

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

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<http://imc.cog7.org>



23 September 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Praise, glory and honour to our heavenly Father, who in Christ is reconciling all people to Himself. And, no matter how we have viewed the uncertainties of this year, we can be confident that His purpose and will is always accomplished.

We thank God for the faithfulness and courage of his people during what at best can be described as a very interesting year characterised by uncertainty. With the emergence of the family group church model amidst various national social distancing and quarantine regulations, with significantly restricted travel, a holding-pattern for various ongoing projects, and the reassessment of some current funding, our church community throughout the world, in hindsight, can also be grateful to have become more resilient because, over the past few decades, we have become more articulate and clearer in our Christ-centred position than perhaps when we first began our journey together. The Lordship of Christ in the church, in our homes and in our hearts allows us this confidence and Kingdom clarity.

As you may know, the quadrennial congress in session we had planned in November has been postponed to next year. We envisage this will allow the course of the current world uncertainty to reach its conclusion. Of course, we will this year again celebrate the richness of diversity in our midst on the designated IMC Annual Sabbath on 7 November 2020.

While the IMC Annual Sabbath is an opportune time to reflect on the year that has been, with the emergence of home family groups, livestreaming Sabbath worship and virtual meetings, it is also provided an opportunity to reassess our priorities, dedicate our hearts more to prayer, and be the people who are truly born for a time such as this.

The theme for this year's IMC Annual Sabbath is "Salt and Light", and is based on Jesus' description of the uniquely divine characteristics required to truly reflect Christ in this age.

Our participation and shared journey within the diversity of the Church of God (Seventh Day) around the world is characterised by a compelling willingness to partner for the greater good in the high calling in Christ in our shared ministry work. Experienced through evangelism and discipleship – the heart of the church's mission is manifested in outreach and equipping through ongoing training, translation, evangelism, leadership training, supporting conferences in their development, and mentoring leadership. Thus, we're further motivated

by love in a spirit of generosity to take up an annual offering throughout our churches on the IMC Annual Sabbath.

Donations may be remitted to your national church conference and designated as being for the IMC. The IMC banking details are:

**SWIFT Code:** WFBIUS6S

**Bank Name:** Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

**Bank Address:** 420 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104

**Account Number:** 7979629735

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

One of the initiatives we're planning this year is to host a pre-recorded IMC Annual Sabbath worship service, and you are invited to contribute. If you have a worship song or an item of special music, please film it now and share the video with the IMC team. More information will soon be available on our website at <https://imc.cog7.org/resources.html>

The IMC Annual Sabbath also provides the opportunity for the Church of God (Seventh Day) around the world to unite in prayer. Many of the challenges we face today are only mitigated by sincere and dedicated prayer. May we be encouraged to come before our Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name, to not only receive our requests, but in this age as a faithful community be preservers of His grace and truth and reflectors of His light until Jesus returns.

In Jesus' name, on behalf of the International Ministerial Congress,



John Klassek  
Secretary



Ramon Ruiz  
President



Bryan Cleeton  
Executive Director

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