

## **Moderator's Report July/August 2019**

### **Submitted to Governing Board meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**

It is two months since the election at General Conference and just over 6 weeks since I officially came on staff. Much of my time has been taken up absorbing all the information that I need, in order to effectively serve and lead this amazing global Fellowship. I am immensely grateful to our MCC staff, who continue to guide me in learning about the detail of our operations and the different factors that need be considered when looking at the opportunities and challenges that we face. Thank you also to the previous Governing Board members, who have handed over their responsibilities and tasks.

The staff have been collating baseline statistics to give a snapshot of MCC worldwide, such as number of churches in each country, number of clergy, lay leaders etc. This data can inform decision making going forward and can also show our growth and development over time. This was a large piece of work, so thank you to everyone who contributed and co-ordinated this.

I have participated in Governing Board and Council of Elder meetings. Both leadership bodies have expressed a real desire to work more closely together. This has already taken the tangible form of joint letters to individuals and congregations.

A summary of other areas of work:

#### Communication

- Letter following July Governing Board meeting
- Monthly Moderator's Reflection
- Prayer for those affected by Hurricane Dorian
- Interview with "The Beast" online publication – just published
- Facebook posts

#### Social Justice

- Visited Pulse Memorial, Orlando, Florida USA, which was livestreamed by Joy MCC
- Public statement regarding USA President Trump's racist tweets
- Signed the Faith Leaders statement in support of the National TransVisibility March in Washington DC, USA
- Signed the Faith Leaders letter to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, re the effect of "no deal Brexit" on those held back by poverty in UK
- Reviewing documents, such as the International Task Force report and The Office of Emerging Ministries report on Race and Gender, and considering next steps

#### Staffing

- Meeting with staff on an individual basis to understand their role and workload
- Using feedback from existing surveys, such as General Conference workshop requests, and staff experience to look at most pressing resource needs
- Learning the legal HR requirements for UFMCC as an organisation registered under California law

- Chairing staff meetings
- Identified some areas where Governing Board needs to make policy, to be included in draft Employee handbook

#### Governing Board

- Handover of information and tasks from outgoing Governing Board.
- Working with members to define specific roles on the Governing Board
- Participated in two Finance Team meetings and had conversations with outgoing and incoming Treasurer re finances and ideas for increasing income
- Reviewing previously commissioned Fundraising and Fund Development plans and having discussions with professional fundraisers on possible next steps

#### Council of Elders

- One to one meetings with individual Elders, to get to know them better and to understand how they see the role of Elder
- Participated in two Council of Elders meetings

#### Acknowledging Generosity

- Worked with staff to send a Thank you letter out to 121 churches worldwide who have been faithful with their giving all year
- Personal Thank you to individuals who have increased their giving to MCC

#### Connection with MCC churches and Networks

- Contacted pastors where there have been recent shootings in USA
- Worshipping virtually with different MCCs around the world – MCC San Diego, USA, Open Table MCC, Philippines, ICM Conexion Argentina
- Met with our Network Facilitators, will meet with Network Leaders this month
- Approved the appointment of a Network Leader

I have also been in conversation with individuals within and beyond MCC, as I embark on this ministry, to listen to ideas, gain wisdom and develop a greater sense of who we are called to be at this time. This work will be ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Elder Cecilia Eggleston