



Another year has passed for the Friends of IMCK – our 12th year! - with many events and accomplishments along the way.



Barbara Sugue, a longtime member of the board and President for the last several years, resigned in November. Barbara made major contributions to the success of IMCK and her leadership moved us forward in accomplishing our mission. She will continue in a supporting role to assist with donor relations. Barbara is the daughter of IMCK co-founder, William Rule III, who I'm sure is proud of the work she has done. Thank you for your service, Barbara.

As much as we regret losing wonderful board members like Barbara, we are thrilled with three new members who joined the board in 2023: Elizabeth (Bizza) Britton, Rev. William Pender and Maureen Sarewitz.

Bizza has roots in the Congo and is the sister of current board member Dr. Sperry Nelson. After graduating from Rhodes University in 1976, she joined the Peace Corps and served in Benin, followed by 2 years at the IMCK doing Public Health projects with Dr. John Miller. She returned to the US to pursue a Master's degree in Nursing from the University of Tennessee in 1983 and spent the next 40 years in Baton Rouge as a Nurse Practitioner. She lives there with her husband, Ed.





William is a retired Presbyterian pastor with over 40 years of experience at churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida. His connection to IMCK goes back to childhood, as his home congregation in Marietta, GA, regularly talked about the "mission work at Good Shepherd Hospital." In his last pastorate at the First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, he reconnected with the Rule family, founders of IMCK. William lives in Montreat, North Carolina with his wife, Sheri.

Maureen has spent her career in global health and technology. She owns a consulting business that supports startups, social enterprises, and non-profits in digital strategy, marketing, and operations. She is a part-time faculty member at the University of Washington where she teaches project management in the Master of Public Health program. Maureen spent four years living and working in sub-Saharan Africa, involved with training programs there and in Tanzania and Namibia. Maureen lives in Seattle with her husband, Jeff.



In September, three of our board members visited Tshikaji to assess some work to be done with the hydroelectric facility there. It was a joy for them to meet some new and old friends in Tshikaji and Kananga and we hope you've enjoyed the posts and newsletters from this trip. It was very beneficial to strengthen our relationship with key members of the IMCK staff including Dr. Jean-Jacques Mulalu (IMCK Director) and Kastin Katawa (IMCK Administrator).

Our fall fundraising campaign provided a nice boost to IMCK Endowment Fund. We honored the work and career of former IMCK Administrator Shamba Pierre Manenga. Shamba's story is quite compelling including his struggle and patience in getting an education in a segregated US and his leadership at IMCK from 1980-2000. Shamba embraced his job as IMCK Administrator with his strong faith in Christ, courage, wisdom, humility, and friendship to all.

Other significant events of 2023 for the Friends of IMCK included:

- Updating the FIMCK By-laws
- Expanding our social media presence to include Instagram and LinkedIn
- Submitting a Wikipedia article about IMCK
- Publishing 17 Eblast newsletters including a partnership series
- Creating video thank-you messages for major donors
- Supporting an accounting software upgrade at IMCK

The Friends of IMCK was established in 2011 with the primary purposes of building an endowment fund and raising awareness of the activities at IMCK in Tshikaji in Kananga. The board has worked diligently to achieve our goals and, as you can read in the financial report below, we've had a successful year. We have been able to assist IMCK in support of a new salary structure by advancing payouts from the IMCK Endowment Fund. To date, we have provided \$248,360 to IMCK and our goal for the endowment fund is to reach a principal amount of \$4,000,000.

Financial Report

Thanks to a favorable market and strong donations from our faithful supporters, the IMCK Endowment Fund saw a 20% increase in value in 2024.

Starting Balance (1/1/2023)	1,330,084.14	
Income	409,919.12	
Donations		163,891.40
Interest/Dividends		25,377.14
Unrealized Gain		220,650.58
Expenses	47,778.00	
Disbursements to IMCK		43,000.00
MBF Fees*		4,778.00
Ending Balance (12/31/2023)	1,692,225.26	

^{*}The Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) is the fiscal sponsor for the Friends of IMCK and has been very helpful in helping FIMCK manage the endowment funds.

Legacy Circle Members

The Legacy Circle is a special group of donors who have generously included IMCK as a beneficiary in their estate planning. This is a wonderful gift and legacy statement, and we are thrilled that these people have committed their resources to IMCK. These Legacy Circle members include:

Dr. Mary Sue Makin Jimmy and Jan Shafe David and Ida McElroy Glenice Johnson Anonymous Dr. Steve and Charlotte White Drs. Merle Miller and Alex Masanka Dr. Gordon and Annette Smith Neal and Eleanora Miller

If you'd like to learn more about a legacy gift to IMCK, please click here.

Thank You

The board of the Friends of IMCK extends a hearty "thank you" to those of you who have supported IMCK with your donations and prayers. Without you, the Friends of IMCK doesn't exist. We look forward to a successful 2024 and solicit your prayers and best wishes as we strive to improve, and save, the lives of many of our brothers and sisters in the Democratic Republic of Congo. God is at work there and we are doing our best to support His mission.

Robert Irish, President Kent Galloway, Vice President Janet Irish, Treasurer Dr. Mary Sue Makin, Secretary Elizabeth Britton, NP Dr. Sperry Nelson Holly Miller Rev. William Pender Dr. Merle Miller

List of Donors

In 2023, we were pleased to have 76 donors from 26 states. Thanks to all of you for your donations.

------ Gifts up to \$150 ------

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Motorola Solutions Foundation Matching Gifts Program

Gifts from \$151 to \$999

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Gifts from \$1,000 to \$4,999 -----

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----- Gifts from \$5,000 to \$9,999 -----

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Calvin Nelson Household
The Bruning Foundation
Noel and Barbara Sugue Household
The Nelson-Coughlin Philanthropy Fund
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----- Gifts of \$10,00 and above -----

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