

# Christian Endeavor Prayer Week 2011

January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 6<sup>th</sup>

*The Council of the World's Christian Endeavor Union in its meeting August 2010 decided to recommend to the national CE unions worldwide commemorating the CE birthday (Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1881) with a prayer week. It is up to the national unions, resp. local societies, how often they meet and how the prayer-meetings are designed.*

*Important is that we pray. Paul wrote to Timothy (1. Tim. 2:1):*

**I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone - ...**

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Letter of former WCEU president Rev. Dr. Faataape Lavata'i:

Greetings my fellow Endeavors,

I need to begin with an apology. My election to a new post within our church has placed me in a position requiring much travel. And, because of the necessity to be constantly elsewhere, we have had an internal lack of communication, hence, the delay in the distribution of our prayer topics as part of celebrating the birth of Christian Endeavor.

I present this paper with the understanding that prayer is both a gift and a task for mankind; in that sense, we speak of God's initiative and our respond which entails revealing our thoughts and desires. Much has been written in the Scriptures regarding man's yearn to fulfill his desires yet, at the same time, we have been taught that, before the Righteous cries out to God, He is already in our presence with an answer. There is no doubt, that God's will is unchanging; nevertheless, the belief that we are covenant partners in prayer with God is an indication that we may have a tool at our disposal that may change His will, if not to redirect the realization of that will.

Inquiries have been sent to all national unions via their email addresses. Unfortunately, many addresses were in error so that many of you did not receive the inquire, and I doubt if all national unions will have a copy of this letter before our celebration.

What follows are the responses received from the Americas, Africa, Europe and the South Pacific. If our goals are the same then you can recognize your own needs from our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Perhaps in this way we share a common cause and common needs i.e., maintaining the flame of the gospel and expanding the borders of His kingdom here on earth.

## Germany

- 50th anniversary of Indienhilfe (Help for India) that represents more than 3.000 sponsorships for children in India (May 27th - 29th in Berlin-Woltersdorf)
- success for our projects Ich Glaub's ("I believe") that will be held in many places in Germany with the aim to contact teenagers with Jesus Christ
- good and narrow contact between the national and regional CE unions of Germany
- Search by the German CE union for staff for different departments of our work (director of administration, director of youth work department and director of department for volunteers services)

## Niger

- pray for us to have some funds for micro businesses for the youth
- pray for a regular support for a weekly TV program, were I can preach the gospel to 3 million people
- some students rejected from their families or under severe poverty, need help to continue their studies
- pray for the political situation in Niger.(the 18th February 2010, military took power and

we're in transition till April). We are waiting for democratic institutions.

North America (CEI)

- Continued reception of the message of CE within churches in North America, Mexico, and American Samoa
- Unity among churches joining the movement and starting new Endeavor Societies and congregations with historical CE
- Spirit of cooperation between State Unions and growing desire to work together with common goals and objectives.
- Strength for staff, board, and regional leaders striving to raise awareness of CE once again as the standard for youth work
- Receptive hearts for pastors who are frustrated with youth ministry and seeking a new way forward using CE in their churches
- A Revival to foster and strengthen Christianity through the CE movement

Again, my apologies for this informal presentation. I pray, however, that with your kind understanding we will continue to hold hands in prayer as we share our needs and our hopes and that our Covenant Partner, to whom all glory belongs, will feel the beating of our hearts and look kindly upon us as we toil in His vineyard.

May this upcoming celebration be memorable in that, the reading of our needs will unite us in our common cause. As you pray for me, I too, will pause to remember you in my prayers.

*Faataape Lavatai* and the Endeavorers of American Samoa

*Please find following a list with countries where CE is more or less active. Some matters to pray for are mentioned that are known in the WCEU central office. You may also use the WCEU-News to find more items to pray for.*

#### **AFRICA**

Benin	Initiative by the national leaders to implement CE
Côte d' Ivoire	Peaceful solution of political conflict, establishing local CE societies
Egypt	Revival of CE, pressure on Christians by radical Muslims
The Gambia	New President Dominic Gomez, young converts from Muslim families
Ghana	Complete new start of CE
Liberia	Impact of training program for church leaders by Tim Eldred last Dec.
Malawi	More zeal and initiative for the work in the national union
Mali	To better understand and start CE
Niger	Economical and political problems, Muslim environment
Nigeria	Unity of the two groups, steps forward with youth work
Senegal	Muslim environment
Sierra Leone	Situation after the civil wars, traumatized people, infrastructure
Togo	
Rep. of South Africa	Various reach out activities of the local groups

#### **AMERICAS and CARIBBEAN**

Argentina	Growth of first society and expansion
Canada	Canadian Union folds, any future for CE in Canada ?
Cayman Islands	Fostering growth of youth groups
Guatemala	Wisdom for the very young leaders and their advisors
Guyana	Plans for future development
Jamaica	Leaders with a vision
Mexico	Understanding between CE and Church, Elections in August
Peru	Sound teaching and vision and wisdom for the leaders
USA	Unity among the leaders, fruits of the various programs

## **ASIA**

India	Unity, effective structure, strength for the persecuted
Japan	Encouragement, reaching youth,
Korea	Better involvement of youth in the leadership, mission projects
Myanmar	Wisdom for leaders in ethnic and political tensions of the country
Nepal	Successful outreach, growth of the small groups
Syria and Lebanon	Vision for missionary impact in a religious and political difficult situation

## **AUSTRALIA and PACIFIC**

American Samoa	Dangers of Materialism
Australia	Finding a way into a future with youth groups again
Marshall Islands	Leadership change, Contact with WCEU
Micronesia	Contact with WCEU
New Zealand	Vision for a NZ CE Union
Papua New Guinea	Practicing Christian Endeavor in the local youth groups
Samoa	Getting the young people more involved in leadership
Solomon Islands	Rebuilding the national CE Union
Tonga	Awareness for CE among the Church leaders

## **EUROPE**

Austria	Encouragement for the two societies in Carinthia
Bulgaria	Determination to start CE, acceptance in the church
Croatia	Conflict with local church
England and Wales	Wisdom for longtime CE-ers fostering youth groups
Germany	
Hungary	New director Andras Bogyo
Ireland	Extension initiative 2011
The Netherlands	Opening for CE societies in churches
Romania	Wisdom for implementing and conducting their many social programs
Scotland	Increasing the number of Junior and Youth societies
Ukraine	Coping with material needs, Extension of national headquarters