

ADVOCATES

INTERNATIONAL®

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“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” Matthew 17:20

Dear Friends,

The Mountain is High

Overcoming obstacles helps to strengthen our faith. At the same time, our faith helps us to overcome. That lesson manifested itself earlier this year when we sought permission for two of our Cuban advocates to attend the CLS national conference. As we took each step, Livian Gonzalez, President of the Confraternidad Christianos de Juristas de Cuba (CCJC), encouraged me through her Christ-like faith. In one email she told me: “La Montaña Es Alta Pero Más Alta Es Nuestra Fe.” (*The Mountain is High, But Our Faith Is Higher*). How true it is that when we believe, we can move the mountain.

Our Faith is Higher

Over the past decade, Advocates has invited various Cuban lawyers to our Global Convocations and other events, all to no avail. This year, thanks to your prayers and financial support, and an ever-so-slowly changing atmosphere in Cuba, we succeeded. Not only were USA entry visas granted, the permission from the Cuban government to travel to the USA was also granted. In October, I finally met Livian Gonzalez and her CCJC sister, Georgina Ortega, in person in Colorado. They were so grateful for the blessing of being with us and so encouraged by the fellowship that they returned home with renewed vision for strengthening the mission of CCJC. We ask that you continue to pray with us for our advocates in Cuba, and for those leaders listed in the enclosed prayer calendar.

Faith-filled Plans for 2013

Thanks to the continued faithfulness of so many, Advocates had a good year in 2012. Even in the midst of an election year in which over \$6 billion was spent on campaigns that many say resulted in zero change in the status quo, we covered all of our greatly reduced expenses—sometimes, in a test of our faith, at the last possible moment. As we look forward to 2013, we are encouraged by the plans that are already taking shape and we trust that His provision will follow.

In March, Advocates will once again be participating in the Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP) Consultation and the European Religious Liberty Forum. Thankfully, they are scheduled back-to-back in Istanbul. Both gatherings are an excellent opportunity for AI to further strengthen our work in religious liberty. As noted in past letters, the RLP is a coalition of Christian organizations focused on religious liberty working together in addressing advocacy and in raising the awareness of religious persecution globally. One of the key issues in which AI is involved is the ongoing battle against anti-blasphemy laws.

Doing Justice with Compassion

In April, Advocates is co-hosting the “Transforming the World Through Faith & Law” conference in Hong Kong, along with our partners, Campus Crusade for Christ International’s FLAG network, and the University of Hong Kong’s Faith and Public Values Project. This conference, scheduled for April 4-8, 2013, will bring together advocates from across the globe to discuss how their profession, coupled with their faith can impact their spheres of influence. The conference will serve as a platform for the AI Global Resource Teams, the site of the Advocates Asia regional conference, a law student conference, and FLAG’s Second Global Convocation. You are more than welcome to join us for any part of the conference, or consider a gift to send an advocate or student to attend.

In May, our friends from FIAJC in Latin America will hold a spiritual retreat in Montevideo, Uruguay to re-energize and re-engage their regional fellowship. We plan to join them and hope to encourage what God is doing in that part of the world. Your prayers for our advocates in Latin America are encouraged, and a year-end gift to encourage their continued efforts is welcomed.

In August, Advocates Africa will hold its 11th regional conference in Kampala, Uganda, co-hosted by Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The hope for next year’s conference is to better involve the Francophone Africans and the plan is to include multiple seminars taught in French, translated into English. In addition, thanks to the growing number of Christian legal aid centers in Africa, the conference provides a platform for the Global Resource Team for Human Rights for the Poor and Needy to launch efforts to increase Christian legal aid centers for the poor around the globe.

Finally, there are a number of ongoing and special projects in which we are engaged. First, Advocates continues to support the Rule of Law Institutes in Bulgaria and Mongolia through designated giving. Second, we plan to set up new matching funds for each Advocates region to provide a basis for us to better encourage and support the plans they are pursuing. When a special project or need arises, we hope to match funds raised within the region. Third, a publisher has agreed to provide a discounted rate for copies of the Bulgarian translation of the book “*When Christians Act Like Christians: God’s Call to Christlike Civility*” by Jeff Rosenau. Latcho Popov plans to give the books to 300 church leaders and Christian lawyers in Bulgaria. Your year-end gift for any of these would also be greatly appreciated.

Your Support is Needed

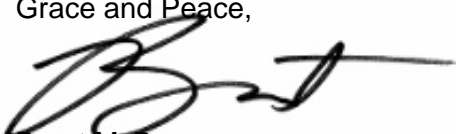
We are incredibly blessed by all of your prayers and financial support. Many of you support us on a monthly basis and that is much appreciated. Thank you. Still others support us with year-end gifts that help sustain us through the leanest months of our year: spring and summer. Thank you.

Whichever type of financial gift you can give this year and next, you can rest assured that we continue to maintain the highest standards and your investment in this small part of God’s Kingdom work will continue to provide encouraging returns through the lives of advocates around the globe. Advocates like Livian Gonzalez whom God uses to encourage us and remind us that through faith, we can move mountains—even the bureaucracy of the Cuban Government.

We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO



PRAYER CALENDAR – DECEMBER 2012

Pray with us for these national leaders

Mondays: Advocates Africa

ADVOCATES AFRICA: *Chairman Dr. Bankole Sodipo (Nigeria)*

ANGOLA: Armando Palanga, Maria Lucia Da Silveira; **BENIN:** Agathe Affougnon; Jean-Marc Kodja; **BOTSWANA:** Edward Luke II; **BURKINA FASO:** Paul Dipama; **BURUNDI:** Longin Baranyizigiye; **CAMEROON:** Rose Mbah-Acha; **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:** Moussa Yves; **CHAD:** Pasteur Bako Ngarndeye; **COTE D'IVOIRE:** Josue Tchimou; **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:** Jean Alain Kasonga; **EGYPT:** Emad Felix Moubarak; **ERITREA:** Tedla Aradom; **ETHIOPIA:** Nigatu Tadesse; **GABON:** Moutou David, Sala Watoma R. David; **GAMBIA:** Sagar C.T. Jahateh, Rachael Y. Mendy; **GHANA:** Emmanuel Goka; **GUINEA:** Frédéric Loua Foromo; **KENYA:** Paul Ndemo; **LESOTHO:** Tsabo Matooni, Sue Merriman; **LIBERIA:** Othello Payman, James Jones; **MALAWI:** Pacharo Kayila; **MALI:** Alison Diarra; **MOZAMBIQUE:** Cauio Carlos Alberto; **NAMIBIA:** Masiza Shakespeare, K.B. Ngutjinazo; **NIGER:** Maitre Nouhou Amadou; **NIGERIA:** Sunny Akanni; **RWANDA:** David Furaha, Vital Nsengiyumva; **SENEGAL:** Joseph Nassakou; **SIERRA LEONE:** Ibrahim Koroma; **SOUTH AFRICA:** Teresa Conradie, Maryna Joubert; **SUDAN:** Mary James Ajith; **SWAZILAND:** B.A. Dube; **TANZANIA:** Sylvia Balwire Leonard, Ann Passian; **TOGO:** Komi Luc Devotsu; **UGANDA:** Edward Sekabanja; **ZAMBIA:** Stephen Lungu; **ZANZIBAR:** Yussuf Sulieman; **ZIMBABWE:** Gerald Matiba

Tuesdays: Advocates Asia & Oceania

ADVOCATES ASIA: *Executive Committee Chairman Min Choon Lee (Malaysia)*

AUSTRALIA: Mark Mudri; **AZERBAIJAN:** Asif (Sadig) Huseynov; **BANGLADESH:** Elizabeth Halder; **CHINA:** Julia Feng; **INDIA:** Tehmina Arora, Robin David; **INDONESIA:** Saudaranta Tarigan; **ISRAEL:** Botrus Mansour; **JAPAN:** Hiroshi Nagao; **JORDAN:** Haytham Eraifej; **KAZAKHSTAN:** Samira Shindauletova; **KOREA:** Dongsub Sim; **KYRGYZSTAN:** Asel Baiastanova; **LEBANON:** Elie Kharat; **MALAYSIA:** Steven Thiru; **MONGOLIA:** Baasankhuu Octybari; **MYANMAR:** Saw Hla Henry; **NEPAL:** Bishwash Sunuwar; **PAKISTAN:** Joseph Francis; **PAPUA NEW GUINEA:** Andrew Kwimberi; **PHILIPPINES:** Aldwin Bernabe Salumbides, Elgene Feliciano; **RUSSIA:** Katya Smyslova; **SINGAPORE:** Gregory Vijayendran; **SRI LANKA:** Roshini Wickremesinha; **TAJIKISTAN:** Parvina Ahmedova; **THAILAND:** Anuruk Poonoo; **UZBEKISTAN:** Nail Gabdullin; **VIETNAM:** Nguyen Van Dai

Wednesdays: Advocates Europe

ADVOCATES EUROPE: *President Latcho Popov (Bulgaria)*

ALBANIA: Fatmir Lacey, Toni Gogu, Altin Naq; **ARMENIA:** Armine Avagyan, Lusy Avagyan; **AUSTRIA:** Robert Kramer; **BELARUS:** Dina Shavtsova, Sergei Shavtsov; **BELGIUM:** Ninette Dodoo; **BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA:** Aleksander Vukovic; **BULGARIA:** Latcho Popov; **CZECH REPUBLIC:** Adam Russ, Martin Okac; **CROATIA:** Tihomir Kukulja; **DENMARK:** Ebbe Holm, Flemming Martinussen; **FINLAND:** Ville Hoikkala; **FRANCE:** Nicolas Duval; **GERMANY:** Armin Eckermann, Peter Gegenwart; **GREECE:** Pepie Pagoni, Vassilios Tsirbas; **HOLLAND:** Eline de Groot; **HUNGARY:** Terry Lingenhoel; **ITALY:** Gianfranco Amato; **KOSOVO:** Pal Bala; **MACEDONIA:** Laste Spasovski; **MOLDOVA:** Aliona Cara, Evghenii Sologubenco; **MONTENEGRO:** Sinisa Nadazdin; **NORWAY:** Henning Heitmann; **POLAND:** Ursula Pomorska; **PORTUGAL:** Fernando Loja; **ROMANIA:** Benjamin Lup; **RUSSIA:** Yuri Snisarenko; **SERBIA:** Dusan Kostic; **SPAIN:** Eliseo Gomez-Lor; **SWEDEN:** Mats Tunehag, Per Karlsson; **SWITZERLAND:** Benjamin Doberstein, Henri Minder; **TURKEY:** Mine Yildirim; **UNITED KINGDOM:** Michael Sookias, Paul Diamond; **UKRAINE:** Sergei Gula, Ivan Mykhalchuk, Andrei Somov

Doing Justice with Compassion

Thursdays: Advocates Latin America (FIAJC)

ADVOCATES LATIN AMERICA: *President Gerardo Amarilla (Uruguay)*

ARGENTINA: Daniel di Paolo, Luis Daglio; **BOLIVIA:** Juana Ambrocio; **BRAZIL:** Gilberto Ribeiro; **CHILE:** Franz Möller; **COLOMBIA:** David Perez, Roberto Sierra; **COSTA RICA:** Reynaldo Matamoros; **CUBA:** Livian Gonzalez, Rodolfo Juarez; **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** Jose Ortiz; **ECUADOR:** Xavier Velez; **EL SALVADOR:** Hugo Pineda, Silvia Martínez; **GUATEMALA:** Lorenzo Hernandez, Elizabeth de Larios; **HONDURAS:** Geovanny Pinto; **MEXICO:** Omar Contreras, Jorge Lee; **NICARAGUA:** Melba Alguera, Rafael Quinto; **PANAMA:** Elvis Ureña; **PARAGUAY:** Daniel Varela, Betina Chamorro; **PERU:** Ana Maria Caro; **URUGUAY:** Mariana Errazquin, Marcel Legarra, Silvana Ferreira; **VENEZUELA:** Rhaizza R. de Villarreal

Fridays: Advocates North America & Caribbean

ADVOCATES NORTH AMERICA: *Chairperson Ruth Ross (Canada)*

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA: Radford Hill; **BARBADOS:** Anne Reid, Tennyson Vaughn; **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS:** Lorraine St Rose; **CANADA:** Ruth Ross; **DOMINICA:** Jeffrey Douglas-Murdock; **GUYANA:** Tejnarine Remroop, Justice Yonette Cummings, Kim Kyte-John; **JAMAICA:** Shirley Richards; **SAINT LUCIA:** Kendy Jean, Sarah Flood Beaubrun; **SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES:** Mandella Campbell; **TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:** Alice Soo Hon, Hyacinth Griffith, Maureen Rajnauth-Lee; **USA:** David Nammo, Steve Tuggy

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) (*transition to new role at CLF*); **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) (*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) (*Peace in Israel*); **North America/Caribbean:** Justice Alice Soo Hon (Trinidad & Tobago) (*Wisdom in dispensing justice*); **Oceania:** Mark Mudri (Australia) (*Stewarding of the unprecedented move of God in Adelaide*). *Also AI board members.

AI Board: Chairman, Matt Bristol (*Lord's guidance in next season of life*); Vice-Chair, Ruth Ross; Treasurer, Sam Logan (*family & legal aid clinics in DC*); Secretary, Chip Zimmer (*safe travels for Peacemaker Ministries*); Timothy Klenk (*health and recovery*); 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.