

May 18, 2017

To LCC Congregational Leaders,

As we have heard so many times over the past while, LCC is a family. But for many of us, it's been difficult to see things that way because of the institutional and legal situations that have led to much pain and broken trust over the past 2+ years.

It's a fact that many people in LCC have felt betrayed by their church. The ABC District CEF collapse has had many profound implications. Clearly the financial impact has been enormous. Along with that have come spiritual and relational implications, where the hurt can be magnified particularly because it is the church where the hurt occurred.

As the legal processes continue to be in motion more than two years from when it was first announced in January 2015, and with the good possibility of not finding resolution for years to come, the financial need of people may be more dire now than it was in 2015 or 2016.

The Barnabas Project has two simple goals: to encourage congregations to be intentional about caring for their own people who are in financial need because of CEF, and to collect and distribute financial help to those who are in dire need because of the CEF collapse.

If your congregation has been active in identifying and assisting your people in this time of need, then let this be an encouragement to you as you carry out this noble work. Thank you for your heart of mercy and actions in Christian love. If your congregation hasn't been active in this way, let this be an encouragement to you to begin this noble work: to identify and consider how you may support those in your midst who are in great need.

As of the date of this writing, this project is so new that there are few details worked out at the moment about how exactly we'll collect and distribute funds. But I believe that it's important to get the word out sooner rather than later. There will be further information and encouragement available on the project web site at barnabasproject.ca as things develop.

May God guide us with His Word and give us His Spirit to show Christian love and compassion for one another so that through practical action and care, His name may be glorified among us.

In Christ's service,
Rev. Michael Schutz