

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

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2 October 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A sincere and dedicated "Thank you" to all who have worked reliably and tirelessly in various service roles within the Church around the world over the past year or so.

Another year has slipped by, and we have every reason to give God thanks and praise. We also humbly acknowledge the diversity of activity and ministry happening within our fellowships and beyond.

Several things of note come to mind here. Our various internationally comprised IMC committees have been developing their responsibilities and terms of reference in an orderly and collaborative manner throughout the past year. Much of this is ready for the next congress session, to be held in Nigeria in November 2020. On that note, thanks to those directly involved in the planning of the next congress session. There's still much to do, of course, but the excitement is building already!

We have worked to improve communication among our teams, zone representatives, and national conferences. We thank God also for the work in improving administrative procedures by developing clearer policies and plans that better accommodate the work of the Lord.

The creation of *IMC News* is another milestone. We hope this magazine is a blessing to you to better appreciate God's good work among us and to further recognise the need to more actively partner in Christ's vision for the Church.

Thanks also to those on our translation team who promptly attend to the various requests for translation. You may have noticed a more developed media awareness beginning to be reflected on our Facebook pages and website, with new subtitled videos produced during the past year.

A sincere and special thanks to our missions teams working in various places around the world, often in difficult environs. Thank you for your prayers for their safety and continued blessing.

These and more we celebrate, in the name of Jesus, as we take stock of who we are, what our calling is, and how we navigate the age we live in. Thus, the theme for this year's IMC Annual

Sabbath is "United in Christ." This special day acknowledging God's work among us internationally is planned for 2 November 2019, but actually, the whole month of November is dedicated to IMC. It's an opportunity to thank God for His good work among us and to recognise the needs of our growing Church community throughout the world.

This year our local church leaders have access to various resources, including presentations, news items, and videos — all giving insight into the unique part of the body of Christ we're privileged to share in.

In the light of our shared journey, we're also asking your generous participation in our annual offering. Please contribute prayerfully. Most of the workers throughout the IMC are volunteers. At this time we do not have the resources to recompense their work. We, however, walk in faith, knowing that the Lord provides the needs of those He calls into fellowship and discipleship. May we be united in Christ and always work as good stewards of His grace.

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



John Klassek  
Secretary



Ramon Ruiz  
President



Bryan Cleeton  
Executive Director

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