



ISAAC'S DECEMBER
2017 NEWSLETTER



WE CONTINUALLY REMEMBER
BEFORE OUR GOD YOUR WORK
PRODUCED BY FAITH, YOUR LABOR
PROMPTED BY LOVE, AND YOUR
ENDURANCE INSPIRED BY HOPE IN
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

-1 THESSALONIANS 1:3

Fruits of Labor



The first EANA (Ecumenical Asian North American Women) retreat in April 2016 ushered in 2017 as the best year for ISAAC. Two Asian North American women who attended the retreat were subsequently installed as Lead Pastors. Reverend Cedar Thi was installed on March 26 as Lead Pastor of a Vietnamese Presbyterian Church Garden Grove, and Reverend Yaliang Zhao is



Executive Director's Story: Becoming A Missional Entrepreneur (An Eleven Year Labor of Love)

Ever since I enrolled as a seminarian in Minnesota in 1981, a nagging question regarding the exclusive seminary curriculum has persisted throughout my academic career. My teaching career coalesced on April 29, 1992, when the LA Riots erupted and I found myself helplessly watching the violence unfold before my eyes. Indeed, a segregated knowledge leads to a separated life. With the increased longing for knowledge activism, in 2006, I joined a group of Asian American pastors/scholars who organized ISAAC (the Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity) with the leadership of Timothy Tseng.

We, the founders, were all Reverend Doctors with no prior experience in running a business. When Tim left ISAAC for a pastoral position, the board invited me to move from my role as Southern California Regional Director into the position of Executive Director in November 2011. Accepting this position meant more fully immersing myself in all aspects of running a nonprofit organization that required drawing from all of my background experiences—pastor, faculty, multicultural immersion, evangelical, and ecumenical.

However, one of the steepest learning curves was my internal discomfort in addressing financial matters. Prodded by a business coach from the USC'S Marshall School of Business, I received what I needed to take ISAAC to the next level. After 11 years of laboring for our 3T's mission of "Transcribe, Translate, Transmit spiritual legacies," we presently witness God's affirmation through amazing partnerships and exciting ISAAC's team. We continue to develop the gifts of Asian American Christian leaders to be rooted and ignited in three stages: 1) unleashing the dreams and visions of the NextGen; 2) creating a multilateral space of learning across EGG (Ethnicity, Generation, Gender); and 3) bridging the knowledge gaps in a Eurocentric seminary education as it impacts Asian American churches.

If you participate in sharing your resources for ISAAC's hidden laborers behind the scenes, we promise to continue to labor tirelessly in bridging widening inequalities and inequities in the church and society at large. We are devoted to matching people's gifts to the needs of our world God so loves.

NEED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

**BY THE END OF 2017, WE PRAY
TO MEET OUR \$10,000 GOAL.**

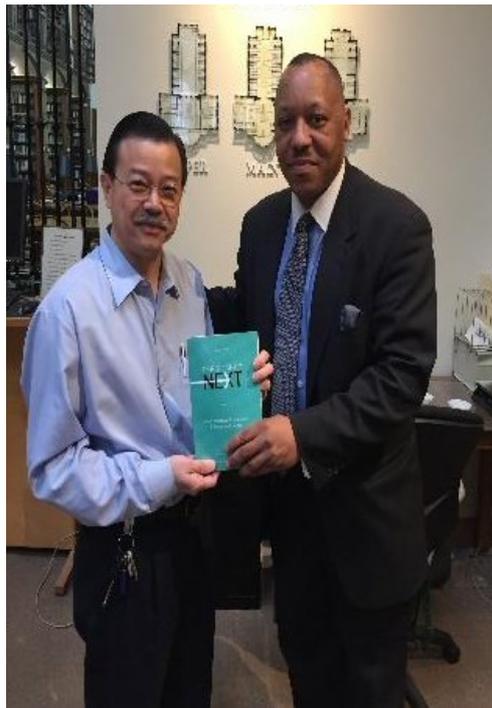
**EXPANDING PARTNERSHIP AND DEEPENING
MENTORSHIP:**

- Louisville Institute's Collaborative Inquiry Team (CIT):
"Imagining A More Equal Pulpit" Project.
- RISE Together: Network of Mentoring Women of Color In
Ministry with Union Theological Seminary.
- MOU with Biola University.

UPCOMING RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS:

- Gender Summit: January 14-15, 2018.
- ISAAC Pastoral Forum: Retrieve or Retract Evangelical
Christianity, January 16, 2018, 10:30am-12:30pm.
- ChristianityNext #2, "Negotiating Differences" will be
available January 1, 2018.

ISAAC East Updates



- In early November, Milton Eng met with Library Director Tracey Hunter Hayes of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, NJ and got our first seminary subscription in NJ to our new journal *ChristianityNext*. New Brunswick Theological Seminary was founded

more than 230 years ago and is the oldest seminary established in North America. This adds to our growing list of institutional subscriptions.

- At the AAR/SBL meetings in Boston on Nov. 17th, Milton joined Young Lee in a special event celebrating the appointment of Frank Yamada as Director of the Association of Theological Schools.

As 2017 winds down, Milton will be out and about in early recruiting for his FTE (Forum for Theological Exploration) funded 2018 Summer Ministry Internship program. If you know of anyone interested in serving in their local church or another host church this summer in the New York City area, please let Milton know at miltoneng@isaacweb.org. This summer, he is opening up the program to graduate and seminary students as well as college-age young adults.

Thank you for your support!



Innovative Space for Asian American Christianity is provided by people inspired by the Holy Spirit who join in our mission and make our vision a reality. Now is your chance to play a critical role in the life of ISAAC through year-end giving towards ISAAC's mission. There are three ways to donate:

Give Now (PayPal)

Give Now (Vanco)

Give Now (Venmo)



We continue our mission of bridging the academy, church, community through 3Ts (Transcribe, Translate, Transmit Spiritual Legacies). With faith, we rely on your participation and financial support.

ISAAC is 501(c)(3) organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

You are receiving this email because of your interest in ISAAC

Our mailing address is:

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