

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

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Elstal, in April, 2011

Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. Matth. 26:41

Dear Friends of EBM International,

„There are worse things than oversleeping once in a while, right? “ To whom has it never happened? In the weeks to come, during Passiontide and at Easter, we commemorate and celebrate the essential facts on which our Christian faith rests: Jesus, God’s Son, has confirmed his sovereignty and authority through his crucifixion and resurrection. In Gethsemane, He is preparing for this crucial event. His disciples have followed him but cannot understand him. Obviously, they cannot see any meaning in what is ahead of Jesus. They fall asleep; they oversleep, and miss out on the moment of life which is so all-important for Jesus. Jesus’ response is a very human one. He is annoyed and arouses them. He reminds them that their faith will be challenged in what they will be experiencing. He admonishes them to be watchful and to learn what to do by communicating with God. Being watchful and learning what to do is part of our responsibility in world missions. This is why we ask all our friends of EBM INTERNATIONAL for their prayers and their active support. We want to be watchful in doing our work and to do the right things in Africa, Latin America, and India. We want to continue to share the lasting love of our Crucified and Risen Lord with those who are in need, in word and deed. And we would ask you to help us do so!

EBM AFRICA

The logo for EBM Africa features a stylized blue 'ebm' with the word 'AFRICA' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it, and a small blue cross symbol to the right.

In late March and early April, the European workers could meet for retreat weekends in their countries of service: Under the leadership of Fletcher Kaiya, the missionaries to South Africa, Malawi and Mozambique gathered in **Blantyre/Malawi**, and under the leadership of Timothée Bouba, the missionaries to **Cameroon** gathered in **Maroua**. Such regular retreats, time for reflexion, and prayer are particularly important in world mission ministries. We are very thankful for these retreats.

The Lord wonderfully protected a little child and kept her safe when she ran into the car of our missionary Jutta Krebs, in North Cameroon. She was severely injured, was hardly breathing and it was feared she would die. She was quickly put in Jutta Krebs’ car and taken to the nearby hospital in **Zidim**. Thank God – she still lived and has survived. It was a true miracle of God’s grace that the child got away with “nothing but” a broken leg.

We are very pleased to learn that Szilvia Papp, our missionary in **Maputo/Mozambique**, is making good progress collecting native songs in regional dialects and languages and compiling them into a song book. Please pray for this so that the project may be completed by the end of next year, as has been planned.

EBM INDIA



It is a really great answer to prayer that in Dr Judson from Hyderabad, South East India, we could finally find a **regional representative for EBM INTERNATIONAL** in India. Dr Judson is familiar with most of the projects of the former INDIENHILFE, as he collaborated with Dr Herter for many years. He is a professor emeritus and a member of the church leadership in South Lallaguda Baptist Church in Hyderabad. In future he will be coordinating the work of EBM INDIA on site. Besides the social ministry projects, we support, time and again, **church planting work**. The Baptist Churches in Gudupadu and Dippakayalapadu are both relatively young churches that have now ventured to build a community centre of their own. Still applying the guidelines of INDIENHILFE, we as EBM INTERNATIONAL assist those churches that have already accomplished a major part of their building project relying on their own means. These two churches will each be supported with 8,500 € so that they will find themselves able to complete their church buildings.

We are happy about two **partnerships** that have been established **between churches** in Europe and India. To the Indian churches, it is encouraging when a church in Germany (or in the Netherlands respectively) is in direct contact with them. Not only do our brothers and sisters in Germany get a direct feedback as to how their donations are being used but they also get inspired by a Baptist church in a different culture. Our Mission Office will be pleased to give any further information.

EBM MASA (Latin America)



We are happy that in the **Mendoza Area** in Argentina, ever more needy and vulnerable children are being helped in **MANNA** families. In these, they are lovingly cared for during the day.

The social welfare office of the Province expressed appreciation for this good and successful work and has officially recognized it. For the mission work among the **Guaranies**, indigenous leaders are being trained. They are hoped to take over this ministry in their own responsibility and thus reach their tribes with the gospel. In **Brazil**, we are greatly challenged to respond to **new legislation**: Children are to stay in institutions for minimum periods of time. This view may be valuable in principle, but unfortunately, quite often the children are sent back from our homes into disastrous family situations against their will and suffer setbacks. We hope for good solutions! In late March a huge **Mission Conference** took place in **Jimbe/Peru**. Some 200 people gathered from the five mission stations in the region. It is simply wonderful to see how these recently converted Christians passionately do anything to reach the people in the mountains and valleys of the Andes. In early April, Arturo Köbernack and Carlos Waldow visited all the projects in **Cuba**. Seeing God at work there simply overwhelmed them. **Sayas-B. Honda** may serve as an example: When mission work was launched there, little happened at first. Now, however, the Christians experience huge growth and rejoice in spiritual victories. The number of house churches keeps growing.

EBM INTERNATIONAL



Last but not least, we would like to take this opportunity to call your attention to the EBM Mission Council and, in particular, to the **get-together of EBM Friends** in Herford on May 22, 2011. We would be most happy to welcome you. Further information on the two events and application forms are available at the Mission Office.

With warmest greetings from Elstal,
Yours sincerely,



Pastor
Volker Bohle



Pastor
Christoph Haus



Pastor
Carlos Waldow

Encl: Invitation to the Mission Council and to the EBM get-together in May 2011

<http://p124297.typo3server.info/fileadmin/templates/images/aktuell/EBM INTERNATIONAL Missionsrat Mai 2011.pdf>

<http://p124297.typo3server.info/fileadmin/templates/images/aktuell/EBM INTERNATIONAL Freundestreffen Mai 2011.pdf>