

# International Ministerial Congress *Church of God (Seventh Day)*

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<http://imc.cog7.org>



October 14, 2018

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ around the world,

As we reflect over the past year, we have every reason to shout "Hallelujah" – for everywhere throughout our international church we see God's good work among us. The International Ministerial Congress' elected officers have worked tirelessly, holding exactly 41 online video conference meetings at various levels since last years' Annual IMC Sabbath event.

The pinnacle of the IMC's ministry centres on Jesus Christ. We proclaim Him as LORD, striving to reflect His will and words; He is our best friend; the One who gave Himself for us, and the One who will call our name from our grave. In Him we are defined, and He is the one certainty we have in this life! No longer do we follow our own paths; in Christ, we live and work for Him. The underscoring theme and motivation in the ongoing building of "a Christ Centred Church" throughout the world is the fact that Jesus is the LORD of the church – and His desire is that we forsake all and follow Him.

We praise God for all who have hearkened to His call and responded to His knocking. All who open the door to Jesus enjoy a level of fellowship comparable to no other.

The IMC Annual Sabbath is on again shortly, on 3rd November 2018. It's yet another opportunity for our churches and conferences around the world to pause and reflect on God's good work among us through Christ. A few of the IMC Officers recently returned from the IMC Zone 5 Regional Convention in Africa where the church in 15 African nations was represented. Others have visited emerging churches in South America, and yet others have laboured tirelessly in building Christ-centred bridges everywhere – wherever they've been. We have every reason for praise and gladness. This doesn't mean that all the going is easy. On the contrary, we note with humility the work we have yet to do. But, we're grateful for the men and women, filled with the Holy Spirit, who stand for Christ and unwaveringly embrace those challenges with meekness, grace and kindness.

The IMC again this year asks for your local church's partnership in embracing the ongoing work of achieving doctrinal unity, of mobilizing missionaries, of planting new churches, of equipping new disciples, of mentoring leaders, and of judiciously developing the infrastructure needed for a vibrant 21<sup>st</sup> century church in Christ, by again being generous in collecting an offering specifically for the IMC.

We are in the process of uploading several new video streams to the IMC website <http://imc.cog7.org> that you may find helpful as you join in the celebrations throughout our international community. IMC President Ramon Ruiz has prepared a special address for the occasion which we request is played in all churches, and this may be downloaded directly from the IMC website <http://imc.cog7.org/media/IMC-RAMON-2018-1080.mp4>

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Account Name: International Ministerial Congress of the Church of God (Seventh Day)

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Some churches are celebrating the IMC Annual Sabbath by displaying international flags. Others are selecting specific countries to learn more about and for which to pray (<http://operationworld.org>). Others are sharing a fellowship lunch with an international flavour, and yet other congregations will feature slideshows of photos from our congress around the world (often easily accessible on our website or on social media).

<http://imc.cog7.org>

<https://facebook.com/IMCInternationalMinisterialCongress/>

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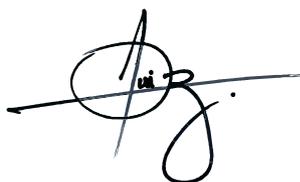
For those congregations unable to participate November 3 due to conflicts of schedule, please set aside an alternative date before the end of November or December to join us in this crucial annual event that will have significant impact on our international church ministry in the year ahead.

Finally, the IMC Officers request that a special prayer be dedicated on 3 November 2018 to specifically ask God to grant favour in parts of the world where the seeds of the gospel have been planted. Please pray for the IMC leadership and the tasks entrusted to them. Please pray for Conference leaders around the world – please also pray for their families. Please pray for our evangelists and missionaries – often struggling to meet needs from meagre resources. Please pray for our pastors around the world, including your own – they need our support. Please pray for our youth globally – that the LORD would protect and guide them in a world full of dangers and deceptions. Please pray that all will be moved by a spirit of generosity as we partner together in Jesus' name, for the glory of our Heavenly Father.

Sincerely, on behalf of the International Ministerial Congress,



John Klassek  
Secretary



Ramon Ruiz  
President



Bryan Cleeton  
Executive Director

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