



## *The Elephant - Chapter 2 - The Sequel*

Dear Friends,

Even though I sat down to write this letter a couple of weeks ago, outreach teams and activities got in the way. **But I am glad**; because just now I realized something simple and at the same time profound. Thinking of the Father's House, **this is NOT our first elephant**. Let me explain.

For the last year or so, God has been speaking to us about how to go about eating an elephant, or in this case taking on the huge task of building a Christian School and large church, with nothing but a mortgaged piece of land and a lot of faith. The answer is, you just keep going, taking one bite at a time of the elephant, as funds and teams allow.



Father's House Gymnasium

To that end we have completed the preschool, primary school & are starting on the gymnasium. But this week we also hit a different milestone, one that took 6 years to complete, with a pandemic in the middle.

And today it came to me, **Project Refuge** was also an elephant, maybe a slightly smaller one, but an elephant nonetheless. And as of Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup>, that project (aside from a few details & furnishings) **is now finished!**



With the participation of our team from NorthPointe Church in Edmonton, our Regional Directors from PAOC Mission

Global, visiting pastor friends from London, ON, the local city mayor and a host of dignitaries, **we officially dedicated the expansion** - specifically the transition home for college age boys - who need a safe place be able to move from being in full time care to completely caring for themselves.



**It was PHENOMENAL!!!** To mark the occasion, the boys presented me with the gold painted shovel that I used to do the original ground breaking ceremony in 2019. A testament to faith. As such, it will soon take it's permanent place on the wall of the transition home, accompanied by the caption:

**"With Faith, All Things Are Possible!"**

As for the Father's House, we hosted two teams in the last month. The 1<sup>st</sup> was a 12 member team from Mapleview Church in Barrie and Hope City Church in Edmonton. Then came the NorthPointe team of 22 construction warriors!

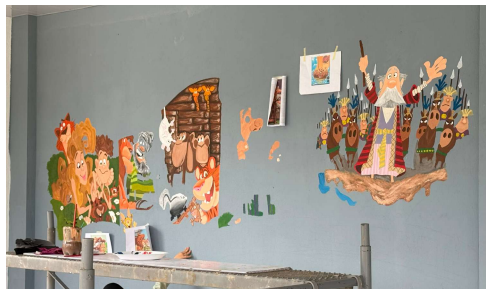
In just one month, we went from this:



To the picture that you see at the start of this letter. Plus we started on painting some really cool murals in the preschool and held a multitude of services in 3 local churches.

You might think all the team members were builders, but the majority were just common folk with willing hearts!

We had ladies tying re-bar cages, moving blocks, painting and sifting sand, among other tasks. And with one master brick layer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> team, several folks found out that they too could build a wall!



But maybe the most meaningful time in the entire month was when 6 of us visited the local prison. With over 400 inmates in several patios, we spent an afternoon sharing our stories, how God saved and restored us from our difficult pasts.



God led me to share about how my violent father and the violence that was produced in my life, coloured my perception of a perfect, loving, Father God - how it impeded me from accepting His love and forgiveness. There were a lot of tears that day - from the inmates and us.



**Dozens made a decision for Jesus that afternoon!**

Our recent activities included a visit from Mark & Val Hazzard, our regional directors and Pastors Garry & Judy Fess. Far from just a visit, they jumped into ministry: praying for people on the job site, leading a pastor's conference for some 35 leaders & preached the Sunday service in Moniquira.



It was an opportunity to show them the church's progress, the need to finish the Sunday School and to see the church's growth. Mark even dedicated two children that morning!

We have so much more to share and no room to share it. February also saw a visit from Margaret Gibb and the ladies from Women Together Canada. We also have Patty working with her kids at Peace House and a couple of other really cool projects that we are working on, but those will have to wait for another update.

If you are not following us on Facebook, please look up [www.facebook.com/darren.mccrea.9](http://www.facebook.com/darren.mccrea.9). There you will find so many pictures and news that we cannot share here.

**Much Love!**

*Darren & Patty*



Pastor Mark Smallwood from Passion4Presence really enjoyed his time with our team & the opportunity to preach multiple times; the early morning roosters... Not So Much!

Just as Jesus had a group of people who sustained Him (Luke 8z:1-3), we also depend on God's provision as expressed through the Body of Christ. *Please partner with us through your giving!*

**Canada:** Cheques made out to the: PAOC. With a note naming Darren & Patricia McCrea. PAOC, 2450 Milltower Court, Mississauga, ON, L5N 5Z6

For online donations - [www.paoc.org/donate/darrenmccrea](http://www.paoc.org/donate/darrenmccrea)

Memo should include: Designation of gift, donor's name, address and phone number to ensure receipt is correct.

**USA:** Make your check out to: "Mission Global USA." Please enclose a note mentioning Darren & Patty McCrea.

Mission Global USA, 27758 Santa Margarita Parkway #186  
Mission Viejo, CA. 92691

Online in the USA - visit: <https://missionglobal.us/>  
Select Donate, Fund - Global Workers and then Darren McCrea.