



## **Marvin's Ministry Update**

*October – December 2019*

### **MentorLink Canada Update**

Welcome to 2020 – a new year and the beginning of a new decade. As I have been reflecting on how MentorLink Canada has grown since 2010, one key thought continues to encourage me. In the midst of growth, MentorLink has remained faithful to its vision and values; it continues to focus its energies on equipping people to use the tools of mentoring in “developing leaders to lead like Jesus.” We desire that ML Canada will reach across our nation in the coming decade. The recent addition of part-time Associate Mentors, such as Terry Dorey and Gary Sharpe, will help us toward that goal as we embrace God-given opportunities.

MentorLink International will be celebrating the ministry's 20th anniversary on January 30, 2020 in Raleigh, NC. ML Canada will be represented by three people. I will give a full report of how God is using this movement worldwide in my next update.

### **An Amazing Conference in Togo, West Africa**

What a blessing I experienced as I served in Lome and Kpalime, Togo from October 19-29! Under the umbrella of an indigenous ministry called VIRA (Vision des Initiatives de Restauration de l'Afrique), I spoke five times at their FORGE Leaders Conference on “Leading in Light of Eternity.” We had 60+ leaders from various ministries and local churches living and learning together for four days. I also had significant opportunities to share my life with the core staff of VIRA, especially the founder and director, Jeff Mgliwe Simdinatome.

One of the dimensions of this conference was to present a library of seven excellent books in French to each person who came. Two donors had provided the funding for buying the books and shipping them from Quebec. The books were close by in a container on a boat in the harbour, but due to customs challenges, they were not released until after I returned home. I had taken a sample with me; the people were overjoyed with anticipation of receiving them and now they have.





## **An Advance for ML Canada into the Prairies**

From November 27 to December 2, I had the privilege of serving two ministries. The first was called Establish, a Bible-teaching ministry in local churches in northern Prairie provinces and Yukon. This appears to be a possible step into Canada's aboriginal communities. We hope to partner with this team in mentor training. The second was a mentor-training weekend at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Nipawin, Saskatchewan. Pastor Chris Hutchison gathered 35 people for the seminar. Chris wrote: *"Marvin's time with us was just what I was praying for. We were challenged, encouraged, and equipped to engage in the crucial work of mentoring. I expect this weekend will prove to be a milestone for the advance of the kingdom in and through our church."*



## **Ministry Opportunities (Prayer and Praise)**

- a. Prayer for wisdom as the ML Global Leadership Team meets for four days in January to listen to God's heart for this ministry in the new decade.
- b. Praise for the completion of a new MentorLink tool called "False Leaders." Download your copy at [www.mentorlink.org/Canada/resources](http://www.mentorlink.org/Canada/resources).
- c. Praise and prayer for mentor-training seminars in two Toronto churches: Christ Almighty Baptist Church (February 22 and April 18) and Indonesian Christian Church Canada (March 21, April 4, and May 2).
- d. Prayer for spiritual ministry engagement at the NextGen Leaders Conference in Virginia (April 25 to May 1) and potentially in Nigeria and Uganda in May.
- e. Praise God for faithful prayer supporters and encouragers.

*Marvin*

*"You (Timothy) have heard me (Paul) teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others." (2 Timothy 2:2)*