

# Praying for our work in **Africa** and **Latin America**

**May – August 2008**

**I call to God, the Most High, to God, who supplies my every need. *Psalm 57:2***

## **Argentina**

- *Carmen Lakousky* continues her fight against cancer. She is again undergoing prolonged chemotherapy. But she has kept her confidence and goes about her work with joy, depending on her strength. Let us pray for her, for her husband *Horacio* as well as for the children in the Home “Norberto Haase” in Alem.
- More than 50% of the children in Argentina live below the poverty line. The vision of the MANNA Project has arisen against the backdrop of this misery. Already 30 children now live in the home; they are cared for by 9 families. In three further regions (Pampa, Mendoza and Córdoba), efforts are being made to win churches over to the project and to get them excited with it. We pray for more families in the churches who might be ready to join the MANNA programme.

## **Bolivia**

- We keep praying for a new “vision” for the work we do together with the national Baptist Union. There are great needs and challenges, and we wonder where and how we should proceed or also get on for the first time. In May/June there will be talks with the brothers and sisters on site, and we pray for wisdom, strategic perspectives and guidance by our Lord.
- We also pray for the 12 children and teenagers in the La Paz children’s Home; may they experience God’s love and mercy very personally.

## **Brazil**

- *Juliane Böhringer* has been appointed director of the day-care centre in the “Henrique Liebich” children’s home; Juliane is a former graduate of the Bible School in Ijuí. Let us pray for her ministry as well as for that of her co-workers.
- We keep praying for the staff in the children’s homes, particularly for the house mothers. Experience has confirmed that they should not just be women looking for a job but should have been called by the Lord. If they don’t have a clear call they cannot cope when they are faced with the challenges in their work, which are related to relationships, mental health, spiritual life or counselling.
- In the day-care centre in Diadema, we have succeeded in raising the number of children and teens from 125 to 160. Let us pray for perseverance as there are great challenges and spiritual battles linked to this ministry.

## **Cameroon**

- Praying for the many recently founded churches in Slouth Cameroon, we ask the Lord that he would bless them and make them grow. God’s wisdom is also needed for those elaborating new materials for follow-up, evangelism and church planting.

- Let us pray for the missionaries who will be on home furlough: *Dirk and Hanna Pusch* (April – August), *Emmanuel and Jutta Krebs-Mbiene* (June – October), *Martin and Christel Pusch* (July – August).
- We also ask the Lord for political stability in Cameroon and in Tchad.

## Central African Republic

- The family of Rev. *Wilite* in Yaloke lost four of their children when the pastor's house and community centre burnt down. We ask God to give comfort and new courage to them and also to their congregation.
- Please pray for the new small-scale project for widows and orphans; the project is to enable them to cultivate their own fields and thus to become self-sufficient.

## Cuba

- Please pray for the staff who give leadership to the 70 cell churches on the Isle of Youth, as well as for the leadership training, which is to empower them for their ministries.
- “Cuba 2010” is a project aimed at planting 50,000 cell churches by 2010. For the first time in history, the four small Baptist Unions have joined in a common endeavour. They have now started 50 days of intensive prayer. They expect many thousand conversions during this period. Let us join them in prayer.

## Equatorial Guinea

- In the interior of Equatorial Guinea there are some very small churches. We pray that they will grow spiritually and that there will be leaders ready to be called into service.
- The Christian library in Bata sells devotional and study books, a service which is well accepted throughout the country. We are praying for a new, positive and sustainable concept.
- Let us pray for the schools “El Buen Pastor” in Malabo and “Talita Cumi” in Evinayong, where construction and extension work is needed.

## Malawi

- Please pray for the new general secretary of BACOMA, *Simon Mkamanga*. May the pastors welcome him as their friend and co-worker.
- In Kenya, there are violent skirmishes. Let us pray that Malawi, this very poor country, will be spared.
- We pray that God will provide for the widows and the orphans. Our first and foremost prayer request is that the AIDS pandemic might be contained.

## Mozambique

- Our new missionary, *Szilvia Papp* from Hungary, needs good housing; let us pray that she may soon find something convenient.
- There has been another onset of heavy rains again. A cholera epidemic has broken out, but the local hospital does not have enough space or adequate conditions to admit all the patients. We pray for healing, protection and helping hands for the affected grown-ups and children.

- Please pray for the mission programmes implemented by *Isabel and Eduardo Melo*, *Szilvia Papp* and *Doro Körner*, the volunteer. Let us also pray for the approaching 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mozambican Baptist Union.

## Peru

- As a result of the missionary work done by *Adrián Campero* and others, some 40 small churches have arisen among the various Indian tribes; these still need our prayer support. The co-workers need further training, and there are problems that have to be overcome. We are thankful to God that time and again, people surrender their lives to Jesus and that the Gospel is taking shape here, too.

## Portugal

- We ask the Lord's guidance as to the future of our children's home. Neglected children in need still do get hopeful perspectives on their lives. For God, there are no insurmountable obstacles.

## Sierra Leone

- *Hans-Willem and Aisha Oosterloo* will be on home furlough from April to June, and *Gudleik and Anne Husby* from July to August. Please pray for them as well as for the organization of the work during their absence, so that it might go on smoothly.
- The Baptist Convention Sierra Leone is faced with many challenges as to evangelism, organization of work and encouraging their area associations. We pray for the leaders and pastors who are involved.
- *Rev. Paul Conteh* and *Rev. Joseph Fornah* are planning to go to Lüneburg (Germany) on the "Without Borders" Programme. Let us pray for good preparation and for their commissioning.

## South Africa

- The Aids Desk of the Baptist Convention of South Africa runs many good projects which provide material and spiritual support to those infected and affected by Aids. Let us pray for this important work.
- We continue to pray for good general conditions for the ministries of our volunteers *Susanne and Corinna* in Soshanguve and *Claire* in Temba and Mamelodi.
- Let us also pray for the *Dichristin* family, that they might find the time and settings they need to relax and to recharge their spiritual batteries.

## Europe

- Please pray for the EBM/MASA Volunteers, that they would find it easy to fit back into their surroundings and careers as they are coming back.
- We pray for a good spiritual atmosphere and for God's inspiration during the preparation course for the volunteers 2008/09.

## Thanking our Lord (Answers to prayer)

- Let us thank the Lord for the children in the PEPE Projects (Brazil) and for their families, some of whom have already come to faith and have been integrated into the churches.
- We thank God that he has granted *Matthias and Esther Dichristin* deeper relations with the staffs in the Aids and church projects.