

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

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

Elstal, in June 2011

Dear Friends of EBM INTERNATIONAL,

Goodbye, Volker

After ten years of service as Mission Secretary for Africa Promotion, Volker Bohle was given farewell during the Mission Council 2011, held May 19-22 in Herford, Germany. Starting on June 1, 2011, he has taken up pastoral ministry in the Baptist Church of Berlin Lichterfelde-Ost. In his "decade" with EBM, Volker Bohle gave a facelift to the publications informing on our Africa projects; by introducing the Volunteer Programme SERVE, he particularly built an important bridge to young people so that they might have access to world missions. During Volker Bohle's period of service, 165 volunteers could be placed in Africa or Latin America.

We pray for the Bohle family; may they have a good start in their new ministry. And may we find a good succession solution.

New Mission Field of EBM INTERNATIONAL: Izmir/Turkey



Unanimously, the delegates voted that the Baptist Church in Izmir shall become a new mission project of EBM INTERNATIONAL. The German Baptist Union had asked EBM to take over responsibility for this work. In Turkey there are only 120,000 Christians today, whereas there were still 3.6 million of them back in 1910. Our new missionaries, Ertan and Marlene Cevik, consider living and proclaiming the gospel of Christ Jesus to be their mission, together with the small Baptist Church. Please pray for this new field of work.



EBM MASA (Latin America)

The **DIADEMA** Community Centre in **Brazil** celebrated its 9th anniversary! The project started with a day-care centre for 20 street children. Today, 250 children are taken care of every day and many activities are offered: Bible stories, music lessons, computer courses, arts and culture courses, tutoring, sports and games, psychological care and many more. In addition, every child is provided with two substantial meals a day. Another 250 children, youths and grown-ups as well as their families benefit from various courses and programmes held at the Centre. It is a pleasure to see people being assisted in a holistic way here. Many of them have accepted the Gospel and now attend church.

This year's Mission Council in Herford was attended by a total of **15 co-workers** from Brazil, Argentina, Peru and Cuba. Their presence was very encouraging, motivating and memorable for all participants. To them, it was important to learn about the whole range of EBM work and to get to know missionaries from other EBM fields of work. They also visited many churches. One of them, **Adrián Campero, Peru**, gives this account: "Some brothers and sisters have told me that they have been praying for me and the Quechua people for many years. They were so very happy to see my face at long last. This has moved and strengthened me a great deal." Adrián has worked as a MASA missionary for more than 27 years, and more than 40 churches have arisen. This year's church festival, a regional gathering of the churches within 50 km, was attended by 3,000 people.



EBM INDIA

Dr Laitha Voola, President of many years of the Nellore Baptist Field Association, passed away on May 21, 2011, after prolonged suffering from cancer. We pray for her husband, Dr Devaraj Voola, for their children and all the project partners as well as for a good succession solution.

Hyderabad Baptist Church launching new programme to fight hunger

So far, EBM INDIA has contributed to fighting hunger only by free feeding programmes. The Hyderabad Baptist Church, through its church-based charity "BLESS", is now planning a sustainable programme to fight hunger for 2012. Instead of providing a daily meal to hungry people, they now intend to facilitate purchasing seeds and exploiting arable land so the poor can provide their own food.



EBM AFRICA

Thanking Paul Mzisa

The General Secretary of the Baptist Convention of South Africa, Rev. Paul Mzisa, will leave office on July 1, 2011, after serving for 10 years. We would like to say thank you to a long-standing friend and supporter of EBM INTERNATIONAL for his very enjoyable and reliable cooperation. And we ask for the Lord's blessing on the BCSEA's quest for a successor.

Julio and Damaris Cháfer commissioned by the Mission Council

The Spanish couple at first went to Africa as short-term missionaries. During this time, they felt called to be long-term career missionaries. So the Mission Council could unanimously commission them for ministries in Malabo and did so with great joy. There, they are taking care of a school with 750 children on the premises of the Baptist Church, for which they carry responsibility as well.

With warmest greetings from Elstal, we remain

Yours sincerely,

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

Pastor
Carlos Waldow

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

Pastor
Christoph Haus