

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

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## Newsletter

Elstal, in April, 2014

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

**There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** (Galatians 3:28)

It is this privilege of unity and fellowship which is an integral part of missions. We learn from one another and serve one another, thereby crossing boundaries of culture and status. Missions is variegated; it crosses boundaries because God Himself has crossed the boundary between Himself and us human beings. Not only has access to God been made possible, but access to one another as well. In this coming together, diversities are not eliminated, but may rather be perceived to be enriching by those involved. This is why we all work as partners in Africa, Latin America, India and Turkey.

You will now find some highlights from these regions:



Spring is a time of meeting: From **May 15 – 18**, the **Mission Council** will be held in **Orsay near Paris**. More than 100 delegates from the world over will set out to attend this annual gathering. The Mission Council is the highest decision-making body of EBM INTERNATIONAL. Here, co-workers and missionaries will be appointed. We are very happy that the EBM Executive Committee has nominated Christoph Haus for confirmation for another four years.

In late May, you will find us and a couple of international guests at the **Annual Assembly of the German Baptist Union in Kassel**. Our 30-minute contribution to the plenary session will present the multi-faceted spectrum of our mission work. In 2014, we are celebrating 60 years of EBM INTERNATIONAL and are looking back on our history with gratitude. Thanks to the support of churches, friends and donors, many people could experience the Lord's blessings; this also is a manifestation of unity. This is another reason to celebrate our Friends' Gathering on the eve of the Annual Assembly in the Kassel-Möncheberg Church, in a tried and tested way. We are looking forward to all of these encounters and to your registrations. We want to be available for you and for your churches. So, please, don't hesitate to approach us!

From May 1 – 4, the **BUJU (Meeting of German Baptist Youth)** will take place in **Alsfeld**. We will be there, too, with a stand and will also offer a seminar for young people. Please motivate the young people in your churches to attend the BUJU and to come around to our stand.

**TURKEY** – For some months, Iranian refugees have been seeking to get into contact and have actually made friends with people in our Church in Izmir. Assisted by an Iranian lady who speaks Turkish, Pastor Ertan Cevik gave them a faith course. Eight Iranians were baptized on March 8.

Over the past months, Marlene Cevik has above all been committed to getting accommodation for the refugees and to providing them with furniture, dishes, bedding, etc., via Caritas in Izmir. The Women's Department of the German Baptist Union, too, was kind enough to contribute an earmarked donation.

April will see the first meeting of the leaders of the four small Baptist Churches in Turkey. The Churches in **Istanbul, Izmir, Adana** and **Samsung** are planning to network, with the medium-term goal of founding a Baptist Union in Turkey. The churches hope that this will result in more acceptance in society and more support from authorities. This meeting has been suggested by Ertan Cevik – let us pray for it.



In spring, retreats for the missionaries serving in the respective areas are being held in **South Africa** and **Cameroon**. These are times of encouragement and reflection, of re-orientation, spiritual recharging and praying.

The Meyers are currently on furlough in Germany. Ahead of them are meetings in churches, and the course for their further ministries has to be set. Their work is to be based in a local church. Together with Regina Claas, the three have now become a superb team, benefitting from one another.

In **Macia/Mozambique**, a two-year project has been launched which is to integrate 14 handicapped children into regular schools. Because of his illness, Rev. Muendane's future is still up in the air, and a solution will have to be found.

In the coming weeks, many guests from **Malawi** will be staying in Germany. We are especially pleased that the Mafulekas from Zomba will serve in Heidelberg on a "WITHOUT BORDERS" assignment. All the guests from Malawi will be attending the Annual Assembly of the German Baptist Union.

We will be appointing new missionaries to **Mozambique, Cameroon** and **Sierra Leone**. They will be involved in Macia, in supporting the Vocational Centre in Garoua (CTG) and in coordinating projects in Sierra Leone, respectively. All of them will also be engaged in training staff in those countries. This is how we invest in people and in education. We are still looking for churches willing to support the ministries of our missionaries, financially and in prayer.

The couple Dirk and Hanna Pusch have come back to Germany to stay. In addition to their church visits, Dirk will still go to Cameroon a couple of times in order to bring his work to a close. Sara Marcos' term of service in **Evinayong/Equatorial Guinea** will also end in the course of the current year.

The **Central African Republic** is still in need of our prayers. We are looking for beneficial ways to support the country, at least financially.



In early June, 15 people will set out for **Peru**, taking part in a field trip. The party will visit some EBM MASA Projects in the country and get to know our missionaries. The new chapel in Yanaoca will be inaugurated in a festive service with the group attending. The chapel and the adjacent facilities will also be used for the training of mission workers in the mission work of this area. We pray for the health and strength of Adrián Campero, who still has to manage a great deal of duties, as well as for our missionary Modesto Puñal, whose health, unfortunately, is still not much better.

In Havana/**Cuba**, a first training unit was held with 90 pastors and co-workers of the „Urbano 2020“ (urbane mission) Project attending. The Project was launched in mid-2013 and is already running in full swing. From the data gathered and evaluated, materials for a manual have been developed. These will now help the churches which want to start new church-planting work in the cities to proceed strategically. Our missionary Daniel González is in charge of the Project.

In **Bolivia**, two new projects supported by EBM MASA are being launched: a PEPE Project in El Alto, a suburb of La Paz. Attending pre-school provides children from the slums with better chances when they start school. These are nurtured affectionately and taken care of in every aspect. In Sucre, a church-planting project is being launched which is linked to a campaign to fight Chagas Disease, which is a big problem in this region.



Recently, our partner David Sudhir (director of the organization BWWEW in **Kakinada**) has written the following: *“Last week, one of our 15 Bible Women invited us to her home to pray in remembrance of her beloved husband. The guests included neighbours, beggars and homeless people. She arranged for a splendid lunch for everyone and handed out clothing for the poor guests. Our Heavenly Father will reward her for that.”* David Sudhir and the Bible Women accomplish an extraordinary ministry, with great passion, in order to take God’s Word to the poorest of the poor.

In February this year, we assisted two families in **Thukivakam**, a small village in Chittoor District. One of the families had lost their livelihood when their home caught fire due to a short-circuit and then burned down completely. Their 20-day-old baby had been sleeping in the burning house, but could be rescued in time, thank God. The other tragedy occurred on the motorway, as a family (parents and two children) were heading home and a big lorry lost control and collided with them. All of the family survived, but some of them had severe injuries, which were treated in hospital. The offering in the church at Thukivakam plus our support made it possible to help both families to build up a livelihood again and to pay for hospital and follow-up treatment costs, respectively.

With warmest greetings from Elstal,

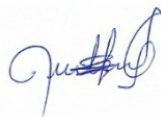
Yours,



Pastor Christoph Haus

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christoph Haus'.

Pastor Carlos Waldow

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Waldow'.

Matthias Dichristin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dichristin'.