

A LETTER FROM DR. SEAN LUCAS

February 8, 2018

My dear Friends:

I want to make sure you know about the event that will conclude our missions conference this year. Last April, Rufus Smith (senior pastor at Hope Church and chairman of the Memphis Christian Pastors Network) told me about an event he and the other leaders in the network were planning to commemorate MLK50. And once we heard about it, we wanted to participate.

This Sunday afternoon, February 11, at 3:00 p.m., we will be gathering with many other Christians, black and white, at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church (70 N. Bellevue) to reflect on where we have been as black and white Christians in Memphis and where God might be taking us in the future. Billed a Jubilee Service—drawing from the biblical idea of freedom for slaves after fifty years—Christians from across the city will pray and sing, praise and seek God for repentance, restoration, and renewal of our churches and our city.

Because our conference theme has been “Good News for a New Memphis,” this event struck us as the perfect way to end our week together. Here is a living manifestation of what we hope for—that God would transform men and women, boys and girls, by the power of the Gospel, and through those conversions begin to change our city. We hope that you will make plans to be with us.

Indeed, I hope the entire week thus far has encouraged you. I’m truly excited about what God might do in our midst as we send men to preach the Gospel, gather believers, form congregations. As Presbyterians, we very much believe that the best means of evangelism is the preaching of the Word. And while the preaching of the Word happens in a range of venues, the best venue for it is the gathered worship of God’s people. And so, new churches are the best means of evangelism—that’s true overseas and that’s true across town as well. May God raise us new churches in our city that will be faithful to Scripture, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission!

In the grip of God’s grace,



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