

Moderator's Annual Report

Like everyone's year, IMC's year began with an interruption that we eventually realized had no end in sight. Throughout the week following last year's February assembly at Menno Haven, MLT and CLT shared reflections and thoughts through an ongoing email thread. Jacob Landis resigned from MLT in mid-March. After joint MLT CLT meetings in March, April, and May, it was determined that David would inform pastors that he would be contacting them to hear what they thought would facilitate participation in a discernment process. The process envisioned would draw on the expertise of someone skilled in Christian discernment.

Through the summer, arrangements were explored for coordinating a process with other institutions if a grant could be acquired. When that did not materialize, David and Joe Liechty proceeded with organizing meetings to introduce pastors to the possibility of using Colossians Way approaches in IMC's exercise of "active listening and learning". <https://colossianforum.org/about-us/mission-vision-our-story/> Four introductory meetings were held in November and December.

It goes without saying that this is not the extent of progress we would have projected in February. Embarking on these conversations would be a heavy lift in normal times. It seems even more difficult until we can meet together again.

Nepali Outreach Mission

In September David and Darrel first met with Living Water Community Church and Mennonite Mission Network representatives to learn about Olak Sunuwar's work with Nepali Mission Outreach. Through successive meetings and discussions, the MLT is recommending that IMC partner with Nepali Outreach Mission by supporting them with \$1,000/month. (More information on the website.)

Gifts Discernment Committee

In the beginning of December, I (Darrel) checked in with Carol Bohnert (Gifts Discernment chair) about the status of filling leadership positions for the coming year. (Kurt Walker – also Gifts Discernment – and I had talked earlier in July.) Carol and I talked about possible names and Carol was "full speed ahead" to find new leadership people. By the end of December, Carol was seriously ill and in the hospital. We told Carol, of course, to not give another thought about filling positions. The MLT suggested some people to Kurt to contact and helped with contacting people.

At this point there are still positions without people. Kurt Walker's term on Gifts Discernment is ending. Kurt has agreed to keep working with MLT to recruit people for these positions until we can fill the Gifts Discernment vacancies. Carol, you just concentrate on regaining your strength and we will try to live up to your standards.

Darrel Miler IMC moderator

