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CLC WORLD



2019 issue 3

M A G A Z I N E



Spanish BIBLE Project *Update*



**Bibles arrived in Spain,
Venezuela and Bolivia!**

Wonderful news – the 45,000 Bibles have arrived in Spain, Venezuela and Bolivia! They are now being distributed in each country.

When the shipment was being prepared for Venezuela, we realised that the 22 pallets required would not quite fit into a 20 foot container. So we ordered a 40 foot container and shared the news with our publisher partners. We were overwhelmed by their generosity as they offered to fill the remaining space with free Bibles and books. This is a huge encouragement for our team in Venezuela that has had to endure so many difficulties in recent months.

Thank you Lord!



International Cooperation

Welcome to the latest edition of CLC World. Once again you will be taken around the world, reading stories from Africa, Asia, North America, South America and Europe. CLC International has a single vision of reaching people for Jesus through literature and Christian resources, but the means of doing that vary from one country to another. You will read of great creativity in addressing serious issues of literacy in Colombia; of opportunities to witness directly to our customers; of CLC Chile able to help an immigrant family from the Venezuela crisis; of how to take books to churches and events by motorcycle; and of the many publishing projects that are taking place around the world.

Publishing has become a priority for us in recent years. We have been able to partner with a number of organisations wishing to publish their work in multiple languages. We now publish in 22 countries and in a similar number of languages.

Working with a multinational team means that we can identify needs way beyond our own borders. This has led to a number of Bible projects in recent years. The current Spanish Bible Project (see opposite page) has advanced to the point of delivery in the three countries. The most important part is still ahead of us – the distribution

of the Bibles via individuals and churches to the people who really need them. Our ultimate aim is to hear of lives transformed by the impact of God's Word.

Please do use Prayer Focus (pages 7-18) to pray for our teams around the world, some in very difficult situations. We will never achieve spiritual objectives without spiritual means. We know how to publish and distribute books; we can build websites and we can serve Christian events. However, this will only make a spiritual impact if it is supported in prayer. You have a vital role to play.

For a number of years Amanda Lutes (Canada) has done a wonderful job editing and designing *CLC World*. We are very grateful for her contribution. She has now handed this on to Alessandra Platania (CLC Italy). Sheena Wardrope (CLC UK) has stepped in to do a lot of the editing work and she has been compiling the Prayer Focus.

I would like to thank Jacqui Burne in New Zealand and Cindy Norman in the USA for their excellent, and rapid, proof reading.

This is truly an international effort!



Neil Wardrope - CLC UK Mission Director



'The Team'

Contributions from:

- Blanca Lilia Garzón
- Patricio Romo
- CLC Directors / team members around the world

Editing by:

- Sheena Wardrope
- Neil Wardrope

Design by:

- Alessandra Platania

CLC WORLD News

CLC Canada:



A Bookshop Testimony

"On a busy afternoon at the Verdun bookshop, a young lady came in looking for a Bible for herself and her fiancé. Within minutes all the other customers made their purchases and then we were able to spend more than an hour talking with this lady about her situation, as well as which could be the best Bible for the two of them. Arriving at the counter, the lady asked for information about good churches in the area. For various reasons none of our suggestions worked well for her. Eventually she said, 'I want to go to your church!' The very next Sunday, the couple were in church and they heard the message of salvation.

The lady and her fiancé are no longer together as he wanted her but not the gospel. However, the lady, Danielle, is in love with the Lord and was baptised in June. Now Danielle's parents are also attending church, wanting to know about the good things that have happened to their daughter!" – Rod Fowler

Photo: Rod Fowler, CLC Canada



CLC United States:



Biker Bibles

Three bikers came all the way from Delaware to our Headquarters in Fort Washington to get some Biker Bibles to use in their ministry to unsaved bikers. We are praying that the Lord will transform many lives!



CLC Russia:

CLC Russia's Special Seminar

Nikita Sapunov and the team in Moscow praise the Lord for their first Redemptive History Seminar held in conjunction with the R-Center (Center for the Movement of Redemptive History) based in Seoul, South Korea. A large team travelled from Korea to conduct the seminar, and the response from attendees was very positive.

As part of the cooperation with this Korean ministry, CLC Russia has just published, in Russian, the first book in the History of Redemption series by Dr. Abraham Park. The book, *The Genesis Genealogies*, was presented at the seminar.

Photo: visiting Korean team



CLC Italy:

Leadership Matters

Following a stroke earlier this year, the former National Director for Italy, Samuele Di Ruocco, has spent many weeks in hospital and in rehabilitation. In June, he returned home where he continues to make slow but steady progress. It was a special day when he was well enough to visit the Turin bookshop near to where he lives.

Ivano Cramerotti initially took on Samuele's CLC role as an interim measure, but at the recent annual staff conference he was elected as the new National Director. This has been a very busy and tiring time for Ivano, who already had significant responsibilities within the team, but we trust the Lord to give him the wisdom and strength that is needed for the job.

Top photo: Samuele (centre) with Luigi and Silvia

Bottom photo: Ivano Cramerotti



CLC Switzerland:

Closed but still Open for Online Business!

Although the physical CLC bookshop in Lugano, Switzerland, closed in June 2019, online sales continue. The Swiss CLC website is a copy of CLC Italy's site as it serves the Italian speaking population in the Ticino region of Switzerland and beyond.

Carlo, who was the shop manager, will look for employment elsewhere, but he will also continue to oversee the CLC Switzerland website. We trust the Lord for growing sales and an effective ministry for months and years to come.

Photo: Carlo Ciafani



CLC Mozambique:

Event for Writers

"In June, CLC Maputo held an event for Christian writers. Of the 55 enthusiastic participants, some had already written poems, short stories or booklets on specific topics. Others dreamed about writing.

We were reminded by a local pastor of the importance of 'not going beyond the Word', and CLC member Abel Chau spoke about the role of literature in the Reformation. Ramon Rocha III (from MAI, see littworld.org) shared some practical tips on how to write successfully and persist!

We were blessed and encouraged, and we pray that God will water the seeds of inspiration sown that day!"

– Liz Patten

Photos: Abel Chau (bottom left) and Ramon Rocha III (bottom right)



CLC Sierra Leone:

Mobile Motorbike Ministry and More!



Matthew Hanciles, with his wife Isatta, manages CLC's bookshop in the town of Bo. Matthew is also very committed to taking the books anywhere and everywhere using his motorbike (*photo on the left*). This outreach ministry has been recognised by the local church community, having awarded CLC with a medal and a certificate of excellence in evangelism and distribution of the Word of God in the southern province of the country.

Matthew is also reaching out by making contacts with some shop owners to see if they would consider stocking books from CLC in order to reach people who might not think to visit a Christian bookshop, and the CLC ministry is promoted twice a month on a local radio station.



CLC Philippines:

Vacation Bible School

Many children and young people in the Philippines look forward to the Vacation Bible School (VBS) event held during the holidays. In partnership with the *Church Strengthening Ministry*, CLC Philippines conducted a one-day workshop for teachers of VBS earlier this year.

The event was attended by over 150 people from different churches around Valenzuela City, the nearby province of Bulacan, and the cities of Malabon and Quezon. The seminar aims to equip teachers to make the best use of the materials for VBS. This year's theme, *Shield Squad: Secure in God's Protection*, aims to educate children to be prepared and safe in difficult times.



...in everything by prayer
and supplication
with thanksgiving
let your requests be
made known to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6



September 2nd - 8th

Week 36 - Events

Monday (2nd) - Portugal

Vinicyus, who works with Carlos Cunha in the Coimbra bookshop, is getting married on Saturday, September 7. Please pray for him and Priscila, his wife-to-be, as they start life together. Praise God, too, for the help and support Vinicyus gives to Carlos Cunha, the Director for CLC Portugal. *Photo: Vinicyus and Priscila*



Tuesday (3rd) - Portugal

Carlos Cunha has several extra commitments over the next few days. As well as attending Vinicyus' wedding this Saturday, he is holding a book table and preaching at a church near Aveiro on Sunday, September 8. The following Sunday he is running a book table and sharing news of CLC Mozambique in another church - a fellowship that has financially supported Jose Sacramento, CLC's manager in Beira, following storm damage to his home.

Wednesday (4th) - Ecuador

"CLC is celebrating the Month of the Bible in Ecuador, and there will be special events taking place tomorrow in Quito (5th) and then in Guayaquil (7th). The author Samuel Pagán will be the guest speaker, and he will be explaining how to understand and use the *Hebrew/Greek Key Word Study Bible*. Praise God for this opportunity to highlight God's Word."

–Monica Rojas, National Director

Thursday (5th) - Panama

CLC Panama arranges an annual book fair for their wholesale customers – booksellers from around the country – and this event is happening again today with representatives from six Christian publishers taking part. Please pray this time together will be an encouragement and blessing to everyone involved.

Friday (6th) - Chile

Today and tomorrow the CLC team from Valparaiso have a book table at the annual Congress for Teachers in the Assemblies of God churches. Please pray that the resources CLC provides will be of great benefit to those who attend. Pray also for opportunities to share something of

the ministry of CLC and make contacts that could open doors for serving the delegates in the future.

The Weekend (7th - 8th) - Philippines

The 40th Manila International Book Fair takes place September 11–15. CLC has a total of seven booths, over two levels, at the SMX Convention Center in Metro Manila. More than 200,000 people are expected to visit the fair, and exhibitors include secular bookshops, publishers, suppliers and Christian bookshops and publishers. Pray for the CLC team at this busy and, we trust, productive time.

September 9th - 15th

Week 37 - Conferences

Monday (9th) - Asia Regional Leaders' Conference

The Asia Leaders' Regional Conference took place in the Philippines last month. Now the delegates have returned to their countries of service, pray that the time spent together will have ongoing benefits in terms of team building, equipping and vision for the future of CLC in each country and in the wider region. Pray, too, for Romualdo Macinas in his role as Regional Director.

Tuesday (10th) - Americas and Caribbean Leaders' Conference

"The CLC Regional Leaders' Conference for the Americas and the Caribbean will be held in Mexico City on September 11-16. Please pray that this will be a time of encouragement and edification for everyone who attends. We need to hear from God in these days."

–Humberto Urrutia, Latin America Regional Director

Wednesday (11th) - Americas and Caribbean Leaders' Conference

"Please pray for all the CLC Regional Directors as we travel to Mexico for the Americas and Caribbean Regional Conference. We will have the privilege of sharing about the work of CLC in our regions. For me this is always a joy, and it will also be an opportunity to say thank you to the teams that have been especially supportive of CLC's work in some African countries."


–Liz Patten, Africa Regional Director

Thursday (12th) - Africa Leaders' Conference

Please pray for the Africa Regional Leaders' Conference that will take place in Mozambique at the beginning of October. Apart from a 'mini' Africa conference at the end of the International Council meetings in July 2016, this is the first full Regional Conference since October 2010.

Friday (13th) - Africa Leaders' Conference

We are thankful for the funds to enable us to meet this year, and we hope that all our African National Directors will be able to attend. We also expect Gerardo Scalante, CLC's International Director, and his wife, Silvia, to join us as well as Humberto Urrutia, the Regional Director for Latin America, and Bernhard Koecke from CLC France. We trust God for a good time of fellowship, learning and encouragement.



*Rejoice in hope,
be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer.*

ROMANS 12:12

The Weekend (14th - 15th) - France

"We will have our general assembly meeting on September 22 and then, from September 23 -25, our annual Team Conference with all the bookshop managers. During our time together a French author and theologian will present the different versions of the Bible and particularly a new version, the *Nouvelle Français Courant*. Please pray with us for God's blessing as we meet."
–Hervé Lessous, Director

September 16th - 22nd

Week 38 - Bookshop and Publishing News

Monday (16th) - Italy

CLC Italy has published *Serving as Senders Today* by Neal Pirolo. The book addresses the need for churches to partner with missionaries, and covers the areas of care needed to support them from the preparation period right through to their return home. Neal Pirolo will be presenting the book in CLC bookshops later this month and at the end of October. Please pray that this book will be an effective tool for churches and, ultimately, helpful for missionaries.

Tuesday (17th) - Philippines and Kenya

CLC Philippines is publishing *The Genesis Genealogies* and *The Covenant of the Torch*, by the Rev. Abraham Park, in Tagalog. Pray that the books will be ready in time for the corresponding seminar planned for November.

CLC Kenya is publishing *The Genesis Genealogies* in Swahili, and the team are looking forward to the impact this book will have on Swahili-speaking communities in Eastern Africa.

We are thankful to the *R-Center* (Center for the Movement of Redemptive History) in Korea for making these projects possible.

Wednesday (18th) - Trinidad and Tobago

In July this year, the bookshop in Tobago relocated to a second-floor unit in a shopping mall in Scarborough. Please pray that this move will prove beneficial for CLC and for customers. Aulene Watson-Mitchell supervises the shop. *Photo: new location CLC Tobago*



Thursday (19th) - Kenya and Sierra Leone

Please pray for our teams in Kenya and Sierra Leone. Both have equipment for producing books using a Print on Demand (POD) system. However, it has been an increasing challenge to find consumables at prices that enable the end product to remain affordable in these countries. Pray for our POD teams that they will be able to source these materials at prices to allow this vital part of our ministry to continue.

Friday (20th) - Mozambique

"We are thankful for a small grant that will enable us to open a CLC outlet in the province of Nampula, northern Mozambique. This is the fulfillment of a dream as, at the moment, we are in the south (Maputo) and half way up (Beira) this very long country! Please pray as we plan the logistics for this project, together with our partners in Nampula who have invited us to work with them." –Liz Patten, Director

The Weekend (21st - 22nd) - Frankfurt Book Fair

"I will be attending the Frankfurt Book Fair from October 16 - 18. This is the largest book fair in the world, and almost all English language Christian publishers will be represented. It is not only an important time to see the new titles that are available for translation, but also a time to renew relationships with publishers. These contacts are vital as CLC continues to expand publishing operations around the world." –Gary Chamberlin, Europe Regional Director

September 23rd - 29th

Week 39 - Staff News and Needs

Monday (23rd) - Italy

Samuele Di Ruocco, the former National Director for CLC Italy, continues to make slow but encouraging progress following a stroke. Please pray for his complete recovery. Pray, too, for Ivano Cramerotti who has taken over as CLC Italy's National Director.

Tuesday (24th) - Kenya

"We thank God for Paul Macharia, a volunteer who joined us a year ago. He is our first volunteer in the 11 years we have been operating, and his commitment and dedication have been unparalleled, especially in the midst of challenging times for CLC in Kenya." –Mercy Muthoni, CLC Kenya

Photo: Paul Macharia



Wednesday (25th) - Central Asia 2

At the time of writing, the team were looking for a new member of staff to help with sales in the bookshop. Please pray for God's provision of the right person for this work. Possibly by now this position has been filled, but we can still pray for that person!

Thursday (26th) - Japan

CLC's largest bookshop in Tokyo, CLC Ochanomizu, has recently had a change of staff as the former manager and a part-time worker have both left recently. Satoru Nakano, the National Director, is grateful for the two new staff members on the team - Mr. Aoki and Mrs. Mizoguchi - and asks for prayer for them as they settle in and get used to the work.

Friday (27th) - Thailand

Please pray for Don and Betsy Veldboom as they come to the end of their time with CLC Thailand. They return to the USA at the end of September. Please pray for God's provision and guidance for their future. Now Amanda Intajuk, a Thai national who has been with CLC for the past year, will take over the leadership of the ministry, together with her husband Ken.

The Weekend (28th - 29th) - French West Africa

Please pray for the health of our team members and their families in FWA. Many of them have suffered in the past months with malaria and typhoid fever. These illnesses often re-occur and are very debilitating and, at times, discouraging. Pray in particular for Luc and Gerard in Burkina Faso as well as our teams in Abidjan and Bouaké in Ivory Coast.

September 30th - October 6th

Week 40 - Praise

Monday (30th) - Central Asia 2

Praise the Lord for 20 years operating in this country and for the opportunity to hold an anniversary celebration in the bookshop in June. An extra reason to celebrate was that the team finally received permission from the government to display and sell 68 titles, some in Russian and others in the local language.

Tuesday (1st) - United Kingdom

It has been common in the USA for some time, but it is now the case in the UK that Christian films are being made available in secular cinemas. Please pray that this will become more widespread and that people will be open to receiving the Gospel message through film. Praise God for the increasing number of exceptional Christian films.

Wednesday (2nd) - Dominica

"Our prayer and evangelism ministry continues at the bookstore and for that we say Hallelujah! Praise the Lord for an inspiring and successful Prayer Breakfast in the bookshop earlier this year, with invited pastors and faithful customers. We focused on prayer for the bookshop, our country and CLC International." –*Tajya Winston, for CLC Dominica*

Thursday (3rd) - Kenya

We thank God for the opportunity to work with many local authors and encourage them to publish their work. This has included an Authors' Club, and even a junior version to encourage young people to write! We are also grateful to have a platform to share some of our experiences through online webinars with Media Associates International.

Friday (4th) - Cyprus

"Our helper in the bookshop had a friend who was in a hospice and suffering from cancer. This young lady had her Bible and devotional readings with her that we sent from the bookshop. Later, this lady's sister, who was not a believer, told us that the Bible and devotional book were a great comfort to her sister as she prepared herself for Heaven, and she was a good witness to all who came into her hospice room." –*Eva Photiadou, Director*

The Weekend (5th - 6th) - Poland

"We continue to have some very positive responses to some of the books we have published. The integral version of *Jesus our Destiny* by Wilhelm Busch continues to be our bestseller. We have customers return regularly to purchase more copies to give to friends and relatives. We are truly delighted to see various titles having a very positive impact on people's lives here in Poland." –*Gary Chamberlin, Director*



October 7th - 13th

Week 41 - Opportunities

Monday (7th) - Germany

News from Valentin Schweigler: "We recently met with local church leaders that led to new contacts and stronger relationships. A church with a large number of young people asked us to consider opening occasionally on Sundays, as they meet near CLC, because accessing the bookshop during weekdays is not easy for many of them. Please pray for good solutions to supply this congregation with Christian resources."

Tuesday (8th) - Germany

"In addition to the possibility of opening the bookshop out of hours for a local church, we are planning to run evening events in the shop, particularly to encourage the young people to read and understand the Bible. We will include practical teaching, advice and explanations of books they may find helpful. These meetings will probably take place during October and November. Please pray for blessing and spiritual growth from this venture." –*Valentin Schweigler, Director*

Wednesday (9th) - United Kingdom

"Praise the Lord for the merger arrangements between CLC UK and the Kingsway Trust. By the time you read this, the formal legal arrangements will be in place, but there is a huge amount of practical work to combine the two organisations. The most important consideration is that we share the same heart for using the Kingdom resources that we have been given." –*Neil Wardrope, Director*



Thursday (10th) - Panama

From today until Sunday, the ministry *Liderazgo Generational* (Generational Leadership) is holding an International Retreat in Panama City. CLC will be supporting several participating publishers by hosting their stands. The event is for church leaders involved in youth ministry - young children, teenagers and students. Almost 2,000 people from about 20 countries are expected to attend. Praise God for the opportunity to assist in this way.

Friday (11th) - Benin

Please pray for CLC Benin as they look for ways to reach out once more to Bible Institutes in order to encourage the purchase of books for their libraries. It can be discouraging when Bible Schools do not have funding to buy books, but experience has shown that keeping up contacts like this sometimes bears fruit later when funds do become available.

The Weekend (12th - 13th) - Belarus

"The space behind our CLC property is often used as a smoking area by students from the nearby college and people visiting relatives in local hospitals. In the evenings young people also congregate there. The smell of smoke penetrates the shop and we regularly ask them to smoke elsewhere but, at the same time, we want to find ways to minister to these people, some of whom are finding life hard. Please pray for inspiration and creativity to use our resources to share the Gospel in this space." –*Lina Pinkevich, Director*

October 14th - 20th

Week 42 - Challenges

Monday (14th) - Portugal

Pray for wisdom in the many challenges CLC Director Carlos Cunha faces in his CLC work. In June this year, Carlos also became a member of the Board of the Portuguese Evangelical Alliance. This new role gives Carlos further opportunities to serve the church, to make more connections and develop relationships that will be a blessing to CLC and other ministries in Portugal.

Tuesday (15th) - Dominica

Shop manager David Laudat and the team continue to look for a new location for CLC in Roseau and have viewed a few places but nothing that is suitable, or available, so far. For the past two years the landlord of the current shop has not increased the rent, despite planning to do so, but, in July this year, the rent was raised significantly. Please pray for God's direction and provision for the bookshop's future.

Wednesday (16th) - Venezuela

CLC in Venezuela is affected not only by the ongoing drop in distribution and sales, but also by a lack of personnel for the shops. Some CLC staff have emigrated due to the difficult living conditions in Venezuela. Please continue to pray that God will give the reduced team wisdom to know how best to continue working in these challenging conditions.

Thursday (17th) - Ecuador

Monica Rojas, the Director for CLC Ecuador, asks for prayer as there has been a noticeable decline in sales recently. Wisdom is needed to know what decisions to make and how to reverse the situation. Pray too for the staff that they would not become discouraged and lose their motivation to persevere.

Friday (18th) - Kenya

"We are thankful for an evaluation of the ministry which took place last December with the local leaders and members of the International Office. This year, the team has been busy carrying out the recommendations, but this has involved sacrifice and a lot of hard work,

including a move of the HQ in order to reduce rental costs. Please pray for the team, in Nairobi and Eldoret, that they will begin to see light at the end of the tunnel and enter into a new season." –Liz Patten, African Regional Director

The Weekend (19th - 20th) - Sierra Leone

"Please pray for the economic situation in Sierra Leone. Our local currency continues to fall in value – it is worth less than half of its value in 2016. We are facing serious challenges because 80% of our products, including the Print On Demand consumables, are ordered overseas. This makes it extremely difficult for us because it makes it difficult to set fair prices, both for us and our customers. Please pray for an improved situation in the country." –Donald John, Director

October 21st - 27th

Week 43 - Events

Monday (21st) - Ecuador

"We would appreciate your prayers for an event CLC has arranged for Christian booksellers. It takes place in Quito on October 21 and 22. We will spend time together in worship, receive training and learn about new materials on the market. May it be a time of refreshment and progress for the Christian literature ministry in Ecuador." –Monica Rojas, Director

Tuesday (22nd) - Portugal

For several years now, CLC has been actively supporting and attending the Global Leadership Summits in Portugal, and the team has a large CLC book table at the event. The Summit this year takes place in Lisbon (October 25-26) and then in Porto (November 1-2). Please pray for Carlos Cunha and his helpers at these events and for the ministry of the Global Leadership Network.



Wednesday (23rd) - Colombia

It is regular practice for CLC in Latin America to arrange meetings for Christian booksellers. CLC Colombia holds their 28th National Booksellers Event this week, October 24-26. They are expecting 200 booksellers from across the country and representatives from 16 publishing houses to attend. Pray for this important and much appreciated event.

Thursday (24th) - India

"Between September and December, our ELS (CLC) team will be conducting book tables in various churches, schools and colleges in and around Chennai. Please pray that these extra events would be a great blessing to many people." –Justin Chellappan, Director

Friday (25th) - Philippines

The CLC team will celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the ministry in the Philippines with a special sale during the second week of November. There are also plans for a celebration day during the month, combined with a visit from an R-Center team from Korea. This team will lead a seminar for around 500 people. The seminar is based on the History of Redemption books that CLC Philippines are publishing in Tagalog. Pray for the preparations for these events and for blessing during the time of celebration.

The Weekend (26th - 27th) - France

"The annual Paris Christian Fair takes place in November (18-19). Normally, CLC's book table at this event is organised by the wholesale department in Montélimar, but this year the CLC team in Paris will deal with the arrangements. Please pray for the planning and preparation as well as for the event itself, which is a good opportunity to meet with other Christian organisations as well as the visitors to our stand." –Hervé Lessous, Director

October 28th - November 3rd

Week 44 - Staff News and Needs

Monday (28th) - Mexico

After a number of staff changes for CLC Mexico over recent months, please pray the team will be strengthened and function well together. We also want God to direct us to potential new members - people who have a heartfelt commitment for the ministry.

–*Maria del Carmen Castañeda, Director*

Tuesday (29th) - Venezuela

Some specific points for prayer from Delvis Blanco, the Director:

1. Pray that the Lord would give us wisdom to find strategies to generate sales in extremely difficult economic circumstances.
2. Pray for us in our bookshops, especially as frequent power cuts are damaging our computers and air conditioning units.
3. Pray for protection for the staff from the discouragement and stress produced by the current living conditions in the country.

Wednesday (30th) - Japan

“With Christmas approaching, please pray as we purchase relevant stock and prepare for seasonal sales. May God give us wisdom and guidance so that our efforts are fruitful. Pray too for good health, both physically and spiritually, for the team, particularly as we have less staff in the bookshops these days.” –*Satoru Nakano, Director*

Thursday (31th) - Italy

“In recent years, there has been a dramatic increase in drug dealing and prostitution in the area around our bookshop in Naples. As a result, customers are reluctant to come to the shop and sales are declining. We are seriously considering a move to a safer place for customers and staff, but finding somewhere else is difficult. Pray that God would lead us to a suitable and accessible location.” –*Ivano Cramerotti, Director*

Friday (1st) - Uruguay

In December, Roberto Prochnau will retire from CLC after 38 years with the mission. Albaro Silva is currently preparing to take over Roberto's role in administration and finance. Please pray for these men over this time of preparation and transition.

Photo: Roberto Prochnau (left) and Albaro Silva



The Weekend (2nd - 3rd) - National Directors

Please continue to pray for God's guidance and provision for the CLC countries that have Directors who are ready to retire but with no obvious person equipped and ready to replace them. CLC Belarus and Romania urgently need staff who can take the ministry on into the future. We obviously need to be persistent in prayer for this!

November 4th - 10th

Week 45 - CLC Properties

Monday (4th) - Barbados

The CLC property in Bridgetown has had renovation work done from time to time, but some major repairs were needed this year, especially to the roof. Praise the Lord for a Christian

building contractor who offered to make the roof as waterproof as possible and at a reasonable cost! Hopefully, the work has been done by now, and the shop stayed dry during the hurricane season that ends this month.

Tuesday (5th) - Cyprus

"The building where the bookshop is located was up for sale for some time. Recently, it was sold to a company and we wondered if the rent would increase or if we would be asked to leave. One of the directors of the company came to the bookshop to introduce himself and said we could stay as long as we liked, and on the same terms as before with no rent increase. We can see the hand and grace of the Lord in this, and we are very thankful." –*Eva Photiadou, Director*



Wednesday (6th) - India

"The rent for the bookshop property in Visakhapatnam (Vizag) was increased a while ago, and it became necessary to look for a more affordable location. It is proving very difficult to find somewhere suitable, so the work carries on in the same place at the higher rent. Please continue to pray for the right solution to this situation." –*Justin Chellappan, Director*

Thursday (7th) - Ecuador

We give thanks to God that, after an extended process to acquire the permits to construct a CLC building in Guayaquil, we were told recently that the documents would soon be ready. Pray for wisdom for our administrative committee as they make many decisions regarding this major project in the months ahead.

Friday (8th) - Thailand

As with a number of CLC building projects, progress can seem slow. We continue to pray and trust the Lord for the possibility of a new location for the Chiang Mai bookshop. There are a number of issues to be resolved in order for this to happen. Also, Amanda Intajuk has just taken over the responsibility of managing the shop, and she would value prayer for more opportunities for the team to work with churches and other ministries.

The Weekend (9th - 10th) - Mexico

"The country is going through very difficult times, and the new government is introducing changes that are affecting the economy. We thank the Lord that, despite the hardships, God continues to sustain CLC Mexico. Please pray for us as we are currently looking to relocate the bookshop to a more populated part of the city."

–*Maria del Carmen Castañeda, Director*

November 11th - 17th

Week 46 - Reaching Out

Monday (11th) - Cyprus

Although the dates are not confirmed at the time of writing, Sotos and Eva, who run the bookshop in Nicosia, regularly take Christmas book tables to other towns on the island during the month of November. This involves a lot of extra work and travel, but it is always a rewarding and worthwhile activity. Please pray for these events, and for safety as they travel.

Tuesday (12th) - Chile

During November, the global discipling mission, *see Jesus*, will be visiting Chile. They will run

seminars to present their resources, especially the Bible study book, *The Person of Jesus* by Paul E Miller, which is published in Spanish by CLC Colombia. CLC Chile is organising seminars in various bookshops. Please pray that these events will be well attended by local church leaders and teachers, and have a lasting spiritual impact on the wider community.

Wednesday (13th) - Mozambique

Following Cyclone Idai, many people in the Sofala region of Mozambique lost homes and possessions. Thanks to the generosity of Christians in Mozambique and beyond, CLC was able to provide more than 3,000 Bibles as gifts to those in the affected area. Through partnerships with missions and local churches, we were also able to help with some humanitarian projects. Pray that people still struggling to put their lives back together may be helped by coming into contact with God's Word.

Thursday (14th) - Liberia

"Please pray for CLC Liberia's future. New strategies are needed and, if possible, we would like to find a missionary couple who would commit to spending a year or two with the small local team to help build up the work in Monrovia and beyond. We are grateful for the vehicle we have acquired, thanks to a generous donation. Now we need to find more places to visit with the books." –Liz Patten, Africa Regional Director

Friday (15th) - Netherlands

Wilco, CLC Netherlands, has designed a CLC bag made for durability and to reduce the need for plastic bags. The logo on the bag translates as '*reading brings you peace in a restless world*'. Pray that customers with this bag will have opportunities to talk about the meaning of these words, and that CLC books purchased would indeed help people to find peace with God and His peace in their lives.

Photo: Magda, CLC Netherlands

The Weekend (16th - 17th) - Mexico

"We have various ongoing projects to reach out to diverse people, including visits to schools, colleges and seminaries. In addition, we plan to venture into the secular market, and we pray that the Lord will open doors for us and give us the wisdom and grace we need to enter these places."

–Maria del Carmen Castañeda, Director



November 18th - 24th

Week 47 - Books and Bibles



Monday (18th) - Chile

Waldo, an elderly customer of CLC, buys one or two reference books a month. One day, he came to collect a book and was delighted to find there was a special discount that day. He ordered another book for his next visit and said it was a shame he couldn't afford it that day so he could benefit from the discount. While Waldo continued browsing, another customer bought the book Waldo ordered and asked the staff to give it to him. Waldo left the shop praising God for his unexpected gift! Praise God for customers like Waldo and the anonymous gift giver!

Tuesday (19th) - Spain

"We thank God for the 20,000 Bibles we received as part of the International Office project to supply quantities of affordable Bibles for specific Spanish-speaking countries. We are grateful for the people who have made this happen – the International Office for promoting this evangelistic project and those who have contributed financially. Please pray that the distribution of the Bibles will have a wide and lasting impact in the country."

–Darwin Vergel, CLC Spain

Wednesday (20th) - Ecuador

"We have an ongoing promotion of slow-moving books called BBB – Buenos (good), Bonitos (attractive) and Baratos (inexpensive). Pray that our customers will find books from this promotion that will bless and benefit them while they support the ministry at the same time through the sales generated." –Monica Rojas, Director

Thursday (21st) - Poland

Pray that the Lord will continue to guide us as we publish books from a Protestant perspective on the Papacy and another on Mary. Pray also for the selection of new titles to be published in the coming months, including *The Tabernacle* by Korean Pastor, Abraham Park.

Friday (22nd) - Netherlands

"In July, we received the Dutch version of *The Chequebook of the Bank of Faith* by C.H. Spurgeon. We printed this in cooperation with William Mackenzie from Christian Focus. We are very glad for this opportunity and pray that the message in this book will be read by many people in our country." –Bertus Keuter, Director

The Weekend (23rd - 24th) - Books as Gifts

Pray for all the Bibles and books bought to give as Christmas gifts. Pray for the people who will receive them, and thank God for the people who buy them in order to bless, encourage or help others.



November 25th - December 1st

Week 48 - Christmas Preparations



Monday (25th) - Displays

All retailers want their shops to attract attention at Christmas. Pray that our shops would be well presented and inviting but, above all, that the presence of God and the significance of Christ's birth would be evident in our bookshops.

Tuesday (26th) - Staff

Pray for the shop managers, the rest of the staff and our volunteer helpers at this busy time of year. Pray for patience, wisdom and the energy they need to do their work well. Pray too for the CLCers working in wholesale as the pressure is on to keep up with extra orders.

Wednesday (27th) - Rest

During the busyness of the Christmas season, it is important to take time to rest and receive. Pray that our CLC members will have quality time to recharge their batteries, physically and spiritually.

Thursday (28th) - Protection

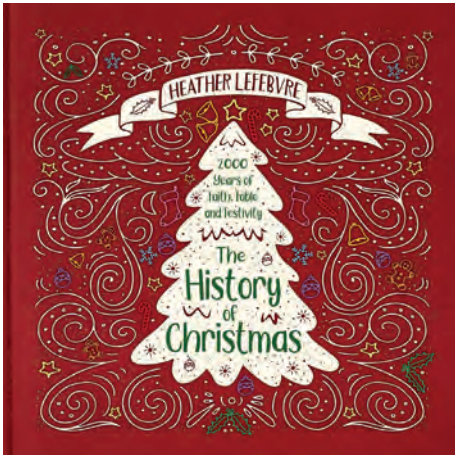
There is usually an increase in shoplifting in the weeks leading up to Christmas, and this can have a serious financial impact for businesses. Pray for God's protection over our buildings and stock. Pray that our teams will remain vigilant and find ways to reduce the risks at this time of year.

Friday (29th) - Black Friday

The phenomenon that is Black Friday continues to grow each year as a special day for online offers. Several of our CLC teams with websites participate and make special promotions on this day. Pray that new customers would be attracted and that some would receive a 'spiritual surprise' they were not expecting.

The Weekend (30th - 1st) - Stock

With a faster turnover of stock and increased requests for specific material, please pray for the wholesale, retail and online departments of CLC. We need wisdom and foresight to, hopefully, have the right stock in the right place at the right time to serve our customers' needs.



The History of Christmas

*2,000 Years of Faith,
Fable and Festivity*

The History of Christmas is for children aged 9 to 14 years old. It will take you on a journey from Christ's birth in Bethlehem, through Roman times and the Middle Ages, into the Reformation and then the Victorian era.

You will finally touch down in our modern-day Christmas with all the things that make us think of this wonderful season – decorations, presents, delicious food.

But as you take this amazing journey, you will discover the surprising twists and turns that Christmas has taken over the years.

Extra Features: Scripture Readings; Discussion Questions; Recipes and Activities.



Jesus is the Reason for the Season



TEACH READING AND WRITING WITH PURPOSE!

About four years ago, the CLC team in Colombia was praying for a way to help people in isolated and difficult-to-access areas of the country who do not know how to read or write. We were also concerned for those who do not have visits from Christian speakers or the opportunity to attend seminars and workshops to help them in their spiritual growth and to mature in Christ. Above all, however, there was the desire for people to be able to read and understand God's Word.

The obvious area to concentrate on was Chocó, one of the poorest, most neglected and least inhabited regions of Colombia. The population is around 500,000 and is predominantly made up of Afro-Colombians, descendants of former slaves. In addition, there are many ethnic groups and a variety of languages; not everyone speaks Spanish. About 80% of the population do not have their basic needs met – needs such as clean water, electricity, employment, education and health care – and the infant mortality rate is high.



Chocó

Other difficulties include the geographical and climatic conditions, such as dense, humid forests and high rainfall. Due to the terrain, access is mostly by plane or boat. The isolation, the general lack of infrastructure and lack of economic development have allowed criminal groups to impose

their authority. Added to these factors that make life so difficult is the fact that coca leaf crops are grown in the region for the production of cocaine. This industry is well protected from the authorities seeking to dismantle this illicit activity.

For all these reasons, God put it in our hearts to help the people of Chocó and bring them the Word of God so they can know, love and honour Him. Initially, we opened a small bookshop with the support of all the other CLC bookshops in Colombia. Then, we started an evangelistic work with children from the area surrounding the bookshop in the small and rudimentary city of Quibdó, the region's capital. Because so many of the inhabitants are unable to read or write in Spanish, we have also developed a project to teach these skills to adults and young people over the age of 15.

CLC sought the support of the ministry *Literacy and Evangelism International* in this project, requesting training and permission to print their materials to teach people to read and write, as well as manuals to train the teachers. During 2018, we worked on training and publishing the booklets. At the end of October, we started the project, not only in Chocó but in other municipalities of Colombia where there is a great need for it. At the time of writing this article we have 148 trained evangelical Christian volunteers, who have each committed themselves to teach 1 to 3 people to read and write over the course of a year.

The literacy programme lasts for 52 weeks, with a one-hour class per week and some simple follow-up work to be done by the students using a booklet provided by CLC Publishing. During the weekly lesson, before the class begins, ten minutes are dedicated to reading a Bible passage with some explanation and an opportunity to reflect on the reading. At the end of the class the literacy teacher prays for the students, encourages them to work on the exercises in the booklet and invites them to the next class. At the end of the whole course, each student is given a Bible as a prize for completing the work.

We give the glory to the Lord because we are sure that, more than anything, the world needs to know God by reading His Word. Our aim is to see more people reading the Scriptures to come to a knowledge of God and a faith in Jesus Christ. This can be done through various means, including through social work, to fulfill the purpose for which CLC exists.

Blanca Lilia Garzón - Editorial Director, CLC Colombia Publishing



A CLC STAFF TESTIMONY FROM CHILE...

In 2017, Luis Herrera left his home and family in Venezuela because he needed to find a way of sourcing and funding the medicines his young daughter depended on. Due to the economic situation, and the scarcity of medicine in his own country, this was a move he felt he had to make.



As a recent arrival in Chile, Luis met Gladys Parada, a retired CLC missionary, who suggested that he get in touch with CLC Chile. This led to a job with CLC as a caretaker for the warehouse, which at the time was susceptible to theft as the electricity supply was down. Luis soon proved to be an excellent worker and became a valued member of the distribution team.



Now, two years later, Luis is reunited with his wife and daughter as they have joined him in Chile. CLC are grateful to the Lord for the financial provision to be able to bring his family together after this long separation, and the CLC team has welcomed them with great joy.

Patricio Romo, National Director

Photos: Luis and family (top); Luis and CLC Wholesale team (bottom)

...AND A TRIBUTE TO CLC'S RETIRED MISSIONARIES.

The part that Gladys Parada played in the staff testimony from Chile (above) is a testament to the ongoing support of, and prayer for, CLC, which is demonstrated by so many of our retirees. A significant proportion of the current retired members also served as missionaries beyond their own countries, and Gladys is an example of that too.

Gladys joined CLC Chile in 1966 and, by 1969, she was working in the bookshop in Concepción. In 1971, she was sent as a CLC missionary to Argentina and then, four years later, to CLC Venezuela for another four years. On her return to Chile, Gladys worked for 10 years in Santiago before moving again to start a new bookshop in the city of Antofagasta where she worked until her retirement in 2000. Gladys has fond memories of her time with CLC and of the other missionaries she worked with from various countries, including the USA and the UK. Everything CLC does today is due to the commitment, service and prayerful vision of those who have gone before us, and we are grateful to them.

Photo: Gladys Parada



TAMING OF A VILLAIN

Allen was a professional rugby league player, but fell into a world of heavy drinking, drugs, violence and organized crime. In and out of prison, something had to change, and in 2013 Allen had a dramatic encounter with Jesus Christ and became born again.



You've lived a life and experienced things that most of us couldn't even imagine. In *Taming of a Villain* you've shared many shocking things, revealing to readers an explicit level of detail. Why was it important to you to share all this?

I believe it is important to be transparent with people, and with God. Sharing everything with the writers was part of a healing process. It took a whole year just to get the first three chapters. The issues around my mum were enormous. But I want to give others strength, who have bottled things up for a lifetime, to open up and share, and these details also help others understand why I was the way I was.

How can churches be better prepared to welcome and support those who may have come from shadier pasts; those who may still be searching or who may even have found Christ, but still struggle with ties to their past and find it hard to change old habits?

In my experience, everyone initially comes around you in love and it's a happy time. But as time progresses and you try to grow in faith you can wind up struggling along on your own. You have to be surrounded by quality people of God. The religiousness of church can be a barrier for others coming in and I was avoided by many. I needed so much support with things like budgeting and learning to pay my bills and earning money legitimately. At the beginning, bills, fines and food were paid for me by the church.

I would ask the church to remember to love your neighbour. People coming from backgrounds similar to mine are hurting and can be untrusting. They need seasoned and disciplined Christians who can cope with the roller-coaster of supporting these people. I would say a church needs a good discipleship program, but what we really need is to continually be shown the love of Christ, to find our identity in Him, and to be delivered out of the darkness.

What does life look like for you now that you've come out the other side of all that darkness?

I pinch myself every day to check it's not a dream. Violence now disturbs me. I can't swear. I love being a father to my 3 kids, guiding and nurturing them and watching them grow. Being able to live free in the grace of God is absolutely amazing. All the rubbish and pain and trauma from past years is just gone. I am open to God's will as I move into the future. I hope to marry one day. I now work for the railways, and a flexi contract allows me the freedom to go where I need to, when I feel called to.

Interview by Holly Bird first published in Together Magazine

ISBN 9780857219374 | Lion Hudson | Allen Langham | £11.99



Photo: Allen, his son Carson and Sheena Wardrobe at the book signing in the Sheffield shop.

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