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“And who knows whether or not you have attained [authority] for such a time as this.” – Esther 4:14

Dear Friends,

Once again God provided a miracle in slow motion for Advocates International. Thank you so very much for praying with us over the past five months as we asked the Lord’s discernment for our new Deputy Executive Director for the Global Council. I am pleased to announce that Ruth Ross is the answer to those prayers.

Many of you already know Ruth, who serves AI as a board member and representative of the Global Council for North America. She served as the Executive Director of the Christian Legal Fellowship of Canada for more than a dozen years, and will be moving into her new role with AI immediately following the Global Council meeting in Munich. We are greatly encouraged by God’s provision for AI and look forward to seeing how He will use Ruth in this new role.

Southern Africa: Movement in Mozambique

Thank you also for your prayers for my April trip to South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique. I’m writing this letter on my drive back from Mozambique with Teresa Conradie and Denise Woods. God blessed us tremendously only yesterday in Maputo where we fellowshiped with 16 Mozambican attorneys from AMAC, the Associação Moçambicana dos Advogados Cristãos.

Led by our host in Maputo, Mateus Mosse, AMAC officially began just last year, and is already serving the Church in Mozambique, blessing attorneys and, most encouragingly, young attorneys and law students, the future of AMAC. One young attorney in particular, Lizete, shared her own experience of leaving law practice and serving with YWAM for one year in Tanzania. At the end of that year, God told her three times that He wanted her to go back to law practice. She now works in the Attorney General’s office and has a tremendous passion for all of Africa. I was blessed to give Lizete a copy of *No Higher Calling*, our devotional for and by lawyers. Please pray for Mateus, Lizete, and all of our brothers and sisters of AMAC.

Surprises in Swaziland

Immediately prior to our 16 hour visit to Mozambique, we traveled through the Kingdom of Swaziland, where we met with Pastor Mzwandile Fakudze, the Deputy Chairman of the Elections and Boundaries Commission of Swaziland. Before his government job and pastoral ministry, Pastor Fakudze was in private practice as an attorney. Due to the holiday calendars, none of our contacts were available, yet when we finally contacted Pastor Fakudze, he had just gotten off the telephone with a cancelled meeting. As Sam would have reminded me, that was definitely a divine co-incident.

We met twice and Teresa and Denise were especially encouraged because of the work of the Christian Lawyers Association of South Africa and their engagement in the elections. They plan to network Fakudze with colleagues in South Africa and we encouraged him to consider his role as a chaplain for a future Advocates Swaziland. Please pray with him that God will raise up a new generation of leaders in that mountainous and beautiful Kingdom.

Spiritual Awakenings in South Africa & Beyond

Before our three day, 700-mile trek east of Pretoria, I attended the Marketplace Initiative of the Global Kingdom Partnership Network in Cape Town. Renewing old friendships and making new ones, the gathering was a tremendous blessing. We were reminded by Elias Dantas, GKPN founder, of Sam Ericsson's role as one of the key catalysts for the formation of the Marketplace Initiative. This year's gathering included second generation leaders for the first time and next year we meet together with the Pastors' gathering in Miami. It is encouraging to see how God is using the GKPN to strengthen the Body of Christ around the world. The GKPN pastors serve over 18 million believers in their congregations and networks of congregations.

While in Cape Town, I also met Gerhard Claasen, an amazing young lawyer in private practice whom God is raising up to be one of the next generation's leaders of CLA in South Africa. He and his wife, Amrei, hosted me in their home and blessed me with the opportunity to play with their six wonderful children. When I am traveling away from my own family, it is a great encouragement to be introduced to the kids as "Uncle Brent." Even though we spent only a short time together, I feel as though Gerhard is like a younger brother.

One of the sweetest blessings of South Africa is learning the meaning of "*kuiering*," pronounced: kai-ring. It is an Afrikaans word that means sharing a meal and having fellowship, yet much deeper. On my second night in Pretoria at the home of Teresa and Deon Conradie, most of the board of CLA joined us for dinner where we *kuiered* late into the night. Please continue to pray for all of our colleagues in South Africa as they continue to serve the Church and their nation, especially following their May 7 elections, their fifth since the end of Apartheid in 1994.

Munich & Beyond

This month, from the 16th to the 18th, the Global Council meets in Munich in conjunction with the *Christ und Jurist* 2014 Congress. The theme of the conference is "Truth," and we will explore that concept from legal, philosophical and theological perspectives. Thanks for your continued prayers with us for safe travels to Munich and that all in attendance will encourage one another.

Your prayers and financial support continue to make it possible for us to encourage and strengthen lawyers in fellowships like CLA of SA, one of the oldest, AMAC in Mozambique, the newest, and future fellowships we hope for in Swaziland. Thanks too for your continued prayers for the Global Council meeting and discernment for us as Ruth Ross and I begin to re-launch the Global Resource Teams. Each of these is prepared for such a time as this.

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

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO