

To the
Liaison persons,
Church leaders and pastors
In churches linked with
EBM INTERNATIONAL

Newsletter

Elstal, in August, 2013

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in our churches, dear Liaison Persons, dear Friends
of EBM INTERNATIONAL,

Greetings in Jesus' name with Joshua 1:5b: *"I will never leave you nor forsake you."* This word was meant to strengthen Joshua as a person, and to **strengthen his trust** in God. And it is an encouragement to us and our faith as well. God is with his people as they face the challenges of life and of world missions, even though these may seem overwhelming. With our partner unions, we share God's mission to help people in material, personal and spiritual need sustainably. Thank you for supporting us in this endeavour through your prayers and donations.



We cordially invite our churches to support our mission work in *Africa* through a very special sale: that of pearl necklaces benefitting the empowerment of young women in our *EBM Africa projects*. There are three winners from this sale: First, a group of 90 women from *Uganda*, who craft these pearl necklaces from paper, and the fair price they are paid helps them make a living for themselves and their families. Then, everyone buying such a pearl necklace receives a beautiful item for his/her money: a pearl necklace of a kind hardly to be found anywhere else. The third winners are young girls and women in *Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Equatorial Guinea* and the *Central African Republic* who are enabled to get education or training in our schools and vocational training centres there, and who are also made familiar with the gospel and thus are given hope for a better future. For these reasons, the necklaces will not seem low-priced at first sight. Yet, selling the necklaces at the prices we suggest covers production costs for the women in *Uganda*, transport, customs, packing and postage, as well as 3 – 4 Euro proceeds (depending on length of the necklaces) for women's advancement in *projects run by EBM Africa*.

Turkey: Ertan and Marlene Cevik, our EBM missionaries in *Turkey*, are staying on home leave in *Germany*, returning in early September. They are combining holidays and church visits. Still in June, *Ertan* could baptize eight people on confession of their faith at the end of a faith course. Now, he and the *Izmir* church are praying that the new converts will stick to their faith and not be subjected to reprisals from their families.



In July, *Arturo Köbernick* and *Carlos Waldow* visited the projects among the *Quechua* in the *Peruvian Andes*. As usual, it was awe-inspiring to see God at work in these mission projects. You may read more on the trip at our website under **"Breaking News": "From the mission field"**: <http://www.ebm-international.org/detail-news-hilfe>

ebm.0.html?&L=1&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=48&tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=220&cHash=2f5d26f4516e4cf9996f607bca47ac99. On request, we will also be pleased to send you the report by e-mail or by mail. - In August already, EBM MASA missionaries *Karell* and *Raquel Lescaille* could move from the *Isle of Youth* to *Havana, Cuba*. They now contribute to church-planting work in all of *Cuba*, teaming up with *Daniel Gonzalez*. We are happy that an apartment could be hired, and we pray for the family and their settling down in the new environment. *Raquel* is scheduled to have another surgery in the coming months, please pray for that. - In July, a group of eight people from *Brazil* (missionaries, students, and a lecturer from the Theological Seminary at *Ijuí*) went to *Mozambique* for a second mission assignment. They ministered in *Beira* and in several villages. The experience as well as the results have had a deep impact and have been reason for great joy. These assignments are embedded in the partnership between the *Pioneira* (EBM Partner Union in *Brazil*) and the Baptist Union of *Mozambique*, which has been encouraged and coordinated by *EBM MASA*. There will be more detailed information in our MAGAZINE. - In *Bolivia*, two new projects are to be launched in early 2014:

first a *PEPE project* (social mission) for destitute pre-school children in *El Alto*, which will enable the children to attend a pre-school programme and at the same time provide for their families' greatest needs; and second a church-planting project in *Sucre*, which is also to be closely linked to social work. The social work will focus on a project to fight *Chagas disease*, which is spread by the *Chagas bug*. *Sucre* and the region surrounding it are an area "marked red" in *Bolivia*, as this incurable disease spreads very rapidly there.



870 million people on our planet are considered to „live in absolute poverty“ – that is they subsist on less than one euro per day. 350 million of these live in *India*. According to *Misereor* (a German charity), „1.7 million children die from malnutrition every year. An agrarian reform is needed so that the rural population be able to subsist on their own instead of being solely dependent on food aid.“ (Source: DOM-live, 2013-04-11).

It is for this reason that a year ago, *EBM INTERNATIONAL* launched a food security programme. To start with, this programme provides for the training of some 540 poor farmers in 18 villages; they are instructed to grow niche products, without using pesticides, and are supported by micro-credits. This not only offers them the prospect of higher income but will also counteract malnutrition within their families and free them from the claws of seed and fertilizer groups. Results have been so encouraging that from autumn 2013 there will be a similar programme in two additional districts, for another 1000 farmers and their families. We are pleased that *Canadian Baptist Ministries at Toronto*, a mission organization having close ties with *EBM INTERNATIONAL*, will join this food security programme. As these programmes will be run by our Baptist partners, they bear, at the same time, witness to Christ in a Hindu environment.



We are very happy that since June, *Annabeth and Markus Maag* have been able to support the theological education of the *Cameroonian Baptist Union (UEBC)* at *Ndiki*. From here, it will also be possible to terminate their work in *Bangui* in neighbouring *Central African Republic*. - From the *Macia Social Centre* in *Mozambique* the happy news has reached us

that *Orlando*, the local pastor, has been solemnly ordained. He and the church in *Macia* enjoy a good reputation there. *Rev. Afonso Muendane*, our church planter in *Nampula*, is still in *Germany*, with one more eye surgery still planned. - After home leave, *Hans-Willem Oosterloo* has safely arrived back to *Sierra Leone*. Currently, an evaluation of the eye hospital in *Lunsar* is being done, with *Jutta Krebs* on the evaluation team. - During the week 19-25 August, the *Baptist Convention of Malawi* will hold its national convention and its pastors' retreat. At both events, *Thomas Klammt*, pastor in *Einbeck (Germany)* and a former missionary to *South Africa*, will be the main speaker. Prior to this event, he will also visit our missionaries in *South Africa*, *Anna and Johannes Meyer*.

Contact is getting closer between the *Cameroonian Baptist Union (UEBC)* and the churches and the projects in *Equatorial Guinea* which are supported by *EBM INTERNATIONAL*. A pastor from Cameroon is already preparing for a ministry in the neighbour country, and from autumn, the first students from *Equatorial Guinea* may begin their pastoral training in *Cameroon*. These new south-south relationships fill us with joy.

From mid-August, 17 new volunteers will begin their service in *Africa*, *Latin America*, and, for the first time, in *India*. They will be involved in children's homes, schools, health projects, vocational training centres and in church work.

With warmest greetings from Elstal,

Sincerely yours,



Pastor Christoph Haus



Pastor Carlos Waldow



Matthias Dichristin