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CLC WORLD

2023 issue 1

M A G A Z I N E



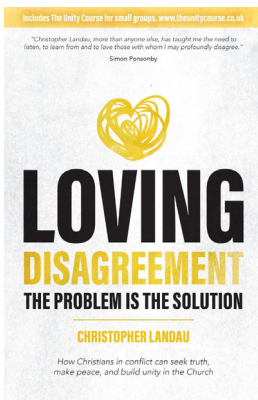
PROJECT UPDATE
BOOKS FOR UKRAINE

ON OUR BOOKSHELF

LOVING DISAGREEMENT

By Christopher Landau

The Problem is the Solution



Loving disagreement is the problem – Christians have become too relaxed about the way disagreements destroy unity and undermine mission.

Loving disagreement is also the solution – because if Christians can learn to love even their neighbour in Christ with whom they disagree, situations of conflict are transformed.

Formerly a BBC journalist, the Revd Dr Christopher Landau is the director of ReSource, a charity supporting spiritual renewal in local churches.

ISBN: 9781803760124

“This book is uncomfortable to read because it calls us to do what is both unnatural and counter-cultural: to love and disagree well. In a calm and measured way, it appeals to Christians to love radically, taking examples from the Bible and presenting us with practical ways to do this well. A challenge to us all.”

— *Chine McDonald* author, broadcaster & director of Theos think tank

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CLC
WORLD
MAGAZINE

Dear CLC Friends,

It is my pleasure to present you with this latest edition of CLC World. The three main articles have been written by friends, brothers and colleagues whom I have known for longer than I care to mention! Although based in their respective countries of the USA, France and Poland, their work with CLC has enabled them to have a Gospel influence way beyond their own borders.

Jim Pitman grew up in Latin America as the son of missionaries and so it is natural for him to have a mission context for everything that he does. Coordinating the work of Multi-Language Media means that he can be involved in reaching 'all nations' with Bibles and books in over 120 languages.

Hervé Lessous is relatively new to CLC (just 15 years!) but through his work with the French team he has gained the confidence of his European colleagues who have recently asked him to become European Director, as well as being involved in Francophone West Africa.

Tomasz Kalisz has been involved with CLC Poland since it was founded in the early 1990s. Despite failing eyesight, he has pioneered the project to ensure that almost 500,000 books and Gospels have reached the hands of displaced Ukrainians. This is a project without parallel in CLC.

It is a great privilege for each of us to be part of this mission. And you are involved too through your prayers and support!

Neil Wardrope,

Missions Director, Kingsway CLC Trust

Contributors Elizabeth Patten, Tomasz Kalisz, Hervé Lessous, Jim Pitman, CLC team members around the world

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My CLC Story: Jim Pitman

CLC USA Leadership Team

Jim & Daniela Pitman

My name is Jim Pitman. My wife Daniela and I have been working with CLC for the last 26 years.

Both of us grew up overseas as children of missionary parents, Daniela in Nigeria and Togo, and I in Bolivia. Our parents were Bible translators, so we had literature “in our blood” from birth. Daniela and I felt that God was calling us into missions, so we began investigating opportunities. After hearing of CLC and reading the book, *Leap of Faith* by Norman Grubb, our interest was kindled, and we applied.

It was a step of faith, as we were now faced with waiting on God to supply all of our needs through donations rather than a fixed salary. I’m happy to report that we have seen God faithfully provide for every financial need that has come up over the years. Our God is faithful!

I started out working in our bookstores, while Daniela worked at home teaching our four children. For several years, I

managed our CLC bookstore in Miami, Florida, and it was thrilling to see the many people who gave their lives to Christ in our bookstore there. One of the things I have loved about CLC is the wonderful people I have gotten to work with over the years. They make the difference!

We did get some unusual requests, like the customer who wanted to purchase a statue of a saint to bury in their yard so they could sell their house faster. This became a good opportunity to share the Gospel, as we explained that we could offer them something better – we could pray and ask God directly to help them! They were very moved when we took the time to do that with them!

From Miami, we moved to Philadelphia in 2002, when I was asked to take over our mission department including public relations and oversight of CLC’s work in Central Asia. It was a challenge, but I enjoy analyzing and fixing things,

including departments and business entities, which became one of my primary roles here at CLC USA.

Over the next years, I found myself tasked with reinvigorating our publishing department (three years) and then overseeing our bookstores for six years until 2016.

One of the regular requests we would get in our bookstores was for Bibles in other languages. "Do you have a Bible in Italian?" a customer might ask. "No," I would say, "but I know where I can get you one." I would call Multi-Language Media (MLM) and order a Bible for that customer. "Wow, Multi-Language Media really should be part of CLC," I thought.

Over the years, when I would see the dear couple who ran MLM, Jay and Jean Krause, I would always mention my interest in keeping it going after their retirement. In 2016, I got the call I had been dreaming of - "We are ready to retire and we would like CLC to take over this ministry." A few months later, our team was packing up everything and moving it to CLC's USA headquarters in Fort Washington.

I continue to serve today on CLC USA's leadership team, and as our four children are now grown and out of the house, Daniela also works in our office in the finance department. It has been an adventure serving with CLC and God continues to grow me into the person he wants me to be.

I am grateful for His guidance and provision, and for all the wonderful co-workers he has given me in CLC!



Jim Pitman, Neil Wardrope with fellow CLCers



Five year old Jim in the Bolivian Jungle



Jim at a CLC USA event



My CLC Story: Hervé Lessous

CLC France's Commercial Director and CLC Regional Director for Europe

CLC France team

Who are you, Hervé? I'm Hervé Lessous. I was born in the western part of France into a Catholic family. After I became a believer, I married Marie-Christine, and we have two children, Anne-Charlotte (now married), and Louis.

How long have you worked with CLC?

15 years.

What is your current role in CLC? I have been the National Director of CLC France since I joined CLC in 2008. I was in charge of finances, human resources, retail, sales and our publications.

In October 2022, I was elected as the Regional Director for Europe. This is a real challenge as I will be working with CLC teams from 16 countries.



Hervé Lessous

Because of this, in January 2023, my role in CLC France changed. I'm now the Commercial Director in charge of the sales & marketing department and our publications.

What brought you to CLC? How did you start working in CLC? 15 years ago, we were living in Chartres, one hour from Paris. A friend of mine saw an advert for

CLC France looking for a new National Director. At that time we were looking for God's will in our life as we knew we had a calling to ministry.

I went for an interview and got the position. Everything was set for a contract to start in July 2008, in Montélimar, six hours from where we lived. We prayed as a couple and with our children for this important decision. We were ready to start a new life in a new city which was a real challenge.

Since then the Lord has helped us immensely. The beginning was very hard. We had financial constraints, and I didn't know much about bookstores or book publications. We had to cease publications so that I could gain a better understanding of the industry and be ready for future investments. I also needed to meet our team and share the vision for CLC France.

My wife has participated in a behind-the-scenes way in the life of CLC Montélimar. Specifically she prays, translates calendars



Hervé and CLC France board members

from German to French, and proofreads for our publications.

Describe a typical day for you.

A typical day in the office means spending a significant amount of time reading and sending emails to customers and partners and to CLC colleagues around the globe. I also have daily meetings virtually or in person.

When I am traveling out of France and working with other CLC countries, I immerse myself in the daily life of these shops to better understand the ins and outs of their operations and problems. I can then think about ways to help them to support them. If the Holy Spirit inspires me with ideas, then we can form a very accurate plan.

How has working with CLC impacted your life?

It's impacting my life and my family's. On the one hand, I like to work at CLC. It is

a privilege to serve the Lord and fellow believers. On the other hand, there is a risk of focusing more on the CLC family rather than on the Lord and on my family.

How can we pray for you?

We are facing a time of significant transition. Please pray for Ollivier Quéruef who took over the National Director role for CLC France as I began my role as European Regional Director.

This is also a major change for my wife and me as I will have to spend more time traveling. There has to be a good balance between traveling and spending time together.

Please pray for my stamina and good health, especially for my high blood pressure. Pray against my having increased risk of burnout. Pray for a renewal of our spiritual life and for the wisdom of the Lord on us.



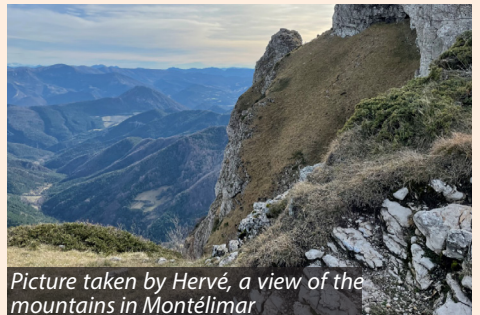
Hervé visiting the CLC Martinique bookshop



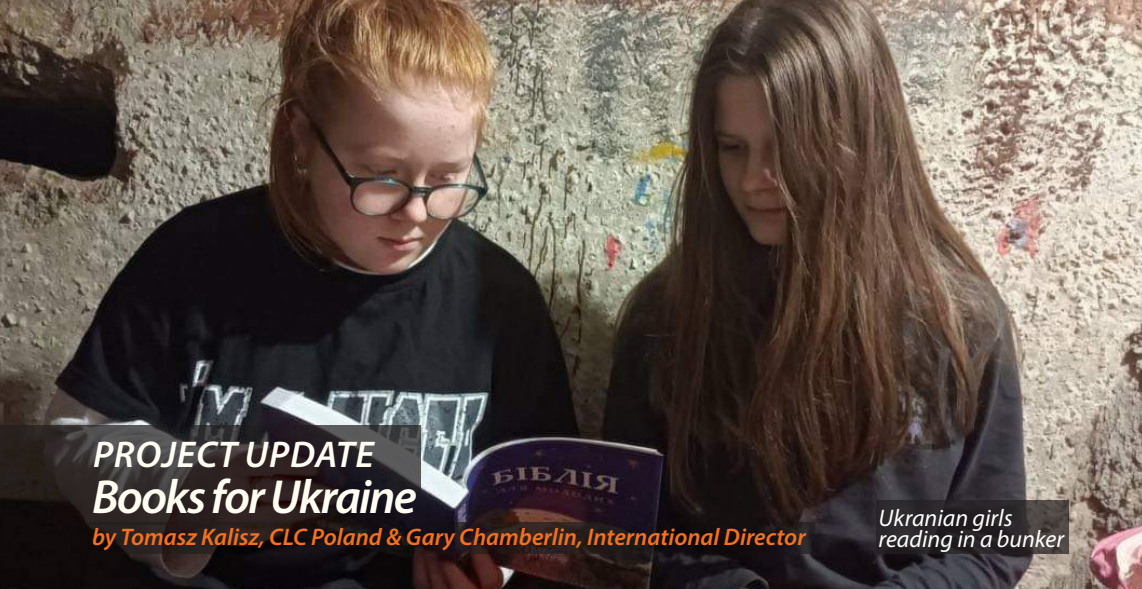
Hervé and his wife Marie Christine



Illico, the Lessous family pet



Picture taken by Hervé, a view of the mountains in Montélimar



PROJECT UPDATE *Books for Ukraine*

by Tomasz Kalisz, CLC Poland & Gary Chamberlin, International Director

Ukrainian girls
reading in a bunker

After the Russian invasion into Ukraine, as refugees started to stream into neighbouring countries, we knew CLC should take action. Christian literature could be beneficial for refugees as well as housing, food and medical help. We wanted to provide relevant books for both adults and children but the funds were not available for such an urgent need. This is where our reputation as a long-standing and reliable ministry helped as people started to ask if they could donate to the project.



Receiving Ukrainian children's Bibles

Initially we accessed literature already available in Ukraine, prioritising children's books in particular. As funds continued to come in we produced an economic bilingual Polish-Ukrainian children's Bible with the help of a Polish publisher.

Our excellent cooperation with Josh McDowell Ministry led us to publish a Ukrainian version of *More than a Carpenter*. Working alongside the Ukrainian Bible Society, we printed 210,000 copies of a modern Gospel

of John. Other projects that followed include: 20,000 copies of *Blotch: A Tale of Forgiveness and Grace*, an evangelistic booklet for young children; 10,000 copies of *My Name is Mariam*, a tender booklet for children dealing with issues related to being a refugee, written by a Ukrainian Christian author and friend of CLC, Nadiyka Gerbish; 60,000 copies of a children's Bibles in collaboration with Voice of the Martyrs; and, in partnership with Alpha International, 60,000 copies of the evangelistic booklet *Why Jesus?* by Nicky Gumble for teens and adults.



Reading in a bunker

We have received many photos and information verifying that the books and Gospels of John have reached tens of thousands of refugees inside Ukraine and in many countries across Europe. Dozens of churches distributed the various titles to the refugees, especially in Poland, Romania and Ukraine. We have been deeply moved to see photos and short videos of these CLC books being read by children and adults hiding in bunkers, soldiers on the front lines, injured and elderly refugees, and precious children who are now orphans.

We are thankful for the individuals, churches and organizations who have offered their resources to provide this spiritual help. We believe this seed can produce the fruit of hope, reconciliation, redemption, restoration and peace for many.

We are very joyful and grateful to think that almost 500,000 books and gospels published by CLC have been distributed by our many contacts on the ground, mostly in Hungary, Poland, Romania and even Ukraine. We are thankful for the generous collaboration with other Christian publishers and organizations.

A year after the invasion of Ukraine the needs are still huge, especially among internally displaced refugees now living in central and western Ukraine. As the Lord continues to provide, we hope to reprint 30,000 copies of the *Illustrated Bible* for children before Easter (see cover photo). In addition, we are exploring the possibility of establishing CLC in Ukraine when the war is over. If you would like to donate, please see page 23. THANK YOU for your generous support of the CLC Ukraine Project!



Gary Chamberlin & Tomasz Kalisz with published Ukrainian titles

For up-to-date news, stories and prayer requests follow us on Facebook.

facebook.com/clcworldmag





Damages

AFRICA Freetown break in

Unfortunately, our Freetown headquarters was broken into after hours in January. Thankfully, nothing was stolen and the damages were repaired the following day. CLC staff member George Kapindi spent the next few nights sleeping at the premises to provide added security. It was a reminder to us to thank God for His faithfulness and to ask Him for His protection.

PLEASE PRAY for continued protection over our Sierra Leone team.

AFRICA New Building in Sierra Leone

CLC Bo has been wanting to move premises for some time. Now the possibility has arisen, as a new block of shops is being constructed by the Methodist Mission close by. We are one of the first in line to be offered one of these shops. At the time of writing, the walls are being built.

PLEASE PRAY for the Lord to quickly provide the needed finances for this move.



New shops being built



Francisco using the new system

AFRICA Mozambique

Team Maputo is grateful for the gift of a new software programme for recording sales and inventory at the bookshop. Thank you, CLC Portugal!

PLEASE PRAY for us as we get used to the programme.

AFRICA Kenya

We are thankful for a new collaboration between Dernier Publishing in the UK and CLC Kenya, which is able to print the books on demand. If you'd be interested in supporting this partnership by sponsoring Dernier titles for school children in Nairobi, please contact mercy.muthoni@cblafrika.com or info@dernierpublishing.com. Why not do this today?

GROUP BOOK LAUNCH
(DERNIER PUBLISHING, UK)
12TH JANUARY 2023 | 7:30PM | NAIROBI











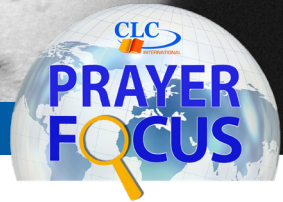


HOST: CLC KENYA
Muthoni Omukhango
National Director









March 2nd - 5th

Week 9 - (Continued) United States & Canada



Rod Fowler

Thursday (2nd) - Canada

After the retirement of Antoine Roberge, former National Director of CLC, it is now Rod Fowler's turn to retire after more than 30 years of service to CLC Canada. During this time, Rod has held several positions, including that of National Director. Currently, Rod is the Distribution Centre Manager. We thank God that, after a long search, we have found a successor for his position. - *Fritz Joseph*

Friday (3rd) - Canada

Please continue to pray for all the staff of CLC Canada as there have been many changes over the past year. Also pray for us as we are looking for a new warehouse for the distribution centre. Thank you. - *Fritz Joseph*

The Weekend (4th - 5th) - United States

We thank God for the support of CLC USA for the work in some of the other CLC countries which, due to their national economic conditions, are less able to support themselves. Please pray for the LORD's continued blessing on CLC USA, that they may continue to "freely give". - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

March 6th - 12th

Week 10 - Africa: Mozambique

Monday (6th) - Mozambique

At the end of 2022, CLC Maputo had a software system installed for stock control and sales. At the time of writing, they are experiencing some challenges and have had to (temporarily) return to keeping manual sales records. Please pray that all the obstacles may be consistently overcome so that the new system will serve its intended purpose. - *Liz Patten*

Tuesday (7th) - Mozambique

We are actively trying to find ways to overcome the various challenges associated with importing Bibles and books from Brazil, which is necessary because of the Portuguese language being spoken in Mozambique. This especially relates to the need to somehow reduce the costs involved as the books are very expensive. Please pray for us. - *Liz Patten*

Wednesday (8th) - Mozambique

We were encouraged that in 2022, at least half the sales in all three bookshops were comprised of Bibles. As well as the study Bibles, there were a number of large purchases of an "economic" edition of the NIV in Portuguese, mostly made by customers from Portugal and Brazil who are supporting churches in Mozambique by supplying Bibles for them. Please pray for more of this during 2023. - *Liz Patten*



Arnaldo Chipanga

Thursday (9th) - Mozambique

Please pray for Arnaldo Chipanga, who works at CLC Maputo. Arnaldo is largely responsible for our social media work, which, other than word of mouth and reputation, is our main source of publicity. Pray for inspiration, creativity and consistency and that God will use the posts on Facebook, WhatsApp Business and Instagram to make CLC Mozambique more widely known. - *Liz Patten*

Friday (10th) - Mozambique

We thank God for the opportunity to work together despite our geographical distances, using the platforms of a WhatsApp group, emails and especially regular Zoom meetings. Please pray that our national staff, who are each separated by over 1000km, may continue to work as one team, together with the other team members "by extension" who are located in Europe - Liz (UK), Petra (Netherlands) and Carlos (Portugal). - *Liz Patten*

The Weekend (11th - 12th) - Mozambique

Since 2017, some 784,000 people have been internally displaced, and more than 4,000 have lost their lives due to a terrorist conflict in Cabo Delgado, the northernmost province in Mozambique. Last year, CLC was able to send approximately 1,000 Bibles to that region - a drop in the ocean in the face of the great need. Please pray for peace to resume and for God's word to bring comfort to many. - *Liz Patten*

March 13th - 19th

Week 11 - Asia

Monday (13th) - South Korea

The first semester begins in March in South Korea and so this is the busiest season for us in preparing textbooks for the theological seminaries in South Korea. We print, wrap and send them out to various schools and organisations as well as to individual customers. Please pray for our employees at the warehouses in Paju, that they will remain healthy during this time. - *Sohee Yoo*

Tuesday (14th) - South Korea

We are looking for a part-time/full-time staff member to join us at the warehouses but, as the commuting is a bit difficult, not many people applied for this position. Please pray for

us to find the right person who can work with us for a long time. Also, please pray for our editors and designers to finish all the manuscripts by the deadlines. - *Sohee Yoo*

Wednesday (15th) - South Korea

Please help us to choose the right titles when we are looking through the catalogues from various publishers from the USA and European countries and from the meetings with the rights managers in Krakow, Poland, in April. Sometimes, we mistakenly choose something that doesn't really align with our cultures, traditions or CLC's core values. - *Sohee Yoo*

Thursday (16th) - India

Every year, we regularly conduct special sales in the month of April in our HQ. Several new customers usually visit us during this period. Please pray for God's guidance upon each one of us and for all the arrangements. - *Justin Chellappan*

Friday (17th) - Thailand

Please pray in advance for our April sales, as this is the season with long holidays, usually leading to a drop in customer purchases. Pray for our ministry to grow despite the national economic recession. Pray for God's leading about our property in Bangkok as we have so far been unable to sell it despite our efforts to do so. - *Amanda Intajuk*

The Weekend (18th - 19th) - Myanmar

We thank God for continuing to allow us to serve Him in CLC. We also thank Him (and you, for your constant prayers) that, despite the hopeless situation in Myanmar, He has continued to protect us and to provide for our basic needs. Please pray that we may speed up our publication work and be able to open a second bookshop. Pray, too, for the restoration of peace, and for justice, the economy, and political and religious freedom. - *Jacob Mung*

March 20th - 26th

Week 12 - Francophone West Africa



Monday (20th) - Francophone West Africa

In February, a group of French-speaking CLC-ers from different countries met in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, together with the International Director and the Africa Regional Director. The conference took place over four days, with time for fellowship, training and forward planning. The idea is to see how we can work together more effectively in the future, in order to fulfil our mission goals. - *Liz Patten, Regional Director for Africa*

Tuesday (21st) - Ivory Coast

I am grateful to the Lord for all the support and encouragement we have received to become more and more involved in social networking, which has allowed us to have a small breakthrough with our sales and ministry. We hope to develop this further in the coming months. Please pray for good results from our ongoing commitment in this area. - *Martine Foto*

Wednesday (22nd) - Ivory Coast

This year, we are starting to think about the challenge of expanding our work through opening another bookshop. Please let us pray that the Lord will provide a good, well-located space and, above all, resourceful people with a vision for the work to join us. - *Martine Foto*

Thursday (23rd) - Burkina Faso

We continue to give thanks for the vehicle that was supplied last year. It has enabled us to more easily travel to various events and conferences with a greater supply of books and Bibles than previously. Please pray for our continued safety on these journeys, as sadly there are still many terrorist threats in our land. We are thankful for God's protection so far. - *Sami Luc Noufé*



CLC Benin team

Friday (24th) - Burkina Faso

Please pray that new doors will open for us to be able to visit different churches with the Bibles and books. Some who do not yet know us, think that we are a "new church" wanting to come and speak about ourselves. Pray that we may build relationships with these churches and be able to serve them. - *Sami Luc Noufé*

The Weekend (25th - 26th) - Benin

Our prayer requests for the next months are threefold: first, that the Lord will remove the threat of the sale of our bookshop premises until the day when CLC Benin will own its own property; second, that our sales will increase significantly in 2023; and third, that the Lord will enable us to live in true holiness. Thank you. - *Emmanuel Ladeyo*

March 27th - April 2nd

Week 13 - Africa: Kenya & Sierra Leone

Monday (27th) - Sierra Leone

We thank God for a steady and sizeable increase in sales in CLC Sierra Leone over the past two years. This has happened partly due to a better stock control which has ensured a flow of Bibles and books into the country. Please pray for our annual stock take at the end of March, that we will work accurately and that the results will help us analyse how to do even better in the next year. - *Liz Patten, Regional Director for Africa*

Tuesday (28th) - Sierra Leone

Please pray for Liz Patten and David Scouler, as they travel to Sierra Leone today to visit the CLC team. Pray for journeying mercies, health and stamina and that they will be a blessing and an encouragement for both the national workers and the members of the local Advisory Board. Pray that they will be able to achieve the specific goals set for this visit. Thank you. - *Liz Patten, Regional Director for Africa*

Wednesday (29th) - Sierra Leone

For some years now, we have been experiencing challenges with our bookshop premises in Bo. Amazingly, we have the opportunity to move into a new retail block being built by the Methodists at their Resource Centre which is very close to our present location. Please pray that this will develop into an excellent partnership that will bring blessing to both sides. - *Liz Patten, Regional Director for Africa*

Thursday (30th) - Kenya

We are thankful for each participant in our first Writing Class of 2023, which will graduate



at the end of April. We pray that all the authors who have started the class will finish with publishable manuscripts. In May, we will conclude the launching of approximately 30 books published over the past 12 months. Please pray that we will keep to the timelines and do a good job. - *Mercy Muthoni*

Friday (31st) - Kenya

Please join us in prayer for favourable feedback from a recent grant application, which would help us to serve African Christian Authors. The feedback is due in April, and we are asking for God's perfect will and provision for us.

- *Mercy Muthoni*

The Weekend (1st - 2nd) - Kenya

Please join us in thanksgiving for our many volunteers. One of these is Helen Matarimo, who has served CLC Kenya as an Administrative Assistant for 18 months. We pray that God will connect us with more dedicated and skilled volunteers like Helen. - *Mercy Muthoni*

April 3rd - 9th

Week 14 - Europe

Monday (3rd) - Poland

I want to thank the Lord for hearing our prayers! He has provided CLC Poland with two young people who do the social media work for us, so now I hope that, with God's help, work in this field will move forward. Meanwhile, we continue to pray for suitable and affordable storage space for CLC books. - *Eva Rymer*

Tuesday (4th) - Italy

CLC Italy's publications have taken a break over the past year following the departure of the person in charge. We have now re-organised and we ask you to pray for the choice of titles to be published in our country so that they may bring benefits and blessings to the church in Italy. We also ask for prayer that God will give wisdom and ability to those who manage this important aspect of CLC's ministry. - *Ivano Cramerotti*

Wednesday (5th) - Cyprus

Here in Cyprus, we are very aware that society shows a fast-changing image with continuous new trends. As a result, we pray that this year will be a time of reaching more people with the gospel message and that many will trust in the God who answers their real needs. - *Sotos & Eva Photiades*

Thursday (6th) - Switzerland

We are currently evaluating as to whether we can afford to reopen a bookshop in Switzerland. We have received an offer of a very small shop at low cost. We need guidance from God to understand His leading because we do not want to waste money that we cannot afford and thereby jeopardise our financial situation. If we go ahead, then we would anticipate opening in the autumn. - *Carlo Ciafani*

Friday (7th) - Germany

We thank God for our new part time worker, who has come to help strengthen our team.



Hervé Lessous & Ollivier Quéruef

She was previously a missionary for over 20 years in France, working in a Christian publishing house. It is difficult to find dedicated and skilled people who are willing to serve, so we are thankful for this wonderful answer to prayer. - *Valentin Schweiger*

The Weekend (8th - 9th) - France

Please pray for the reorganisation of the team following the appointments of Hervé Lessous as the new CLC European Director and Ollivier Quéruef as the new National Director for CLC France. Pray for us to honour God by making literature and other Christian resources available so that people may come to faith and maturity in the Lord Jesus Christ. - *Ollivier Quéruef*

April 10th - 16th

Week 15 - Latin America

Monday (10th) - Colombia

CLC Colombia works with six different ministry units: Distribution, CLC Bookstores, CLC Publishing House, Mobile Bookstore, Online Store, and the CLC Social Foundation. The heads of these departments report monthly to our Director, David Pabón. Please pray for each area to grow and flourish this year for God's glory. - *Iris Vargas*

Tuesday (11th) - Colombia

This month, we will take part in various events, including a secular book fair (19th April - 2nd May), and publishing events in Miami and Poland, as well as launching the book *Wonderfully Created* in Spanish. At the end of the month, we will take part in the Expolit Fair in Santo Domingo. Please pray for protection for those who travel, and for good contacts and lasting spiritual fruit. - *Iris Vargas*

Wednesday (12th) - Colombia

This month, we will highlight events for children and youth, including the Enrumba Foundation (which exists to help unborn babies and teenage mothers in Latin America and the Caribbean), the Thompson Bible seminars for youth and also the education of children at home with the Christian Heritage Foundation. - *Iris Vargas*

Thursday (13th) - Ecuador

Please pray for the project we are carrying out this year, together with YWAM publishers. The aim is to place Christian literature in schools and colleges, so please pray that the Lord would touch the hearts of the school owners, principals and teachers to whom we will present the books. Please also pray for Tanya Choca and Andrés Marín who will be leading these projects. Thank you. - *Mónica Rojas*

Friday (14th) - Venezuela

We thank God for His faithfulness in the midst of our difficulties, for we see His hand and care for the ministry of CLC Venezuela and in the lives of each member of the team. We pray for this year, that we will see an ongoing recovery in sales despite the situation in the country that is still critical. In 2022, we had significant growth, and we thank God for this. - *Yohel Peña*

The Weekend (15th - 16th) - Venezuela

During 2022, we started the process of updating the ministry's records, and we thank God that we are about to conclude this work. Once this is done, we can proceed to elect a new Administrative Board, which is due for renewal. This is an important process for the functioning of the ministry and so please pray that God will direct us in the election of the new Board. - *Yohel Peña*

April 17th - 23rd

Week 16 - International Office



International Director & Regional Directors

Monday (17th) - International Office

The CLC Regional Directors will be meeting in Poland from April 18th -21st. Please pray for us as we meet together to assess the CLC global fellowship, make plans and respond to the needs of particular countries around the world. Pray that the Lord will unite our hearts and that we will be sensitive to the Lord's guidance so that the ministry can continue to develop and expand.

- *Gary Chamberlin, International Director*

Tuesday (18th) - International Office Trustees

Please pray for the CLC International Office trustees who, by now, will have met at least once so far this year. Since not all are resident in the UK,

we are thankful for the technologies which enable them to meet regularly without the need for travel. Pray that they will successfully keep CLC within the parameters of the Charity Commission. Pray especially for John Raby, who is Chair of the group.

- *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Wednesday (19th) - Digital Department

Please pray for Cristi Cotovan who heads up the CLC Digital Department as there are many pressures on his time. Pray that he will have wisdom in organising the many priorities, and pray for new and developing websites for different CLC countries around the world. One of the most recent is <https://www.clcfrance.com>. - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Thursday (20th) - Communications

Please pray for the International Office as we consider the best way to go forward with our communications. We understand that we live in changing times and that many now prefer a digital or social media format for receiving information. Pray for wisdom that we may reach people of all ages with news about the CLC ministry and how to become involved, perhaps by volunteering, praying and/or giving. - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Friday (21st) - Worldwide

Our CLC bookshops in 44 countries are not only places to find Bibles and excellent Christian books to mature in the faith - they are also places of witness of God's redeeming love. Please pray that our staff and volunteers will have more opportunities to share the Gospel message. Pray that 2023 will be a year in which many will come to know the Lord Jesus through our bookshops. - *Gary Chamberlin, International Director*

The Weekend (22nd - 23rd) - Publishing

The ECPA (Evangelical Christian Publishers' Association) Rights Fair, organised together with CLC, will take place in Poland from April 24th -26th. This is an important meeting for publishers from the USA, UK and other countries to propose their titles for translation into many languages, especially in Europe. Please pray for this meeting that helps determine which books will be printed in many foreign languages.

- Gary Chamberlin, *International Director*

April 24th - 30th

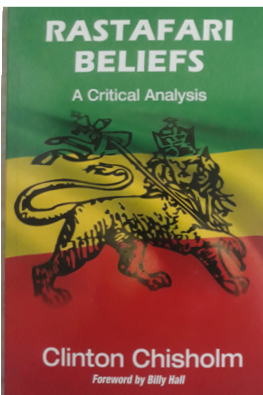
Week 17 - Around the World

Monday (24th) - Dominica

We are praising God for the gradual increase that we have seen in customers and sales over the last two years. Please pray that this year's growth will exceed our expectations and that the knowledge of our location will spread faster around the island. Pray with us for new and better customer relations in 2023 and for new ideas and better marketing of our products. Thank you. - *Tajya Wilson*

Tuesday (25th) - Dominica

Please join us in praying for continued cash flow so that we may purchase stock on a timely basis, thereby providing for our customers and paying our bills on time. Pray, too, that we may have wisdom, understanding, and health and strength to continue to work in this ministry. - *Tajya Wilson*



Wednesday (26th) - Barbados

We thank God for the favourable responses to our first customer database letter and at the time of writing, we are planning a second one in which we will advertise several items including our Giant Print Bibles and a book entitled *Rastafarian Beliefs: A Critical Analysis*. We hope the book will generate much interest among the Rastafarian Community here. - *Jefferson Alleyne*

Thursday (27th) - South Korea

May 5th will be Children's Day, a national holiday in South Korea. We hope and pray that we can promote our children's books before this date, so that many young readers will receive them as presents. We plan to make more YouTube videos for children's books, and so please pray for us to have creative ideas when making these video clips! - *Sohee Park*

Friday (28th) - India

Please pray for our publishing team as they are involved in the final stage of publishing *The Genesis Genealogies Vol. 1* and *The Covenant of the Torch Vol. 2* in the Tamil language.

- *Justin Chellappan*

The Weekend (29th - 30th) - Eastern Europe 1

In the month of May, there are at least three youth conferences that are planned to take place in our area. In order to be able to run a bookstall at these events and, at the same time, cover the work of the bookshop, we need extra help to come from outside the CLC team. Please pray that God will send us volunteers who will be able to help us to arrange and to run the bookstalls.

May 1st - 7th

Week 18 - Europe & Central Asia

Monday (1st) - United Kingdom

This is the start of a very busy conference month during which we anticipate having book tables at events run by five of the major church groups in the UK. We will be able to offer our resources and make contact with thousands of church leaders as well as promoting our Equipping the Church programme and website. A large international event takes place at the Royal Albert Hall on May 1st and 2nd for leaders of the Alpha network. - *Neil Wardrope*

Tuesday (2nd) - United Kingdom

The UK team runs two events during the year – Hand in Hand (for children’s workers) and Mission Worship. We are assessing how these need to be organised post COVID-19 with more activity taking place online. The person who has run Hand in Hand for 25 years will be retiring, and we are investigating some options that are open to us. Please pray for the Lord’s leading. - *Neil Wardrope*

Wednesday (3rd) - United Kingdom

Our warehouse in Chester is full to overflowing. Bibles, books and resources are being distributed as never before, but this creates logistical challenges. We are in the process of examining various options to increase the space and make our operation more efficient. Please pray for our team in the warehouse as well as professionals who are helping us to look through the options available to us. - *Neil Wardrope*

Thursday (4th) - Italy

Samuele Schembre, the manager of CLC Catania, left us at the end of February to move closer to his family in Germany. We are thankful for his long years of service and his excellent work. Please pray for Samuele and his wife that God will provide all their needs as they adjust to their new situation. Pray, too, for the Catania bookshop that it will continue to flourish under new management. - *Ivano Cramerotti*

Friday (5th) - Eastern Europe 1

It is in our plans to start an audiovisual presentation of the books that CLC EE1 is selling. We believe that this would help our social media to be more attractive and also increase sales. Please pray for God’s help in carrying this through and that God may bless us in those plans.

The Weekend (6th - 7th) - Central Asia 1

Please pray for the reorganisation of the bookshop. The layout is being altered so that we can rent out part of the space. Please pray for the right person to occupy that part of the building. At the same time we will be re-focusing the operation of the bookshop. We are seeking God for the direction of the ministry.

May 8th - 14th

Week 19 - Romania

Monday (8th) - Romania

We praise the Lord for the unprecedented sales of some of our titles, notably a series of books on prayer by Evelyn Christenson: *What Happens when Women Pray, What Happens When We Pray for our Families, What Happens When God Answers Prayer and Lord, Change Me!* This came about as a result of an advertisement for a prayer group in some churches

and we pray that the books may have real impact. - *Ronela Micula*

Tuesday (9th) - Romania

We praise God for His help with the Ukrainian literature distribution, which seemed an impossible task. However, God guided us to churches and organisations ready to transport these much-needed spiritual resources together with their material gifts, straight to the centre of Ukraine, sometimes even in the midst of the war zone. - *Ronela Micula*

Wednesday (10th) - Romania

We still need God's help for our much-delayed activity in publishing, and we ask for God's help to finalise the remainder of the printing work. We are thankful that we now have a dedicated person for this activity. - *Ronela Micula*

Thursday (11th) - Romania

We praise the Lord for the repair of the connection between our stock system and the cash register, which was broken. This caused us many problems and much extra work. We also praise the Lord for the good sales in 2022 despite various troubles of many kinds, and we pray that He continues to help us and bless us. - *Ronela Micula*

Friday (12th) - Romania

We praise and thank the Lord for a new family of workers for CLC Romania: Natasha Bugaian, who is now working for the publishing department and bookshop; her daughter Eunice, who works on the website and in the bookshop; and Vitalie, Natasha's husband, who occasionally helps us with IT issues. This family is a wonderful answer to our prayers. - *Ronela Micula*

The Weekend (13th - 14th) - Romania

We also need God's help to guide us and provide the person to take over the leadership of CLC Romania since the National Director, Ronela Micula, has already reached retirement age. May God bless CLC Romania with a new leader with a heart for mission and a capacity to handle all the necessary areas of work for this mission field. - *Ronela Micula*

May 15th - 21st

Week 20 - Latin America



Warehouse construction work underway

Monday (15th) - Ecuador

At the end of May, we hope that the construction of the bookstore and distribution centre in Guayaquil will be completed, so please pray that there will be no delays in the handover. Pray that we will have the financial resources to complete the work and add the finishing touches, and also that we may equip it with the necessary furniture and equipment. Please also pray that we will be able to relocate quickly. - *Mónica Rojas*

Tuesday (16th) - Peru & Ecuador

David Pabón, the Latin America Director, and Gary Chamberlin, the International Director, will be visiting our teams in Peru and Ecuador from May 17th - 26th. At present, it is planned

that the new CLC Ecuador warehouse will be inaugurated during this trip. Please pray for us as we assess how the ministries are developing in both countries. Pray that our teams will be encouraged. Thank you! - *Gary Chamberlin, International Director*

Wednesday (17th) - Bolivia

During the COVID-19 pandemic, CLC was very sorry to close its work in Bolivia (and also Spain). Nonetheless, we are thankful that we could serve in those countries for a number of years. Please pray for the Lord's continued blessing and provision on our former staff and also that the many resources distributed will go on being a blessing in many lives.

- *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Thursday (18th) - Mexico

Please pray for CLC's ministry in Mexico where Daniel Huertas Rojas has recently been appointed as the new National Director. Pray for a greater sales impact and improved cash flow. Pray for David Pabon, CLC's Director for Latin America, as he seeks to help the team move forward. David has already visited the team this year. - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Friday (19th) - Colombia

Please pray that the new titles being launched this month by CLC Colombia Publications will be a tremendous blessing for many. They include the following: *The Promise of the Everlasting Covenant* (Vol. 5), *A Pause in Your Life* (Vol. 6), *Agenda - Diary of Promises 2024* and *Devotionals for Women*. - *Iris Vargas*

The Weekend (20th - 21st) - Colombia

Please pray for the upcoming activities of our Mobile Bookshop as we prepare for our second tour of this year, which will take place in Zone 3 (South-East Eastern Plains) from May 29th to June 9th. Pray for safety for those who will be driving and presenting the Bibles and resources to the people living in this area, and also for ministry with lasting spiritual fruit. - *Iris Vargas*

May 22nd - 28th

Week 21 - Uruguay



Monday (22nd) - Uruguay

Please pray that CLC Uruguay may continue to make its mark and to have influence with Christ-centred literature in our society, which is falling more and more, both

morally and spiritually. We thank the Lord for all the distribution of Bibles and books so far. Our prayer is that every resource will bring much fruit. - *Humberto Urrutia*

Tuesday (23rd) - Uruguay

Please pray that we may faithfully continue in the distribution to the interior of the country by using the mobile van, reaching every corner of the land and serving the church in Uruguay with books that radiate light and change lives. Let us pray for safe travel on the roads and that new doors will be opened this year. - *Humberto Urrutia*



Conference for pastors in Uruguay

Wednesday (24th) - Uruguay

Please pray for us as we want to continue with a series of conferences for pastors and leaders in various cities of the country, providing knowledge and tools for their benefit. We have in mind a workshop with the title, "How to be the Church in an Atheist and Agnostic Context". - *Humberto Urrutia*

Thursday (25th) - Uruguay

In November this year, we will celebrate our 75th anniversary, and we want to do this in a special way so that it will be a time to thank our loyal customers and also some retired members of the team who are still with us. Please pray for us as we plan how best to do this. - *Humberto Urrutia*

Friday (26th) - Uruguay

Please join us in thanking God for the work, effort and faithfulness to the ministry of our sister Sonia Torres, who retired at the end of March after 25 years of dedicated service in CLC. Please pray that God will wonderfully bless her in the next season of her life. - *Humberto Urrutia*

The Weekend (27th - 28th) - Uruguay

Please pray for Humberto and Néilda Urrutia as they continue to serve faithfully in the leadership of CLC Uruguay. Pray for them as they prepare other, younger members of the team for the future leadership of the ministry. - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

May 29th - 31st

Week 22 - Core Values

Monday (29th) - Fellowship

We thank God for the mutual support of CLCers around the world, often evident through prayer and financial giving. One of the core values of CLC is fellowship. Please pray that we will continue to glorify God by taking care of each other and living according to the words of the apostle Paul, who exhorted us to not look out only for ourselves (or the ministry in our own country) but to take an interest in others also (Philippians 2: 3 - 5).

- *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Tuesday (30th) - Faith

Another core value of CLC is faith. Please pray for CLCers around the world, that we will continue to grow in faith in our personal walk with God and for the ministry also. We are privileged to have the examples of many who have served in the mission before us and who have demonstrated great faith, which has led to growth. Pray that the current generation of CLCers will also inspire the ones who will follow on. - *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

Wednesday (31st) - Sacrifice

Yet another core value of CLC is sacrifice. Please pray that CLCers around the world will be willing to exemplify this value in order to help fulfil, to a greater degree, our mission statement, which is to honour God by making Christian literature and resources available to all nations to help people come to faith and maturity in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- *Liz Patten, Prayer Focus*

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