and April. We thoroughly enjoyed these workshops.

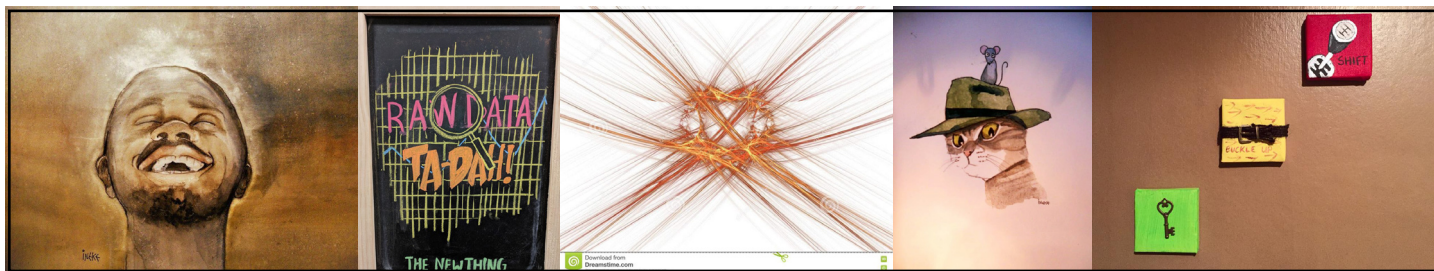
In March 2021 to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Christian Dance Fellowship of Ireland's formation in 1991, we held an online Zoom dance conference which was facilitated by Randall Flinn, Choreographer & Founder of Ad Deum Dance Company, Texas, America. This was a wonderful conference and we were all really encouraged and blessed in the Lord by it. On the first night during the celebration Rosa Burton, our worship leader at the time, taught us a beautiful movement whilst using a scarf to the awesome & anointed song, "You're Still God" by Philippa Hanna. The other sessions over the weekend included some short videos of past events and the dance teaching was facilitated by Randall Flinn. The Friday evening celebration included a slide show presentation of past National Coordinators and a selection of photos from past events throughout the years.



Photo: Randall Flinn

ICDF Australia

The New Thing (TNT): activate the arts to create and heal is the transitional expression of ICDF Country ministry here in these lands now known as Australia. Our monthly gatherings during 2021 have been facilitated via Zoom, except for one, in June, which was a hybrid of real-space and cyberspace, broadcast from the home of the guest presenter, Yumi Schaefer, a Dance Movement Therapist. Since Covid Lockdown restrictions beginning in March the previous year of 2020, we had been "on the fly" as we call it... learning as we went how to engage people physically present complying with social distancing and numbers per square metre requirements ALONG WITH people tuning in from remote locations. We even broadcast one session from the cabin of a car due to a venue hire booking mix-up and pouring rain weather conditions making it impossible to utilise the great outdoors and having to send people home to tune in via Zoom! Talk about tenacity and ingenuity... creatives are 'can-do' people, right?!





ICDF Puerto Rico

In October Puerto Rico saw a new flame ignited as they sought the Lord's face for the reactivation of ICDF Puerto Rico with the theme "Together exalting our King!!!" Their quest is to have representatives from each town in Puerto Rico by the end of 2022

ICDF Scandinavia

The highlight of this year was the Annual Dance Conference, October 22nd – 24th, where approximately 37 ICDF members and other dancers from the different Scandinavian countries were able to meet again in Sweden and dance together after 2 years of being apart. We met at the most beautiful location at the Swedish west coast. "Oh, how wonderful it is to dance before the Lord" was the theme for this annual conference.



Indeed it was. There was a special atmosphere of the Lord's presence. Both teachers, Annasara Yderstad Karlsson and Katarina Stella carry the essence of us being children before God, so there was a unique sense of freedom where the participants met with God and blessed each other in many ways. Some received new levels of freedom in different areas of their lives as we prayed for each other with movement and different materials. We added words to each other after the prayers.

It was awesome to end a wonderful day of workshops outside, as the group altogether praised God with a beautiful banner choreography based on Psalms 150. We are excited that God led new and younger people to join us in Psalto. It renews our hope for what God has in store for Scandinavia in the future. Annasara Yderstad Karlsson has also produced a video named "Heal Our Land" in cooperation with dancers from the Nordic countries and abroad. You can watch it via this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01krLTFZmrc>

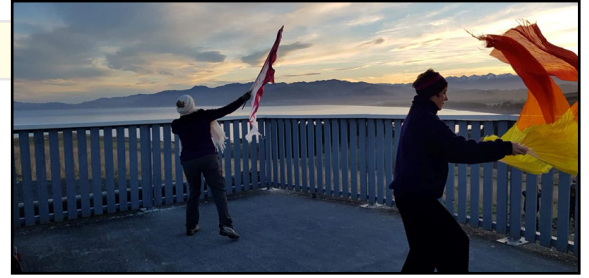
This past year has been very different for members of Psalto dancewise due to different levels of Covid 19 restrictions in the different countries. Some have not been able to dance together with others until recently; some had the possibility to dance, if they wore masks. Some have had the possibility to worship God dancing outside in sunshine or even hail. Workshops online have been a huge blessing as we have had the possibility to join different online workshops either facilitated in Scandinavia or through our wider ICDF Network. The Danes enjoyed having Steven Turner from CDF Britain teach us twice online as we met physically as a dance group in Denmark.

Much is possible due to online platforms. That inspires us in the preparation of the ICDF International Conference in August 2022 as it makes the conference more accessible worldwide despite the Covid 19 restrictions there might be next year. We're so honoured to be your hosts, and we're excited to see this conference happening. We are thrilled that as many as possible can join us in experiencing how God unfolds the theme "I came to give life with joy and abundance" for us all. With Eph. 2,10 our prayer for ICDF worldwide is that we'll know the love of God deeper and have the wisdom to see what good deeds He's planned for us to walk in.

On behalf of Psalto
Anette Sundell-Liljedahl and Ruth O. Kristensen

ICDF Aotearoa New Zealand

In 2020 Belinda Andrews presented a vision for a Christian Dance Tour of both the South and North Islands of New Zealand (rather than holding a conference) and shared an image she had of a bus with ICDFANZ printed on the side touring the nation. Essentially this was to follow-up on seeds already planted by Rhoze Rivera's Dance Explosion NZ tour in July 2019, to connect and encourage the dancers contacted, but also to go to other towns/cities as well. After discussing this and seeking the Lord, the National Committee agreed that these proposed tours were a good idea but due to COVID-19 situation both tours were planned for 2021. The South Island tour took place from 1-15 May 2021 but due to Covid the North Island tour has been postponed to April 2022. As a project we then edited together a lockdown worship dance video along the same lines as our 2020 Oceania Blessing video - a collaborative ICDFANZ Christian Dance video to the song: House of Miracles by Brandon Lake using a version (5.14mins) by DOE from Essential Worship; You Tube link ...



<https://youtu.be/puZLIJo9Wec>

Their next event will be a **CaraMayan Training Day** on 15 January 2022

ICDF Jamaica

ARMOUR OF PRAISE
SWALLOWFIELD CHAPEL DANCE MINISTRY

Abigail
The Freedom Movement
Connect • Equip • Serve

ICDF JAMAICA

Presents
DANCE A Catalyst for Change

November 19, 2021 | 6:00 p.m (Jamaican Time)
ZOOM: 356-445-3253 | Abigail123

Calling All Christian Dancers, Dance Ministers, Dance Enthusiasts or Dance Advocates to a special forum. Come hear the inspiring stories of dance stalwarts and their testimonies of God's awesome works in the past, present and His call to us to impact the future!

Mr. Daron Mitchell Minister, Army World & Heritage Church Dancer and Creative Arts Professional	Ms. Kerri Ann Prescod Dance Minister, Dance Ministry Coordinator @ Bible Based Fellowship Church, Tampa Florida	Ms. Takese Foga Swallowfield Chapel Girls' Club Coordinator	Mrs. Saartjie de Wet Jama-Coordinator, International Christian Dance Fellowship
--	---	--	---

ICDF Nigeria

GOSPEL DANCE of 2021

27 DEC.

2PM | **3PM**
R&R Carpet | Event Proper

Venue
ONDO STATE CULTURAL CENTER,
ADEGBEMILE HALL
along Alagbaka Road, Akoka, Ondo State, Nigeria

Tickets
VVIP: 5k | Regular: 1k
VIP: 3k | Children: 500

FOR ENQUIRIES
+2347039533765 | +23408139212810 | +2349039004049

ICDF Indonesia

In August ICDF Indonesia participated in "ARISE", a dance and prayer concert organised by the Christian Dancer City Network. Ezekiel 37:1-10 was the direction for them to pray and prophesy through dances, so the spiritually dead may rise to life again as God's troops.



We have also been doing regular online talk sessions among our young dancers (6-15 year olds), mainly focusing on strengthening each other in the Word of God, especially on how to apply it in real life. It has been encouraging to see how, despite the lack of offline events and/or physical gatherings, our young dancers find divine strength and guidance as well as a sense of bonding and community to navigate this challenging time.

ICDF South Africa

During the year the members were invited to be part of a collaboration video for “The Blessings” and the CDF Kids with a national children’s leader was launched followed by an online dance choreography for children. Online workshops were hosted, dances filmed that were also shared online and regular regional prayer meetings were held

An in person National Conference was held this year on November 25-28, 2021 where their 30th anniversary was also celebrated. There was a strong focus on the Youth and Children that will be continued into the next year. The photo right was taken at the Gala Dinner celebrating the anniversary and shows from left Saartjie de Wet (International Joint Coordinator), Melanie Erasmus (National Coordinator) and Liesl Townsend (International Joint Coordinator). One of the highlights of the programme was the performance of “God Bless Africa” with the choreography of Rosemary Raw, founder of the CDFSA 30 years ago.



Photos from the National Conference

Round the World

2021

ICDF India - During the year Albert and his dance team continued to go to churches for dance programmes

ICDF Netherlands - Vera Chierico was invited to present a Messianic Dance workshop in November

ICDF Malaysia - They participated in a Global Worship event in March

Debbie Bright led an online workshop in April

ICDF USA - In the USA they hosted a Week of Fasting & Prayer April 11-17, 2021. The guest speakers and presenters were Veronica Givhan, Jacqueline Saunders, Esther Dukes, Dawn Churchill, Tressie Renee, Pastor Nellie Rios, and Cynthia Newland

ICDF Britain - Throughout the year ICDF Britain held monthly online Members Technique Classes every second Saturday of the month ... these included ballet, mime, African worship, choreography technique, Bharatanatyam and CaraMayan

- in addition there were online and in person Regional events

2022

ICDF Brazil - On 29 January 2022 ICDF Brazil will be holding an event that will include ministry, a leaders' forum and ZOE Dance

ICDF Aotearoa New Zealand - CaraMayan Training Day on 15 January 2022

- North Island Tour in April/May 2022

Last Words

I have come to realise that if we are not inviting people into a genuine circle of friendship and respect (the authentic Love way), we must QUESTION WHAT WE ARE DOING! We can feel all excited and good about dance, and be enthused by the energy of prestigious projects, and maybe even seem like we are helping people and “worthy causes”, but without love and the fine-tuning of prayer, our impact will be fleeting and the kingdom of God not truly come amongst us in enduring transformational power

I leave you with a thought from a recent blogspot (reneeheartlieb.com)
“What if we set an intention to reframe our “problems” as things to be reflective and curious about, rather than needing to “fix” them? What if we decide to just “be” with the situation, contemplate it, and wait for guidance or direction...”

AND

Isaiah 43:18-19 The Passion Translation (TPT)
18 “Stop dwelling on the past.
Don’t even remember these former things.
19 I am doing something brand new,
something unheard of.
Even now it sprouts and grows and matures.
Don’t you perceive it?[a]
I will make a way in the wilderness
and open up flowing streams[b]
in the desert.”

Together with you in the Lord’s Love and
Creative Service
Lucy Jarasius



The Light of the World
William Holman Hunt (1827–1910)
St Paul's Cathedral