This short article concerns recent participation in the <u>Charismatic Leaders</u> <u>Fellowship</u> (CLF) conference. CLF is a fraternal organization that exists to promote Christian unity in the spirit of Jesus' prayer in John 17. This was the sixth year that I attended their annual conference in Augusta Georgia. My dad attended and we were both blessed by the talks and testimonies as well as the deepening of relationships.

The Charismatic Renewal has always been an effort of unity. Our founder Bobbie Cavnar built many ecumenical relationships with pastors and leaders who taught us from the early days of the Community. One of the three requests of Pope Francis to the Renewal is to "BUILD unity in the Body of Christ". It is a joy to attend this annual conference each year that precedes the North American Network of Charismatic Covenant Communities conference.

The theme of this year's CLF conference was Flooding the Darkness with the Light.

Rev. Joe Tosini started things off with an inspirational witness of the founding of a unity effort called <u>John 17 Movement</u>. Over the years I have heard many people who are involved with John 17 witness about the ecumenical relationships being formed. We were very impressed to hear the testimony and hear how active the Holy Spirit was in starting this movement and the role that Pope Francis played. More information can be found here: https://john17movement.com/

Later in the conference we heard from Henry Cappello about an initiative called Global 2033. Its vision is "That all people should have an opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ." Its very bold mission is to "Equip and mobilize 133 million Catholics to become Missionary Disciples" by 2033, the 2000th anniversary of Jesus' first commission. More information about Global 2033 can be found here: https://global2033.org

A highlight of the conference was a couple of sharings by Rabbi Marty Waldman who is the founder of Baruch HaShem, a Messianic Synagogue here in Dallas. He explained the history of Messianic Jews and helped us understand what they believe and many of the challenges that we face in bringing about unity including the reconciliation of Christians and Jews.

Please continue prayers for the unity of all Christians and let us all find a specific way that we can each respond in our daily lives as we work together as a Community with the Holy Spirit to restore unity to His church! For more information about the Charismatic Leaders Fellowship see their website: https://www.charismaticleadersfellowship.org/

If you are willing to actively support the Community's effort to build Christian unity, please contact me.

God bless, David Peterman