



Spiritual Formation is Missional Formation

By Pastor Mark Greiner, M.Ac., L.Ac.

Scholarships Did you know National Capital Presbytery offers scholarships? Here's one:

"The Spiritual Formation Team is committed to assisting educators, pastors, youth leaders, and lay leaders to attend regional or national conferences, training events, or programs that help support their own spiritual formation and continued learning in order to serve their member churches and National Capital Presbytery." <https://thepresbytery.org/the-work-of-the-presbytery/spiritual-formation-team/>

These scholarships empower us to live into our Presbytery's vision: to be Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic. These scholarships help us discern and deepen our vocation.

Over three years, the Spiritual Formation team has graciously granted me scholarships to learn healing ministry. I've completed a Master of acupuncture degree at the Maryland University of Integrative Health. Acupuncture compliments pastoral care by working with the body-mind-spirit. Acupuncture can help fulfill Jesus' Mark 16 mandate: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation...they will place their hands-on sick people, and they will get well".

Medical Mission My first step in medical missions is in Nepal from February to May 2020. I will be working with the [Acupuncture Relief Project](#). I am also studying wholistic mission with the [United Mission to Nepal](#). (In upcoming Thursday Mail updates, I will describe the work of each mission.) I'll return in May to practice acupuncture in Silver Spring, Maryland.

In Nepal, I'll treat 20 patients daily in a rural village clinic, aiming to reach 800 people. The Acupuncture Relief Project treats people with little or no other access to health care. Our clinic does "triage", provide appropriating care, and accompanying those who access need access to full hospital. The Acupuncture Relief Project's mission is "to provide free medical support to those affected by poverty, conflict or disaster while offering an educationally meaningful experience to influence the professional development and personal growth of compassionate medical practitioners."

Prayer Please continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to work through me for the healing of Nepalese patients. Thank you for praying for me at the January 28, 2020 Presbytery meeting.

Follow me on Facebook at "Pastoral Acupuncture and Wellness"

Contact pastormfg@gmail.com. I'm available to share stories, preach or teach on this Medical Mission after June 1, 2020. *Next articles in this series*

- *"Majority World Medicine": The Acupuncture Relief Project*
- *Fulness of Life in Christ: United Mission in Nepal*
- *Why Acupuncture? Caring for Body-Mind-Spirit all at once*