

FCI SECRETARY'S REPORT DECEMBER 2022/SEPTEMBER 2023

We were pleased to hold the Annual FCI Day by Zoom on Saturday 10th December 2022. Twenty-one FCI members and visitors joined the link zoom. This was a postponed and shorter FCI Day due mainly to the death and funeral arrangements of the late Queen Elizabeth 11 in September 2023. The Act of Worship was led by Revd Timon Singh and the Message was shared by Revd Vinod Victor.

During the past year the Management Committee met at the Indian YMCA on Friday 27th January 2023, and also by zoom on Friday 26th May 2023. A further meeting is planned for Saturday 4th November 2023.

A Prayer Zoom meeting was held on 24th April 2023, when thirty people joined. FCI members led prayers in response to presentations on key contextual issues given by Ms Archana Adhikary (CNI), Prof. Dr. Jasmine Alley (CSI) and Revd Suchitra Behera (Church of Bangladesh). The Management Committee have agreed that only one Prayer Zoom will be held per year. The next one to be held in 2024.

The St Thomas Unity Lectures were held during June 2023 organised by Revd Anand Asir, our Education Secretary. They took place in Aberdeen, Derby, Ely, Leicester and London. Dr Isaac Devados of Bishop's College, Kolkata, gave the lecture on the topic, "Hindu Nationalism and the Political Oppression of Religious Minorities in India: an Ecumenical Response". The lectures were very well received by all who attended and there was a useful question and answer session at each gathering.

Discussions have taken place for a small Leaders Consultation and it is hoped to hold a meeting in November 2023. This will also explore the possibility of a mission story-telling conference in 2024.

Work is continuing on the writing of a short history of the FCI.

FCI members have received regular copies of 'Pilgrim'. We give thanks for the Editor and the Editorial Group for preparing these and to the people who have made contributions to these editions.

Since the last FCI Day unfortunately, we have lost members who have died. We currently have a membership of 67 Individual Members: 72 Joint Members making a total of 139. In addition, there are 27 (unfortunately, some of whom we have not heard from for some time.

I express my sincere thanks to the Chair – Revd Adrian Watkins; the Treasurer – Revd Jessie Anand; the other members of the Management Committee : Revd William Allberry in his various roles and to the Webmaster.

Margaret Marshall – FCI Secretary

September 2023