

On February 24-26 Neil and Cathy Coward, Laurie, my dad, John Wagner, Sarah English, and I had the privilege of representing our Community at the NAN conference in Augusta Georgia. The meeting was hosted by our sister community Alleluia.

As background on NAN, two years ago, the Holy Father ended the Fraternity (Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships) as part of uniting it with the ICCRS (International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services) into a new entity called CHARIS (Catholic Charismatic Renewal International). CHARIS brings together all expressions of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal to further the grace of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but it does not have members. In response the leaders of the North American communities, who had been meeting every year, decided to form the North American Network of Charismatic Covenant Communities - NANCCC or NAN for short. NAN exists to:

1. Build relationships among Network leaders based on our mutual love and trust (Phil 2:1-4). Our experience is that we inspire and need one another.
2. Help one another in common challenges, growing in spiritual formation, personal and communal holiness (Isaiah 11:2-4, 2 Cor 7:1), supporting our youth, raising up new leaders, responding to the Holy Spirit in ministry and use of the spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:7-11, Eph 4:11-12), serving the renewal of the Body of Christ, and more ...).
3. Let our witness be our love for one another (1 John 3:23) and our covenant life (Mal 2:5, 2 Cor 3:4-6) as a people of God (1 Pet 2:10).
4. Collaborate in mission (Christian unity and reconciliation, bringing baptism in the Holy Spirit (Act 2:38) to the whole Church, serving the poor and the underserved).

More details regarding NAN can be found at our website:

<https://www.nanccc.org/> Particularly interesting is the [newsletters tab](#) where you can read details about the Communities and activities of the network. Several of the newsletters contain articles from and about our Community.

The NAN conference was entitled *Covenant Communities for a New Generation*. The title was adopted because not only do we, as communities, need to adapt to what God is doing in our day and time, but we also want to ensure that we are evolving in a direction that attracts a new generation of youth and young adults.

The conference opened with a talk by Jeff Looker from City of the Lord Community discussing the end of the Apostolic age leveraging a book entitled [From Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Pastoral Strategies for an Apostolic Age](#). I recommend reading the book and listening to Jeff's talk. We need to be more Apostolic, intentional, pressing into the Lord, investing in outreach, and in raising up and training new leaders. You can listen to Jeff's talk [here](#).

On Friday morning we were treated to two talks from James Munk regarding passing on the charism of covenant community: *How Youth and Young Adults Hear the Call* and *How Existing Communities Make Room for Young Adults*. He covers the importance of sharing the 'why' of community, the role and importance of mission, and the call of peers to be disciples together. There is a significant amount of practical advice that comes from his years of serving in a role of mentoring and living this material. His talks can be heard [here](#) and [here](#). Following James' talks we heard three testimonies regarding the topic of reaching and supporting our youth: [Bert Funsch](#), [Micah Wright](#), and [Roman Rincon](#).

An important topic to young adults is the call to build holy families, families that are both life giving as well as missionary. This was the theme of the talks on Saturday morning. Dan Almeter from Alleluia started the morning with a talk on *Forming Missionary Families* which can be heard [here](#) followed by a witness from [Wouter & Anna Ceysens](#).

Laurie and I were privileged to give the next sharing on *Building Strong Marriages* which can be heard [here](#). After our sharing there were three excellent witnesses from: [Sharon Cospers](#), [Rebecca Krementz](#), and [Rachel Balducci](#). Our lives are built around the family, whether or not we live in a traditional family environment, I promise you will learn something from these videos that you can apply.

Saturday afternoon the talks focused on *Raising Up New Leaders*, with sharings by [Kevin Bridges](#), [Alex Mysko](#), and [Dominic McDermott](#). There were also introductory and conclusion talks along with Praise and worship, all available on the [NAN website](#) on the Events tab for the [2022 Conference](#). If you have difficulty with any of the links above, just go to the NAN website here: <https://www.nanccc.org/>

While the NAN conference contained two full days of material, I assure you, you will be blessed and exhorted forward in your walk and calling if you spend time reviewing the material, discussing in your small groups and bringing ideas of how you can personally respond. Please bring ideas to a coordinator or to me.

I would like to end this week's letter with a public thank you and acknowledgment for Tom Fedor's work to edit the videos and create the NAN website which makes this material available worldwide to all NAN participants and those we partner with. This is in addition to his volunteer services as our community's webmaster. Thank you Tom!

God Bless,
David