

ADVOCATES

INTERNATIONAL®

MIN CHOON LEE
CHAIRMAN, GLOBAL COUNCIL
BRENT M. MCBURNEY
PRESIDENT & CEO

9691 MAIN STREET, SUITE D
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22031-3754
703.894.1084 FAX 703.894.1074
MINCHOON.LEE@GMAIL.COM

MCBURNEY@ADVOCATESINTERNATIONAL.ORG
WWW.ADVOCATESINTERNATIONAL.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2012

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.” - Psalm 139:13

**“We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, killings, of wars, or of hatred...
If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other?” - Mother Teresa**

Dear Friends,

Almost 40 years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its decision in *Roe v. Wade*, allowing legalized murder of unborn children in the USA. Now, a generation and almost 55 million aborted babies later, it should not come as a surprise, especially here in the USA, that our news headlines are filled with ever-increasing violence and hatred. As Mother Teresa said, “If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other?”

Unfortunately, the International Planned Parenthood Federation and the Center for Reproductive Rights are spending millions of dollars in their efforts to liberalize abortion laws, all in the name of women’s health as a human right, in countries around the world. What I find particularly disturbing is how pro-abortion advocates proudly report that the annual number of abortions in Latin America and the Caribbean have increased between 2003 and 2008 from 4.1 million to 4.4 million, simply as though these represent nothing more than statistics and not the lives of humans. Sadly, they continue to push against the strong culture of protecting the life of the unborn, insisting that reproductive rights are paramount because people can’t control their sexual urges.

Advocates Caribbean Sanctity of Life Conference

Your prayers and support are needed now more than ever, especially when it comes to the work of the Global Resource Team for Sanctity of Life. Later this month, in partnership with the Advocates Caribbean annual conference, we will bring timely training and encouragement in the battle over abortion laws in the Caribbean. You can help our colleagues in their battle to protect the sanctity of life from conception to final breath by providing a scholarship for those advocates who are in key positions to fight to maintain strong laws against abortion and euthanasia.

Planning for this Sanctity of Life event, which started almost a year ago, included the August launch of **Advocates Barbados**, our newest country fellowship and host of this year’s conference. As if in response to our efforts, this past month saw increased efforts to liberalize the abortion laws in Barbados. One example of the opposition we face—the executive director of Barbados Family Planning Association was quoted in an internet article asking for “reform” of what he termed “archaic legislation” on abortion for minors. In other words, they want to be able to perform abortions for young girls who get pregnant, ignoring the fact that two wrongs don’t make a right. It is efforts like this that we are up against.

Your assistance now can have a much broader impact. This year, for the first time, we advertised globally for this important conference. In addition to advocates from across the Caribbean, delegates from Bangladesh, Canada, China, India, and Pakistan, are expected and will also gain valuable training and encouragement. Simply note “Caribbean” on your gift.

Doing Justice with Compassion

CLS National Conference

Our partnership with the Christian Legal Society continues to bear fruit internationally. Following our global convocations in conjunction with the CLS national conference, CLS Attorney chapters began “adopting” Christian lawyer fellowships of different countries. One of these collaborations—between the San Antonio, Texas CLS Chapter and the Christian lawyer fellowship in the Democratic Republic of Congo—will be holding their third joint conference in northeastern Congo in October.

We hope to duplicate efforts like this, so this October we will bring together a small delegation of leaders from Advocates Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America to join with us in Colorado Springs. However, many of these regional leaders make significantly less money than their counterparts in the United States, and will be vastly stretching their personal budgets to be with us. You can help us to cover a portion of their expenses while they are here in the US with an extra gift this month. Simply note “CLS” in the memo line of your gift.

Joint Global Conference

Since our last Global Convocation in 2008, advocates around the globe have been meeting together through regional conferences. With your support, we’ve been blessed to help provide training and encouragement at most of these gatherings. In addition, the six Global Resource Teams and Task Forces have slowly been gaining momentum and we will be holding a joint conference next April in Hong Kong in partnership with Campus Crusade for Christ International.

The conference entitled “***Transforming the World Through Faith and Law***” will bring together AI’s Global Council and six Global Resource Teams alongside Crusade’s *Faith and Law Around the Globe* ministry from April 4-9, 2013 at the Hong Kong Sky City Marriott Hotel. In addition to Advocates’ primary issues—Sanctity of Life, Religious Freedom, Peace & Reconciliation, Rule of Law, Human Rights for the Poor & Needy, and Family & Community—attendees will have the opportunity to gain valuable training on workplace evangelism and spiritual growth.

You can help Advocates with a gift to help cover the expenses for those delegates for whom this training will be a vital encouragement. As I mentioned above, many of our advocates who are in positions of authority in their own nations face significant financial hardships and won’t be able to receive this important training without our support. Simply note “Hong Kong” on your gift.

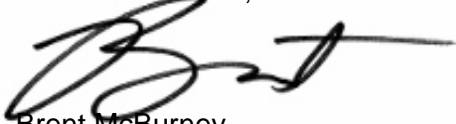
Grateful Hearts

Finally, we’d like to share an enormous thanks to all of you who supported us over the summer. We know that times are difficult everywhere, but God’s faithfulness was displayed through your generosity, allowing us to meet all our financial obligations. However, as Sam used to say, “the cupboard is almost bare.” We truly remain a faith ministry, relying on God’s provision through each of you. It would be a tremendous blessing to move into 2013 with a reserve to help us increase our outreach.

The monthly prayer calendar is enclosed and we, along with our advocates around the globe, greatly appreciate your continued prayers. Please pray especially this month for the protection of those innocent lives yet to be born and the advocates who are fighting to protect them.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO



PRAYER CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 2012

Mondays: Advocates Africa

As mentioned in this month's newsletter, please continue to pray for the preparations for a national conference that is being organized by Christian lawyers in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** from 8-11 October 2012. This conference is due to be held in Beni, North Kivu, in the north-eastern part of the DRC, in conjunction with the Christian Bilingual University of Congo. Pray especially for safety—rebel groups are active in these areas and conflict in the eastern part of the DRC is ongoing.

Please pray for the on-going struggles in the horn of Africa, particularly between **South Sudan** and **Sudan**. Pray also for **Advocates Africa's** efforts in Eritrea as we had an opportunity to nominate someone to fill the UN's new post of "Special Rapporteur on Eritrea. Pray for **Ethiopian Christian Lawyers Fellowship** and their efforts to establish Peace & Reconciliation Centers.

Please continue to pray for **Emad Felix** and **Advocates Egypt**, who continue to face daily challenges with the change of power in Egypt.

Tuesdays: Advocates Asia & Oceania

Please continue to pray for **Nguyen Van Dai** who remains under house-arrest in Viet Nam. Pray also for others, like Dai, whose only crime was advocating for those who could not represent themselves.

Please pray for **Baasankhuu** and **Nomiko** and the **Rule of Law Institute of Mongolia** team as Baasankhuu turns over leadership of the RLIM to others to focus on his new role as a Member of Parliament. Pray especially for the last few months of Nomiko's pregnancy. Their baby is due in November.

Please pray for Christian advocates like **Joseph Francis**, **Ezra Shujat** and others in **Pakistan** as they represent clients falsely accused of blasphemy, and of those who are persecuted by Muslims.

Please continue to pray for **Mark Mudri** and all of our advocates in **Australia** as they battle for two key pro-life bills and for religious freedom.

Wednesdays: Advocates Europe

Please continue to pray for **Latcho Popov** and the **Rule of Law Institute** Bulgaria. Latcho continues to serve as president of Advocate Europe and continues to lead the way on religious freedom and rule of law issues throughout the continent.

Please continue to pray for our advocates in Albania—**Toni Gogu**, **Altin Naqe** and their colleagues—as they continue preparations to start a Christian legal aid clinic for the poor and needy. Pray especially for the TiranaFest campaign scheduled to take place on September 22-23.

Pray for continued efforts of the **National Christian Ukrainian Lawyer Association**, **Christ und Jurist (Germany)**, and each of the European fellowships.

Thursdays: Advocates Latin America (FIAJC)

Please continue to pray for country leaders in **FIAJC** who will come together this October at the CLS Conference in Colorado to discuss the future of the work throughout Latin America. Pray that each of the country leaders that need to be there will find the funds necessary to travel to this key meeting.

Nina Balmaceda asks us to continue to pray for those national fellowships that are facing a great deal of discouragement recently. Pray for wisdom and guidance for the board of **FIAJC** as they seek better ways to encourage lawyers throughout Latin America.

Fridays: Advocates North America & Caribbean

As mentioned in this month's newsletter, please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers from **Advocates Caribbean** who face extreme pressure from pro-abortion and same-sex marriage advocates. Efforts to legalize same-sex unions and abortion have increased in **Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, and Jamaica**, in particular. Pray also for the continued planning of the very timely conference on Sanctity of Life scheduled for September in **Barbados**.

Please pray for the **Christian Legal Society's** 2012 National Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado in October. The theme of this year's conference is: "**Every Square Inch: Your Work Matters.**"

Please continue to pray for **Ruth Ross** and the leadership of Canada's **Christian Legal Fellowship**, and for all those who attended the annual CLF Conference in London, Ontario August 20-23. Pray that the Lord will continue to work into their lives His "Sustaining Power" that was the theme of the conference. Pray also for the follow up to the Christian Legal Institute for Canada's Christian law students.

Saturdays: Advocates Global Council & Board Members

(Individual's prayer needs listed below)

Global Council: Exec. Committee: Chairman, Min Choon Lee* (Malaysia) (*God's grace & good health*); Vice Chair, Teresa Conradie* (South Africa) (*recovery for family & law firm*); Secretary, Gregory Vijayendran (Singapore) (*time management*); Treasurer, Ruth Ross* (Canada) (*recovery of health*); **Members – Africa:** Justice Rose Mbah Acha (Cameroon) (*newly appointed as President of a new court in Cameroon*); Judge Mike Chibita (Uganda) (*wisdom in dispensing justice & family situation*); **Asia:** Robin David (India) (*wisdom & guidance*); Dongsub Sim (Korea) (*new job as prison warden*); **Europe:** Latchezar Popov (Bulgaria) (*endurance*); Nicolas Duval (France) (*whether to start a new law firm*); Mats Tunehag (Sweden) (*health and safety for many travels*); **Latin America:** Gerardo Amarilla (Uruguay) (*wisdom & commitment in leading FIAJC*); Nina Balmaceda* (Peru) (*perseverance*), Gilberto Ribeiro (Brazil) (*guidance and endurance*); **Middle East:** Botrus Mansour (Israel) (*Nazareth Baptist School*); **North America/Caribbean:** Justice Alice Soo Hon (Trinidad & Tobago) (*Advocates Caribbean Conference in September*); **Oceania:** Mark Mudri (Australia) (*Stewarding of the unprecedented move of God in Adelaide*). *Also AI board members.

AI Board: Chairman, Lynn Buzzard (*health and recovery*); Vice-Chairman, Matt Bristol (*Lord's guidance in next season of life*); Treasurer, Timothy Klenk (*health and recovery*); Secretary, Chip Zimmer (*safe travels for Peacemaker Ministries*); Sam Logan (*family & legal aid clinics in DC*), Roger Sherrard (*continued good health*); and Ken Starr (*God's grace in leading Baylor University*).

Sundays: Advocates Staff & Family

Please pray for Romi Kobayashi; Brent McBurney, his wife Elizabeth, son Ian and daughter Sarah Louise.