

2015

Letter from the Editor

Christina Belcher

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Letter from the Editor

Abstract

It seems like the years just fly by, but I begin every year with this reflection on the poem by Minnie Haskins, "God Knows", incorporated into the Christmas Day speech of King George VI in 1939:

"And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, give me a light that I may travel safely into the unknown.

And he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

Letter from the Editor

Christina Belcher, Editor, ICCTE Journal

Dear Friends,

It seems like the years just fly by, but I begin every year with this reflection on the poem by Minnie Haskins, "God Knows", incorporated into the Christmas Day speech of King George VI in 1939:

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As we do just that, and begin the unknown and yet unexperienced joys and sorrows of 2015, we have much for which to be grateful. We have family, friends, meaningful work, written words of hope, and God's presence in our task as educators. And we also have the fruits of those who continue to think deeply about how and why we do what we do, and test ways in which to better our service to a broken world, full of beauty, opportunity and things yet to be discovered. We are blessed. We are also blessed to be able to live in a country which can engage fully the scholarship of a Christian journal.

This issue 10(1) includes an opening article 'Educating in the Spirit' by Thyra Cameron and James Swezey, which is part one of an examination of the Person and role of the Holy Spirit in Christian School education. The second part of this article will appear in our next issue, later this summer.

Ripples of Gratitude: The flow-on effects of practicing gratitude in the classroom environment by Jane Wilson and Paige Harris, extends this focus on the disciplines of our minds as she explores the benefit of gratitude in educational settings.

Cathy Freytag explores the perceptions of care in Christian Teacher Education communities, querying

how we show care to one another as fellow sojourners in institutional life.

However, the brokenness of the world flourishes. In reference to the Trayvon Martin case, Sandra Richards Mayo examines racial tensions in her article Chasing the 'Hounds of Hell': Howard Thurman's Jesus and the Disinherited as a Curriculum for Racial Justice and Reconciliation, raising the need for educational teaching regarding racial tensions.

For those who wish to catch up on their reading, Ken Badley has included a list of books to read and their reviews to whet your appetite. Consider sending us your manuscripts and book reviews in the future.

As you take time to read these entries, be grateful, be reflective and be ready to meet what the year 2015 has in store. Happy New Year, and may God hold you all in the palm of His hand.

Christina Belcher, Editor, ICCTE journal.