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Dear Friends,

**“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:1**

One often hears the phrase, “the devil is in the details.” But we know the opposite is true: God is in the details. How do I know? On my way to Hong Kong last month for the Transformation 2013 Conference, I arrived for my connecting flight in Chicago and ran into a friend and colleague from Cincinnati also heading to the conference. We lined up together to board and discovered that we would be seated next to one another for the 16 hour flight—a “divine coincidence.”

The conference itself was a tremendous success on many levels. Over 165 delegates from 32 nations and six continents attended. The AI Global Council conducted a very fruitful annual meeting and is moving forward with great encouragement. Thanks to our collaboration with FLAG and the University of Hong Kong, a significant number of the attendees who were unfamiliar with Advocates are now connected to our growing network, including the Christian Lawyer Fellowship and Christians at the Bar (for barristers) of Hong Kong.



Transformation 2013 – Hong Kong – April 4-8
“Transforming the World Through Faith and Law”
Advocates International/ Advocates Asia Delegates (April 4)

Beginning with a luncheon on April 4, Advocates International played the key role in the first portion of the conference, holding 13 different workshops over two days on issues ranging from religious liberty to peace & reconciliation; rule of law in Africa, Australia, SE Asia and Europe to Sharia law and blasphemy law; and human rights for the poor & needy. Each of the sessions was well received and the feedback from attendees was very positive.

On Friday morning, FLAG opened its portion of the conference with a terrific talk by Wong Yan Lung, the former Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong. Delegates also heard a number of very encouraging messages on "Intimacy with God and the Conflicts That Prevent It" and "Life Transformation Through the Power of the Holy Spirit," and "Transformational Leadership." Advocates' workshops continued on Friday afternoon and the opening banquet was Friday evening, with a traditional Chinese dragon.

On Saturday morning, the University of Hong Kong hosted an Academic Colloquium and in the afternoon "Student Transformation - Beyond Law School," which included a panel of attorneys and a workshop on human trafficking for the law students. At the end of the day, delegates visited Victoria Peak and got to see Hong Kong both in daylight and at night.

Sunday morning featured "Can You Have It All? Priorities and the Transformed Life," "Living Transformed Lives with Family and Friends," and "Encouraging One Another: The Role of Lawyer Fellowships." The afternoon included sessions on Sharia Law, "Seeking an End to Human Trafficking," sharing the gospel, dispute resolution and prayer. Our evening speaker shared her experiences of prosecuting sex crimes and being light in dark places.

The conference concluded on Monday with sessions on corruption, defense of blasphemy charges, and "Which Standards Govern Our Lives as Legal Professionals: Cultural, Legal or Biblical?" The closing banquet speaker, the Honorable Reynato Puno, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, encouraged us to "be available to the God who is able." The banquet concluded with an absolutely gorgeous rendition of *How Great Thou Art* in Swahili by the four attorneys from Congo.

This next week, I travel to attend the 11th regional conference of Advocates Latin America (FIAJC) in Buenos Aires, Argentina and the FIAJC Leadership Meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay. As I noted last month, it is over two years since the region's last conference, so this gathering will be critical. Thanks to all those who gave designated gifts to provide scholarships for this conference, we expect to be able to help at least a dozen delegates, but we'd like to do more. If you haven't already given, please consider a gift of **\$120** that will cover the registration and hotel (double room) for one delegate.

Enclosed is the May/June 2013 Prayer Calendar. Your prayers for all of our Advocates are an effective weapon and they are much appreciated, as many at the conference asked me to convey to you. Thank you for your continued financial and prayer support that help us to take care of details like safely moving into our new offices. Please stop by and visit. Our new address is **2920 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302** and our new phone is **571-319-0100**.

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

Grace and Peace



Brent McBurney
President & CEO



PRAYER CALENDAR – MAY & JUNE 2013

Mondays: Advocates Africa

- Praise the Lord for Kenya's peaceful elections in April. Please continue to pray for the lawyers in **KCLF** and their ongoing efforts to serve the poor and needy through the CLEAR program.
- Please continue to pray for ongoing planning for the 2013 Advocates Africa Conference "**Bringing Forth Justice to the Nations: (Isaiah 42:1-4)**," August 6-10 in Kampala, Uganda. As registration begins, please pray for all who need to attend to have finances needed. Continue to pray specifically for efforts to provide an agenda that will serve our colleagues from Francophone African nations through French language workshops and speakers.
- Praise the Lord for a successful conference in **Beni, Congo**. God is moving in powerful ways through the Christian lawyer fellowships: prisoners are being freed (50 in Bunia alone); Christian lawyers and judges are, in their words: "renouncing corruption"; and leading public forums teaching the Congolese public about the laws. Thanks for your prayers from the conference organizers. Please pray for the Congo delegates who are now planning to attend the AA conference in Uganda.

Tuesdays: Advocates Asia & Oceania

- Please pray for **Indonesia Christian Legal Society** as they establish themselves as a legal entity to better serve their fellow Indonesians; monthly gatherings (about 15-20), regular prayer meetings, and construction of a new website. Praise the Lord for the University of Pelita Haripan (a Christian university) that provides the venue for their monthly meetings and secretariat address for ICLS.
- Continue to pray for the **Christian Lawyers Association (CLA) India**. Pray for efforts of CLA Joint Secretary, Solomon Raj, and his team of lawyers working on law for protection of Christian properties in Andhra Pradesh state. C.G. Prakash, an advocate from India who attended Hong Kong conference, requests prayer for the *Christian Legal Aid Project*, the orphans and ill children they minister to through CARE Ministries; and healing for his wife's cancer.
- Praise the Lord for new connection of Advocates Asia with the **Christian Lawyer Fellowship of Hong Kong** (Stephen Yip) and **Christians at the Bar of Hong Kong** (Victor Yau), the newest fellowships in the AI network.
- Please pray for the new CLEAR Project in Australia. A team from Australia plans to travel to East Africa in July to work with legal aid clinics in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. They may also attend the AA conference in Uganda at the end of their trip.

Wednesdays: Advocates Europe

- Please continue to pray for **Latcho Popov**, the board of Advocates Europe, and country leaders.
- Pray for the upcoming National Conference of **Christ und Jurist** (Germany) that will take place May 10-12 in Hofgeismar, Germany.
- Please continue to pray for those AE lawyers and advocates who attended the European Religious Liberty Forum in Istanbul. They work tirelessly for religious liberty across a continent that is becoming more hostile towards religion.

Thursdays: Advocates Latin America (FIAJC)

- Please continue to pray for the **FIAJC's** registration as an official NGO in Uruguay. The leadership of each of the national fellowships across the region will be represented and will be gathering, along with the board of **FIAJC** on May 16-17 in Montevideo, Uruguay for the signing ceremony.
- Pray especially for the elections of new board in Montevideo.
- Immediately following will be the 11th regional conference on May 17-19 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This is a key event for the future of **FIAJC**. Please pray for re-engagement by fellowships across Latin America and for new leaders to be raised up in those countries that have lapsed.
- Please pray for our advocates and others in Argentina affected by flooding in and around Buenos Aires.

Fridays: Advocates North America & Caribbean

- **Advocates Caribbean – Shirley Richards** (Jamaica) “We are currently involved in a serious battle against secularism. It's trying to raise its head in all areas of our national life. It would be good to have a full time worker dealing with these issues but we press on. Pray for willing lawyers and for funds to pay these lawyers.”
- Please continue to pray for the fellowships throughout the region as they face battles for the sanctity of life and marriage, both of which are under attack. Please continue to pray for the **Watchmen on the Walls** effort that was launched at the Barbados conference last September.
- **Christian Legal Fellowship (Canada)** – Please continue to pray for **CLF's** new Executive Director, **Russell Browne**. Please pray for the planning of the **CLF** National Conference (September, now in Burlington, Ontario).
- **Christian Legal Society (USA)** – Executive Director David Nammo asks: “Please pray that the Lord continue to support CLS and help us grow in funding and vision, especially for Mike Schutt's added salary; and, that we have a great national conference this year (Clearwater, Florida) with a great number of attendees.”

Saturdays: Advocates Global Council & Board Members

Global Council: Exec. Committee: Chairman, Min Choon Lee* (Malaysia); Vice Chair, Teresa Conradie* (South Africa); Secretary, Gregory Vijayendran (Singapore); Treasurer, Ruth Ross* (Canada); **Members – Africa:** Justice Rose Mbah Acha (Cameroon); Judge Mike Chibita (Uganda); **Asia:** Robin David (India); Dongsu Sim (Korea); **Europe:** Latchezar Popov (Bulgaria); Nicolas Duval (France); Mats Tunehag (Sweden); **Latin America:** Gerardo Amarilla (Uruguay); Nina Balmaceda* (Peru), Gilberto Ribeiro (Brazil); **Middle East:** Botrus Mansour (Israel); **North America/Caribbean:** Justice Alice Soo Hon (Trinidad & Tobago); **Oceania:** Mark Mudri (Australia).
*Also AI board members.

AI Board: Chairwoman, Ruth Ross; Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, Sam Logan; Secretary, Chip Zimmer; Nina Balmaceda, Matt Bristol, Teresa Conradie, Timothy Klenk, Min Choon Lee, Roger Sherrard, and Ken Starr. Pray too for potential new board members.

Sundays: Advocates Staff & Family

Praise God for a smooth and successful move to our new offices at 2920 King Street in Alexandria, VA. Please pray for Romi Kobayashi; Brent McBurney, his wife Elizabeth, son Ian and daughter Sarah Louise.