MARCH 2017

“In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.” John 14:20

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to introduce Ms. Daniela Ancalle as Advocates’ new Office Administrator. God orchestrated her joining the team and she started work in February. Daniela has a double degree in Global Affairs & Foreign Languages, *Magna Cum Laude* from George Mason University. She is fluent in Spanish, French and English and is learning Korean. She is also currently studying in an online program at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to receive a Master of Theological Studies (en Español). Daniela was born in Bolivia and moved to the U.S. when she was 11. She is a member of Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield, VA, where her father, Juan, is the Pastor of Hispanic Ministries. She has five siblings, including an older sister named Angela who interned for AI in 2009. Bienvenida, Daniela!

Thanks again for your prayers this past month for the Advocates Europe Conference. I was blessed to be together with three dozen friends from Bulgaria, Germany and Spain in Tenerife. We had sweet fellowship and learned a great deal about the Reformation and how it influenced—and was influenced by—the law. Our time together was truly encouraging.

Thanks also for your prayers for our Acting Deputy ED, Mark Mudri, who had an amazing, God-ordained 12 days in Singapore and Indonesia. I’d like to share three key highlights from Mark’s trip report. First, the astounding impact of the Indonesian Christian Legal Society (ICLS). Second, the launch of our new prayer initiative, Airforce & Ground-force Unite, a strategy that will bring together our key advocates in the legal and governmental arenas with seasoned prayer warriors from around the globe. Third, further development of our new effort to reach law students and the legal academy through the Institute for Christian Legal Studies International (ICLSI).

ICLS (aka PPHKI)
As you may remember, in 2012 when Mark and I were joined by our brother, Gregory Vijayendran from Singapore, at the World Prayer Assembly (WPA) in Jakarta, the three of us ventured into the heart of rush-hour traffic to meet with Tony Budidjaja. At that meeting, we prayed with and encouraged Tony to consider how God could use him to bring the Christian lawyers together in Indonesia. That meeting prompted the genesis of the ICLS. Little did we know how much that one meeting would change a nation, as Mark discovered on his trip.

In four short years, ICLS has grown to encompass chapters in seven cities across Indonesia, with several new chapters being formed. Members of ICLS form a significant part of the Governor of Jakarta’s legal team, and are demonstrating the importance of integrity and honesty in government. Please pray for them as they seek to fulfill God’s calling to serve in high places.
After initially being located in Tony’s law offices, ICLS now has its own offices with a sign that reads “The Wonderful Counselor Is In Us: Yesaya (Isaiah) 9:6 & Yohanes (John) 14:20.” They recently translated No Higher Calling into Indonesian and distributed them at their national conference last fall in beautiful hard bound volumes: Tiada Panggilan Yang Lebih Tinggi. One encouraging result of Tony’s faithfulness to follow God’s calling to lead ICLS is that his own law practice has doubled in size and his wife, Mardiana, a Notary, is leading a detailed strategy to equip child activists & lawyers to assist juveniles in the courts and prisons.

Under the leadership of its treasurer, David Surya, ICLS developed a training facility for Christian lawyers and asked Mark if he knew of a good name. Mark suggested the “Indonesian Rule of Law Institute” (IROLI), and with the blessing and support of Latcho Popov, we are honored that IROLI will join our growing network which includes Rule of Law Institutes in Bulgaria, Mongolia and Ukraine.

Prayer Strategy
Another incredibly encouraging outcome of Mark’s trip was the opportunity to gain more traction for our Airforce & Ground-force Unite prayer strategy. One key reason for the timing of this trip was the opportunity to meet again face-to-face with John Robb, the leader of the WPA and the International Prayer Connections, who was also in Jakarta for meetings. Also at the meeting was the Indonesian visionary for the WPA, Iman Santoso, who gave high praise for ICLS as one of the key tangible outcomes of the WPA. Please continue to pray with us as we work out the details of this important aspect of our mission.

Institute for Christian Legal Studies International
Finally, we are encouraged to see how God is bringing together our efforts to better reach law students and law professors, among others, through the Institute for Christian Legal Studies, a powerful tool developed by Mike Schutt and the Christian Legal Society (USA). We will be working together to further develop it for the AI networks through the efforts of Professor Pat Talbot and his wife, Kathy. They have been in Jakarta for several years, teaching at a Christian law school. Mark stayed with the Talbots and was able to encourage them, and we plan to host ICLSI on our new website, which is currently under construction.

Most importantly, it is with deep gratitude that we finally bid さようなら (sayonara) to Romi whose 14+ years of service have been invaluable. Thanks for your continued prayers and financial support that allow us to encourage, enable and equip our advocates—like those in Indonesia—and around the globe.

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

Grace and Peace,

Brent M. McBurney
President & CEO