

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

Gottfried-Wilhelm-Lehmann-Str. 4  
14641 Wustemark  
T +49 (0)33 234 – 74 150  
F +49 (0)33 234 – 74 145  
info@ebm-international.org  
www.ebm-international.org

Spar- und Kreditbank eG  
Bad Homburg  
Konto-Nr. 46868  
BLZ: 500 921 00  
IBAN: DE 69 5009 2100 0000 0468 68  
BIC: GENODE 51BH2

## Newsletter

Elstal, in April, 2013

Dear brothers and sisters in our churches, dear liaison persons,  
Dear friends of EBM INTERNATIONAL,

**“When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (...), jumped into the water, and headed to shore.” (Johannes 21: 7b)**

We are sending you this newsletter between Easter and Whitsuntide. It is between Easter and Whitsun that the encounter between Peter and Jesus takes place. Full of enthusiasm, Peter jumps from his fishing boat into the water in order to be with Jesus as quickly as possible. Easter has transformed him. He can hardly wait to be near Jesus (again). In the wake of this encounter, he will be called to build God's church. May Jesus inspire our mission work in the same way time and again, and may he bless many people through it.



The period between Easter and Whitsuntide is, for us also, a time for various encounters. From May 2-4, the annual **Mission Council** takes place at **Skien/Norway**. Together with the delegates from our 27 member unions, we will be listening to reports on the work done in our countries of service, and we will certainly be praising the Lord for manifold testimonies.

Of course, quite a number of strategic decisions will also have to be made. The theme guiding us will be our hope that God confirms His mission, even though we often lack the resources. - Right after that, on May 8, there will be our annual **gathering of friends** at the **church of Kassel-Möncheberg**, and in the following days, we will be present at the **Annual Assembly of German Baptists in Kassel**, with many international guests attending, too. We are looking forward to welcoming many of you at our EBM INTERNATIONAL stand.

**Turkey:** From April 13 – 20, a party of 12 people from six different Baptist churches in France will visit our mission church in **Izmir**. As to **Ertan and Marlene Cevik**, for their part, they will also visit a church in Norway after the Mission Council, besides many German churches. We are happy that our mission work in Turkey is getting more and more widely known in other European EBM unions as well.

The chair of the CDU/CSU group of the German Parliament, Mr **Volker Kauder**, plans to visit Ertan's and Marlene's mission work this year. This is in the wake of a hearing in Berlin, held on the situation of Christians in Turkey, where Ertan was present.

For some months already, Ertan, Marlene and their children have lived outside the city in a small village and feel quite at home there.



A new mission project was launched in **Irigoyen (Argentina)** in February. At the beginning, there was a tent evangelization lasting several weeks. A great number of people attended the events, and several of them gave their lives to Jesus and are now being followed up.

**Oscar Kunigk** will be in charge of this new project, in addition to his church-planting project in El Soberbio (at 220, from Irigoyen).

There is a new director for the **„Henrique Liebich“ Children's Home** in Ijuí (Brazil): Leandro Correa. He has been the financial administrator for the past two years, the interim director since January, and has now been appointed director. – Very happy and with great expectations, the pastoral couple **Valério and Sandra Kurth** started their full-time ministry in the **“Pomeranians for Jesus”** Project in the Federal State of Espírito Santo (Brazil) in February.

**Adrian Campero**, our main EBM MASA missionary among the Quechua in Peru, is not in good health, and he is getting medical treatment. We hope that he will soon be fit and strong again in order to cope with the great number of his tasks. Adrián is in charge of coordinating the roughly 40 mission projects among the Quechua. His priority continues to be training the Quechua missionaries and pastors, as well as counselling them and advising them in practical church-planting work.

In **Havana (Cuba)**, the church of Daniel Gonzalez has planted a **new church numbering some 100 members**. The mother church has released a pastor and a worship team in order to guide and serve the "daughter". The inaugural service was marked by great joy and gratitude. Three more churches are to be planted in a similar way over the next two years. Together with the other EBM MASA missionaries, Daniel Gonzalez is working on the strategy for future mission work in Cuba, which will be an integral part of the "EBM MASA 2020" strategy.



The pilot project of the new **food security project** in **Vuyyuru/South East India** is nearing its fourth quarter, and up-to-date results have been so impressive and encouraging that we as EBM INDIA want to go on supporting this project by all means. It combines significant improvements in the income of more than 500 farmers and their families, with training in organic farming and spreading the Christian witness in a Hindu environment. This was made especially clear by the reports of 20 farmers, beneficiaries of the new food security project. With gratitude they reported on their first crop harvested after using bio-fertilizer and organic pesticides, as the agriculture experts in the trainings had taught them. Many of the farmers have heeded the expert advice and cultivated niche products such as turmeric, and they have been able to sell their crops with profits. The project is now scheduled to be completed by a **micro credit programme**.

The **Aids Orphanage in Bangaluparyam** is of special relevance to its 52 children since all of these children are Aids orphans. Unfortunately, the standard of this children's home has been very low so that we as EBM INDIA have acceded to a request for an annex. This will allow the children there to enjoy the same standard as the children in the other 13 children's homes, a standard which has been agreed on by the Indian partners over the past years.

We now hope that there will be sufficient donations to fund this desperately needed investment.



During the **retreat** attended by all **the missionaries to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea**, which was held in **Maroua** in late March, we had many encouraging experiences, and as a team of more than 20 people we could pray for one another and for the various tasks. The visits to the various EBM AFRICA projects in **North Cameroon** were very impressive. At the moment, however, the unstable situations in many African countries overshadow these impressions.

After the **Maags**, our missionary couple, had first to be evacuated from the **Central African Republic**, their return planned for the end of March also was stopped, at the very last moment. The apparent stability had crumbled very soon, and the rebels invaded the capital **Bangui**.

Almost at the same time, we had to respond to the kidnapping of a French family in **northern Cameroon**, carried out in February already by Nigerian terrorists: When a travel warning for the region was issued, we decided that our **volunteers** were no longer safe in **Mokong** and **Mokolo**. **Elisabeth Dienel**, **Johanna Köpke** and **Johanna Joy Obst** are cutting short their assignment these days. The **Pusch families** and volunteer **Silja Rusch** will remain in **Maroua**, which is considered a safe place in this region. Their freedom of movement, however, is considerably restricted.

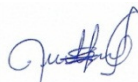
And since April 8, we have known that there were also several attacks by the opposition in **Mozambique**. More than 20 people were killed, e.g., in an attack on a bus. Our missionary **Eduardo Melo**, who is about to return to Portugal, now has to be extremely prudent as he is doing his last business trips.

With warmest greetings from Elstal, we remain

Sincerely yours,

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

Pastor Christoph Haus

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

Pastor Carlos Waldow

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

Matthias Dichristin