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CLC WORLD

MAGAZINE

2024 issue 1

2023 WORLD REPORT





Dear CLC World Readers,

We want to express our sincere gratitude for your support of CLC World. We are honoured to share inspiring stories of the ministry of CLC International around the globe. As the world changes and technology advances, we too must adapt to the evolving landscape of the diffusion of information. Starting from 2024, we will be moving from four issues a year to three. We are committed to making each issue as informative and inspiring as possible. Therefore, we will be adding more pages to accommodate our content.

Be assured that we will continue to provide quality content, including the latest news and updates from the CLC World. We are excited to share more about our upcoming projects and the inspiring testimonies of how God is working around the globe. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We appreciate your prayers and continued support.

Sincerely, CLC World Team.

Follow us on Facebook!

Go to the CLC World Magazine Facebook page to receive daily prayer updates and important developments around the CLC world.

facebook.com/clcworldmag



Dear CLC Friends,

I have the privilege of meeting our committed and remarkable leaders and teams all over the world. In this issue of the annual CLC World Report for 2023 you will read of how they are being challenged and how they are seizing opportunities that the Lord is placing before them. Be inspired by their commitment, faith and perseverance!

In my heart I know that the Lord is challenging CLC International to do more to meet the significant needs for Christian resources of people around the world. There are notable opportunities to further grow our distribution of Bibles and books. Our global publishing in multiple languages is still growing. New channels of distribution regularly appear all over the world, including new bookshops in various countries, such as India. Online distribution still has significant room for growth. We are anticipating a big increase in e-books and audiobooks in the coming years.

God is often moving in unexpected ways, and we are willing to follow!

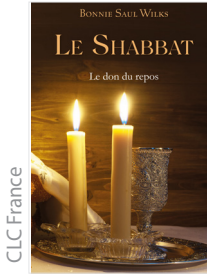


Gary Chamberlin,
CLC International Director

Thank you for walking with us through 2023! The needs in 2024 appear to be even greater. Please continue the journey with us. However possible, join with us: as a volunteer, as a praying partner and as a financial supporter for the mission of CLC International. Thank you!



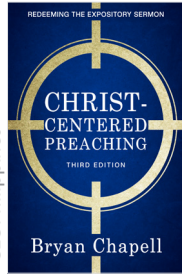
CLC PUBLICATIONS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE



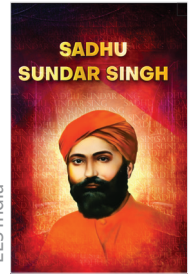
CLC France



CLC Colombia



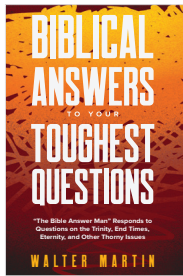
CLC Philippines



ELS India



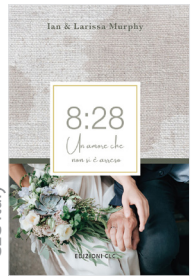
CLC Korea



CLC USA



CLC Portugal



CLC Italy



CLC Colombia



CLC France



ELS India



CLC UK

The purpose of CLC 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.

Visit clcinternational.org for more information about these publishing CLC countries.



AFRICA

2023 was a challenging year and I want to publicly say thank you to those who shouldered extra work on my behalf when I was dealing with health issues, especially Petra Nemansky (Mozambique) and Hervé Lessous (CLC francophone countries).

Highlights of the year included the first CLC francophone conference, in Ivory Coast, and the opening of the new bookshop in Bo City, in Sierra Leone.

Since I am based in the UK, the use of technology is so important for keeping in touch, praying together, planning how to grow the CLC ministry in different countries and, in some instances, giving training and managerial direction. Despite poor network coverage in several countries, we persevere with regular Zoom calls, some of which are held on a weekly basis.

Thankful for all that is past, we trust in the LORD for a bright future for CLC Africa! Amen.



Liz Patten
Regional Director for Africa

Benin

Population: 14.2 million (8.3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1998
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Director: Emmanuel Ladeyo
Bestsellers: *Spirit-Controlled Temperament, The Believer's Authority*



Hervé Lessous & staff

At the beginning of the year, our team received a visit from the CLC Africa Director Liz Patten, and the CLC Europe Director, Hervé Lessous.

They evaluated the ministry and gave us some counsel as to measures we could take to improve our current situation. At the end of the year, we were informed that the shop premises had been sold by the landlord, and we have to vacate the property by June 2024. We are facing great challenges, but we trust God that He will make a way.

A highlight of the year was the first CLC Francophone Conference, held in Ivory Coast. We are thankful for the unity among the various delegates and their desire to support and help each other to succeed in the ministry. We also enjoyed participating in the CLC Global Prayer Days organised on Zoom by the International Office.

Lastly, with the help of CLC France and funds from the Rudy Kuijer CLC Evangelistic Fund, we were able to print thousands of tracts which were then shared between CLC Benin,

Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast. We pray that through these tracts, many more people will understand the message and respond to God's invitation for salvation and eternal life.



Customer with tracts

Burkina Faso

Population: 22.4 million (8.9% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1991
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Director: Sami Luc Noufé
Bestsellers: *The Heroes of the Faith, God Directs My Business*

2023 was a very difficult year for us because of the ongoing political, religious, social, and economic tensions in the country. This has certainly affected our sales and our cash flow situation. It is difficult to order new stock, however we do our best with what we have, and we keep open for long hours in the hope of better sales. Mostly I, Luc, am alone in the bookshop, but on Mondays I am joined by Gérard, a CLC retiree. We both like to attend conventions and take books and Bibles to the provinces for different events. We have enjoyed using the CLC vehicle for this. However, with the current and ongoing threats of terrorism we are no longer able to travel as widely as before. We are grateful to God for answering our prayers for safety for ourselves and our families as well as our customers and church families, and we continue to pray for peace in our country.

A highlight of this year was to attend the first CLC Francophone Conference in Ivory Coast. The theme was "Stronger Together, Weaker Apart" We also benefitted from the Rudy Kuijer CLC Evangelistic Fund with the printing of several thousand tracts in French for distribution.



Francophone Conference attendees

Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Population: 29.3 million (10.5% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1961

Ministry: 2 Bookshops

Director: Aya Martine Ouffoué

Bestsellers: *God Directs My Business, From Prison to Praise*



Marie (Bouaké shop) with the tracts

We are very thankful to God for another year of viability in both our bookshops in Abidjan and Bouaké. In Abidjan, we had some staff changes as younger team members moved

on to pursue other goals.

In February we hosted the first CLC Francophone Conference with representatives from Benin, Burkina Faso, Benin, Canada and France. The International Director, Gary Chamberlin, was also present, together with Liz Patten, the CLC Africa Director. It was a wonderful time to get to know each other better so that we may work together more effectively in serving God's Kingdom purposes. Our theme for the conference was "Stronger Together, Weaker Apart."

In July, we were awarded the Gold Palm prize for best bookshop for which we give all glory to the LORD.



Martine receiving the award

In June 2014 we applied for a D.F.E. (Fiscal Declaration of Existence), to allow us permission to operate freely as a non-profit organisation. This permission was granted in 2023. This was our biggest answer to prayer.

We look forward to 2024 knowing that the LORD, who has seen us through our challenges in 2023, will continue to be faithful!

Kenya

Population: 57 million (48.9% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 2007

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Print-on-Demand, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale, Various author and book programs, African Christian Authors' Book Awards (ACABA)

Director: Muthoni Mercy Omukhango

Bestsellers: *Changed into His Likeness; Sit, Walk, Stand*



Bookfest during the ACABA Gala

The Partnership Department made strides in creating collaborations and expanding our network. We welcomed new partners thus enhancing the diversity and reach of our collaborations.

After four and a half years of being on an offsite location, we are opening a new bookshop at the Nairobi Pentecostal Bible College where we are set to launch the bookshop in 2024. Praise the Lord for this opportunity!

We participated in the Nairobi International Book Fair. This event allowed us to display our books and services on an international platform and led to the establishment of new partnerships.

This year, we had the privilege of conducting two writing classes: Diamond and Topaz. We are pleased that 17 writers graduated from these classes with complete drafts of their manuscripts that have now been moved to the publishing stage. God has continued to inspire His people to write. The next class for 2024 already has 17 writers. The group of writers hailing from South Africa expressed their deep gratitude to the CLC Kenya team for their unwavering support throughout their writing journey. They felt greatly encouraged by the team's guidance and assistance towards achieving their writing goals.

Mozambique

Population: 32.5 million (11.1% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1966
Ministry: 3 Bookshops
Director: Elizabeth Patten
Bestsellers: *The Purpose Driven Life, Ministers' Manual*



Economy Bible distribution

Looking back on 2023 we have much to be thankful for! One of our main prayer requests in the past few years was to find a way to consolidate shipments of our orders from Brazil with one Brazilian publisher to reduce costs. We are grateful that the Lord has answered this prayer.

Another highlight of the year was the annual FIEL conference in July. CLC Maputo was asked to organize Bible sales and the sale of all the publisher's books which was a mammoth task considering the very short time we had. With the Lord's help, our team managed to sort out the books in time, resulting in very good sales.

Even though the cost of books has risen dramatically over the year, we have seen an increase in sales in Beira and Nampula. This is largely due to the economy Bibles that we printed and which are in great demand.



Fiel conference

We are grateful for having established a closer working relationship with CLC Portugal, which we trust will benefit both countries.

We might face many challenges, but we trust that the Lord, who has proven Himself to be faithful, will see us through.

Sierra Leone:

Population: 8.9 million (3.9% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1966
Ministry: 3 Bookshops
Director: David Scouler
Bestsellers: *Pastor's Pal, Engagement Bible*



Liz Patten & staff at the new bookshop

2023 was a positive year for the ministry despite the country experiencing some tension. We still encounter regular periods of power outages. Our headquarters in Freetown was subject to acts of vandalism this year. We were unable to trace the perpetrators, but a night security staff has been employed.

With extensive fund raising we were able to purchase a motorised tricycle (known as a "kéké") for outreach. The kéké, originally intended to be used in Freetown, is now being put to full use in Bo City. This is due to staffing changes in Freetown when CLC said goodbye to George Kapindi after almost 20 years in the ministry.

We also raised funds for the construction of a new bookshop in Bo City which would free us from rent. We now have a lease for 25 years with a very minimal rent.

Through a partnership with Crossway Publishers in the US, we distributed "Pastors Packs" with study materials. We put these into the hands of those least able to take advantage of the materials in our shops, including in rural areas.

There were visits by the National Director and the African Regional Director in March and again in November when they were able to participate in the official opening of the new bookshop.

ASIA

Unexpected Customer



Monk visiting our shop in Thailand

A few years ago, a Buddhist monk visited our shop, interested in learning about Christianity, and he purchased Bibles. He returned multiple times, giving us opportunities to share the gospel with him. Eventually, he embraced Christianity. In 2023, we once again witnessed the Lord's miraculous work as He guided unexpected customers to our shop. Another Buddhist monk, eager to learn about Jesus and His teachings, visited our bookshop. One of our customers shared the gospel with him and invited him to her church. We remain hopeful that he will one day accept Jesus as his Saviour. **PRaise THE LORD!**

EUROPE

God uses strangers

Lidiya Dimitrova, from Bulgaria, shares:

"We have seen God move amid a busy holiday season. Even if we do not have time, God always has time to speak to his children. This was the case of a friend of mine, who stopped by the shop. We were busy, so I was not able to speak with her, but I knew she had been going through a period of grief after the loss of her sister. She mentioned she was OK and left the shop.

My coworker, Ginka, who did not know her, felt that God said that my friend was suffering from great sorrow and wanted us to pray for her. I quickly phoned her, and she came back to the shop. We prayed for her and Ginka spoke to her for some time. My friend left the shop very thankful and encouraged. It was so beautiful to see how God could use a person who didn't know my friend to show her His love and care for her."

WE PRAISE THE LORD FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE HIS CHILDREN.



Ginka & Lidiya



Bulgaria shop



ASIA

I am grateful to God for the time He has given me as the Regional Director of Asia. It has been a journey filled with both challenges and joys, and I consider it a great privilege.

In January, Gary Chamberlin and I had the opportunity to participate in the CLC India conference. It was inspiring to see the growth of the ministry.

In February, the second bookstore in Myanmar became a reality. The Lord showed His provision even in challenging times and places.

In May, we were very thankful to secure the legal ownership of our CLC property in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

I was grateful to see CLC Korea's newly acquired building in October. Their publications have been growing significantly, and they now have five large warehouses.

We celebrated the first anniversary of our bookshop in Manado, Indonesia, in December.

CLC Philippines successfully organized four seminars for pastors and Christian workers. We continue to adapt to the changing environment and times. In Pakistan, the ministry has challenges, but continues to be sustained by God's provision in many ways. I visited the team in Japan for the first time and what a joy to see that through Karashidane Mission, CLC still has a presence in Kyoto.



Romualdo Macinas
Regional Director for Asia

India

Population: 1.39 billion (2.4% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1954

Ministry: 23 Bookshops, Mobile, Publishing, Outlets, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Justin Chellappan

Bestsellers: *Concordance to the Bible* in Tamil, *Dr. Ida Scudder* in Tamil



Inside the Bangalore shop

After praying for six years, we finally began construction work for our new facility in Chennai in March 2023. This project is a testament to the faithfulness of God, and the dedication of our team. Also, our Secunderabad branch recently relocated. We are grateful to God for providing us with a beautiful new facility there.

By God's grace, we were able to supply a total of 2,500 copies of English Bibles and 500 Children's Bibles to a closed country. It is a blessing to provide these resources where access to Bibles is restricted.

Another achievement this year was translating and printing the *Genesis Genealogies* in Tamil. The publication of this book has been an encouragement for Tamil readers.

Early in the year, ELS India held a staff conference which was attended by Gary Chamberlin (International Director) and Romualdo Macinas (Regional Director). They shared valuable insights and guidance with us. We were honoured to have Gary visit again in September. This time he was able to visit several of our bookshops which was a source of motivation and encouragement for our team.

These recent accomplishments are a testament to the grace and blessings of God. We are grateful for the opportunities to serve, and we remain committed to our mission. Glory to God!

* CLC is known as ELS in India

Indonesia

Population: 279 million (5.6% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1954

Ministry: 2 Bookshops, Mobile, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Donny Kairupan

Bestsellers: Bibles, *The New Daily Study Bible* series



Special book table event

We are grateful and praise God for the opportunity to collaborate with the Kalam Kudus Church. They offered us the possibility of printing a biography about the Rev. Jusuf Citra, an Indonesian Chinese Missionary. Rev. Citra was the founder of several Christian schools and churches in Papua. His life and ministry were greatly influenced by the work of Grace Chang, a CLC Missionary who was involved in the CLC ministry in Indonesia during the 1970s. Over the course of a year, we have been immensely grateful for the numerous opportunities to showcase and distribute the book.

We have also had the privilege of setting up book tables at various meetings, seminars, and workshops held in Manado.

In December we celebrated the first



Donny & his wife Tirza (right) with pastor & his wife visiting the shop

anniversary of the bookshop in Manado. We praised God for His faithfulness throughout this journey. We were privileged to have Mr. Frans Kairupan, the former National Director, and Mr Handy Lesmana, a former CLC manager, and his wife join us, and they shared their experiences and testimonies of how God led them in the Yakin CLC ministry.

We give thanks and praise to the Lord for His abundant blessings!

Japan

Population: 123.7 million (0.5% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1950
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Director: Takashi (Thomas) Sakaoka
Bestsellers: Bibles, Books by Ayako Miura



Thomas & customers

Three years ago, the Karahsidane Mission partnered with CLC and took on a CLC shop in Japan. Maintaining a Christian bookstore hasn't been easy. As

the number of bookshops in Japan rapidly decreases, and people read less, we face many challenges. However, our existence continues to hold great importance and meaning

To make an impact beyond the shop, we have placed Bibles and used books in our shopfront for passersby to take home freely.

Our Triangle Café, adjacent to the bookshop, helps introduce our shop to the public. We are serving the community not only with bread but with the Bread of Life.



Triangle Café

A highlight in November was the privilege of hosting Romualdo Macinas, the Asia Regional Director, and his wife Deedah. It was a time of fellowship, getting to know CLC co-workers, and learning more about CLC. Their visit was a tremendous encouragement to our Japan team and leaders.

Despite the limited number of churches in the Kyoto prefecture, we have made it a priority to reach out and serve our Christian brothers and sisters. Visiting churches is an integral part of our mission, and during the Regional Director's visit, we had the privilege of visiting three churches in a single day.



Romualdo, Deedah & staff

We are filled with gratitude for God's faithfulness and for prayer and support.

Myanmar

Population: 57.9 million (5% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1992
Ministry: 2 Bookshops, Mobile, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Jacob Mung
Bestsellers: Bible Dictionary, Bible Commentary

We began the year with much anxiety and fear about the civil war in our country and its possible effects on the ministry. We committed ourselves to the Lord and His protection during this difficult time.

The situation often caused blockage of roads and interference in our communications. There was no power throughout the day. Inflation increased significantly, and it was difficult to navigate our banking system. This was a difficult situation for everyone. Despite all the circumstances and difficult situations, the ministry continues to carry on with the utmost effort.

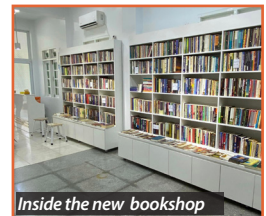
The Lord reminded us of Isaiah 41:10. His promise was true, and He strengthened us every day, which is the reason why we kept on moving forward.

As we faced many challenges, we also saw a fulfilled dream, the opening of a second bookshop. The shop is located in the northern part of Yangon city, where a large number of Christians and Seminaries are located. This bookshop is bigger, and there is even room for storage.

We can also testify that our bookstalls increased compared to previous years. We even sold 1,000 copies of the Burmese Bible in one day. Praise the Lord!



New bookshop



Inside the new bookshop

Pakistan

Population: 247 million (0.6% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1961

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Wholesale

Director: Sohail Javed

Bestsellers: The Bible in Urdu, Old and New Testament Commentaries



Sohail assisting a customer

Despite the challenges faced in our country, we have experienced the incredible provision of the Lord. We are grateful for the support and prayers of the CLC family, which has helped us to survive and continue our work.

Living in Pakistan means facing difficulties due to political and religious issues, especially during times of war. Inflation has increased resulting in fewer people visiting our shop. Additionally, the weekly protests by the various religious groups have affected our sales.

Despite the challenges, we are grateful that by the grace of God, we have been able to make a profit for the second time in 35 years. We continue to look up to God and have hope for further progress in the coming years.



Designing posters with Bible verses

We praise our sovereign God, who remains in control even amid the country's political, economic, and religious difficulties. We recognise that Christianity faces challenges in thriving, but we trust in God's power to reach out to our fellow countrymen, so that they may find salvation and grow in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. With God, nothing is impossible!

Philippines

Population: 116.4 million (12.3% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1957

Ministry: 2 Bookshops, Mobile, Print-on-Demand, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Romualdo Macinas

Bestsellers: *Willmington's Guide to the Bible, My Utmost for His Highest*



We are grateful for the Lord's guidance that allowed us to fulfill our mission. In addition to our physical bookstores, we have expanded our reach through our website, Lazada, Shopee, social media, and partnerships with various organizations and individual online sellers. We were able to set up book tables at various events, with the opportunity to be part of our local government's Christmas Bazaar.

Participating in the Manila International Bookfair and the Department of Education's Book Exhibition provided us with an opportunity to reach the secular market. We are grateful to our foreign suppliers for sponsoring our booth at these events where we established new connections and made substantial sales.

We held DVBS workshops and seminars focused on handling the Word, preaching, and church leadership. We are grateful for the participation of over 300 people.

We celebrated our 66th anniversary with a Pastors' appreciation event discussing the topic, "The Minister, His Calling, and the Law," followed by questions and answers on legal matters.

We praise the Lord for the opportunity to not only provide Christian literature but also participate in the spiritual growth and development of our Filipino brothers and sisters.

South Korea

Population: 51.9 million (16.8% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1975
Ministry: Covenant Theological Seminary, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Young-Ho Park
Bestsellers: *Reverberations of Faith, A Daily Devotion of an Unemployed Pastor*



Finance manager, Kyeong Ok Lee (white cardigan), at the Korean Christian Publishing Association Awards

CLC Korea had a blessed year in 2023. We started the year grateful for receiving awards from the Korean Christian Publishing Association for translating *Exposition to Romans* written by Robert Haldane, and for excellence in the youth book categories for the first time.

For Easter, we created a free audiobook version of *The Easter Storybook* recorded by Sohee Yoo. It was challenging to read, record, and edit 40 stories, with pictures, in just a few days but we received very good feedback from many people.

We felt that *A Daily Devotion of an Unemployed Pastor - When God calls to Pause*, written by a Korean pastor and published by us, was a particularly important project. This is because there are so many unemployed pastors or pastors being asked to leave their current church in Korea. We printed 1,000 copies, and soon we sold out and did reprints in the summer.

We are grateful to wrap up the year 2023 having published 124 new titles and 17 titles to reprint, despite not having enough editors, and designers to do the work! We believe this year was fruitful because we received so many prayers from follower CLCers and worldwide prayer partners. We want to thank you all.

Thailand

Population: 69.7 million (0.5% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1958
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing
Director: Ruchadaparn (Amanda) Intajuk
Bestsellers: *Holy Bible in Thai, The 5 Love Languages*

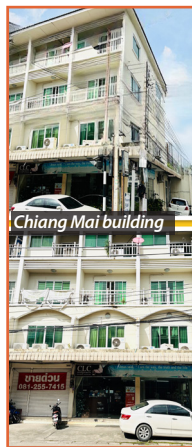


Staff at the book table

We are profoundly thankful to the Lord for His guidance throughout 2023. We have countless reasons to express our gratitude to God.

We were delighted to host a book table once again at the 'Big Christian Conference'. It was also encouraging to see customers gradually returning to our bookshop. Witnessing them purchase Bibles and Christian books brought us immense joy. Serving them is indeed a great privilege.

Our top-selling items include Thai Bibles and Children's Bibles, English Bibles, and tracts. This is encouraging as we know that Thai churches continue to grow and the number of new believers is increasing. We hope that Thai people everywhere will open their hearts to Jesus as their Saviour.



CLC Thailand faced a challenging situation due to a dispute over the Chiang Mai building. However, we are grateful that the Lord granted us victory in May 2023, and we were able to reclaim the building. We are currently in the process of registering the foundation under the name CLC Ministry, as we are affiliated with the Evangelical Fellowship of Thailand. We look forward to a smooth and swift completion of this process.

EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

2023 was a very special year for me as it was my first year as the European Regional Director.

Our region is made up of 16 countries with 15 different languages and very big cultural differences.

The percentage of evangelical people varies between 0.2 % (Central Asia 2) and 8.8% (UK) of the population and shows a contrasting pattern of religious activity. Catholic, Orthodox and Islam are often the main religions today in our European and Central Asian countries.

There was major turmoil in some of our countries, but we saw the faithful hand of the Lord over the ministry.

The work is difficult, but we are so grateful to the Lord for overall good sales in 2023, and new staff members in the European countries.

I was able to visit some countries this year and had meetings via Zoom, but I am looking forward to visiting all the countries in the region.

In 2023 we had our first francophone conference in Ivory Coast which improved relationships with France, Canada and the French-speaking countries in Africa. The next conference should be hosted in France in 2025. Praise the Lord!



Hervé Lessous
Regional Director for Europe

Bulgaria

Population: 6.8 million (1.9% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1993

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Web sales

Director: Lidiya Dimitrova

Bestsellers: *Prayers That Rout Demons, Blessing or Curse: You Can Choose*



Lidiya at a book table

During 2023, we were extremely grateful that we could participate in two big events - the ministry expo 'Come and See' and a conference for young leaders to which we were specifically invited by the organisers.

We praise the Lord that after nearly ten years, we were finally able to put in an air conditioning unit in the bookstore. It has been very challenging for us during the summer heat and the cold months of the year before the city turns on the central heating.

We were hoping to find one new full-time person to join our staff this year, but we are grateful that we have three new part-time people who are covering many of the responsibilities we needed help with.



Lidiya at a book table

We feel that God is working on expanding our ministry, which can be seen in the significant increase in sales over the last couple of years.

One of the three books we have published has sold out, and we are preparing to do a reprint, which is a big encouragement for us. We continue to see God's grace and faithfulness in many ways, especially in our everyday needs.

Central Asia (CA1)

Population: 6 million (0.7% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1996

Ministry: 1 Bookshop

Bestsellers: *The 5 Love Languages*, Charles Spurgeon book series



Inside the shop

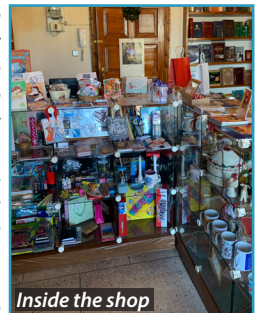
Despite the interference to our sales caused by the free distribution of books, we are grateful to God for the constant income from the apartment property we can rent out. We are also grateful to our neighbouring CLC team, who continues to prepare and ship

books and materials for our shop.

We placed an order of books and Christmas goods from a neighbouring country with the hope of receiving the shipment at the beginning of December.

Due to inclement weather and one of the main highways being closed, the shipment was delayed three times, with the arrival date finally set for January 2nd, 2024. This meant our customers were not going to receive their orders before

Christmas and our sales would be greatly affected. We prayed intensely then and, on December 23rd, we received the message that the cargo had arrived and had been delivered. Praise the



Inside the shop

Lord! Our customers were excited and even asked us to keep the shop open until the New Year!

Central Asia (CA2)

Population: 10.4 million (0.2% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1997

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Web sales,

Bestsellers: *Growing in Christ, Westminster Catechism*

Last year, 2023, was a year of change, but we praise the Lord for sustaining us through difficult transitions. At the beginning of 2023, we lost our license to sell Christian books because our store Director left the position. This meant that we had to find a new person to take over the role and submit extensive paperwork to get everything back in place and be able to sell Christian literature.

Praise the Lord, He led us to a wonderful, spiritually mature Christian woman, ready and willing to learn. She has shared with us how God put in her heart a desire to hold a leadership position where she would have to deal with government officials, which is exactly what the store Director does! We praise the Lord for His help and guidance through this difficult and scary time for us as we made sure to follow government regulations.

We were also given a grant to remodel our shop. We decided to divide the space so we could rent out one half of the shop to help cover our expenses. We praise the Lord for sustaining us.

We are also thankful that God answered the prayer that we wouldn't have issues with the government over creating a second door for another business and finding someone to rent that space.



Inside the shop

Cyprus:

Population: 1.3 million (0.8% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1981

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Web sales

Director: Eva Photiadou

Bestsellers: *Unto the Hills, More than a Carpenter* in Greek



Book table

We are thankful to the Lord for the many ways that we see Him working through the bookshop. Our website has become very instrumental in

our customers' shopping experience. Many people have been able to find out about the shop through the website and even browse our online catalogue. We were also glad that our summer book tables as well as our Christmas book fairs in 2023 were so successful, with many new people attending, hungry for the Word of God.

It is encouraging to see many people from different nationalities, besides Cypriots, visit the bookshop. We are happy to share with them about the Lord and to provide them with something to read.

A Muslim couple was drawn to the bookshop, rather than other places they could have gone to, as they were searching for the appropriate government office to renew their Identity Card. In the process of trying to help them with this, a conversation about the love of God was initiated. We shared with them some of the truths of God and gave them a New Testament in their language. We have now become good friends, visiting one another and speaking about the Lord, praying with them and studying the Bible as the Lord directs us.

Through the ministry of our CLC shop, we can love and help people from all walks of life and be ready to receive them and help them to know the Lord.

Eastern Europe 1 (EE1)

Population: 9.3 million (1.3% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1994

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Permanent book outlets, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

Bestsellers: *And They Lived*, *Free Indeed*

Praise the Lord! It was a blessed year as He has allowed us to continue ministering, despite all the circumstances that take place around us.

It was our dream for years to publish a large-print Bible in addition to children's books. It was a step of faith for us, but we printed 1,100 copies of large-print Bibles! Please pray that we will be able to make the payments for this print run when they are due. We can testify that each time we had an urgent need to make payments and pay suppliers, God sent us more customers and we had enough money to cover expenses. We are so grateful.

Praise the Lord we were able to run the book stalls at quite a number of conferences and other Christian events. We began the renovation of the bookshop, and the shop has become lighter and brighter. At the moment, we are continuing the renovation of the office premises.

We changed the Internet hosting service and, with the help of the digital team, the website is working better now.

Testimony

We praise the Lord because the books we offer allow people to grow in faith. We had a customer who bought a big and expensive book, *Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth*, by John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue. He said that he is very happy to spend money on Christian literature now rather than spending his money on alcohol.

Eastern Europe 2 (EE2)

Date CLC work began: 2006

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Web sale

Bestsellers: *Starter Bible*, *The Mom Factor*

This year, we saw the Lord's mercy and protection. Despite the general inflation and overall anxiety in our country, the sales were stable. Though the team had faced internal struggles (both spiritual and economic), the Lord allowed us to feel and see His gentle care and sovereign power.

In the middle of a very hot summer, we found ourselves with a broken air conditioner system. Working in this situation proved to be very difficult, although we tried, and the replacement was hard to find because of availability and cost. Yet the Lord was faithful as always: we were able to find a replacement for the air conditioner system and to cover the expense through sales! The Lord is good!



One highlight of the year was a Bible printing project. We joined a fellow CLC country and other missions and printed large leather Bibles, which were lacking in our market. We praise the Lord for giving us this opportunity and finances for it! The last Bible project we did was vital for sustaining the ministry through the COVID crisis, and we pray that this project will also be of great support for the ministry in survival through all the political difficulties.



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

facebook.com/clcworldmag

France

Population: 68.5 million (1% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1951
Ministry: 13 Bookshops, Logistics for other publishers, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Ollivier Quérueil
Bestsellers: *Purer than Diamond*, *Jesus Calling*



Team at a special gathering

"In quietness and confidence is your strength ..." (Isaiah 30:15).

The year 2023 was marked by several changes at the organisational level. After 14 years as France's National Director, Hervé Lessous stepped down and took over as the European Regional Director for CLC. Ollivier Quérueil took over the general management of CLC France. There were also transitions within our board.

We have been blessed and encouraged by exceptional sales and a return of customers to bookstores. Publications played a major role in our sales, and it is an area that is being developed with the arrival of Denis Coutier at our headquarters and the purchase of the company, "Bible & Games". We also praise the Lord for the various renovation projects happening within our bookshops, starting with Montpellier.

The Lord has given us a harmonious working environment with our team members, promoting mutual aid and team spirit despite the various transitions. This made it possible to respond to customer orders within 24 hours, especially leading up to Christmas when we receive more than 2,000 orders per week.



Visit from local authorities

Lastly, we had the pleasure of welcoming the mayor of Montélimar to our headquarters for a visit just two days before Christmas!

Germany

Population: 84 million (2.1% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1948
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Web sales
Director: Valentim Schweigler
Bestsellers: *Treasures of Biblical Times* (German title), *The Chosen* (DVD) Season 3



Parcels on the way to customers

We had a very eventful day towards the end of 2023. Half an hour before we opened our shop, a crowd of people was already gathering in front of our doors. It was a busy day indeed!

Before we closed the shop that day, 100 brothers and sisters in Christ, originally from Ghana, left us sold out of our English Bibles! Praise the Lord that we had a copy for everyone. Such days are the ones every bookseller dreams of, and the good sales also allowed us to make room for new stock.

We also celebrated, with current and past team members, our 75th anniversary in 2023. This was a true highlight since many customers often ask us whether we will keep the shop open in the future. We tell them we have no plans to shut down! God has been faithful, especially at a time when we see many local shops closing down. We are excited to host more special events next year as we have seen success with workshops and late-night shopping hours this year.

Testimony

It is great to hear what our customers say and how they talk about our shop:

"I've known about this shop since I was a child, and I see familiar faces all the time. I feel like I'm coming home"; "You are so important to our city, keep up the great job!"; and "We love the shop and enjoy coming here; please keep your doors open".

Although many of our elderly customers are no longer with us, we are seeing more and more young people discover our shop.

Hungary

Population: 9.6 million (2.8% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1993

Ministry: 2 Bookshops, Publishing, Online course, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Annamária Kárpáti

Bestsellers: *Created for Love, We Had Hoped* (Hungarian title)



The year 2023 had some real challenges. With the unexpected passing of Áron in June, we were both shocked and burdened with the workload. Áron had worked

with us for about five years and was a young man with a passion for the lost. It was a very sad time for us, but we were comforted by feedback about Áron's kind service in the Budapest shop. Towards the end of the year, our Miskolc shop manager shared the news that she was expecting a baby, so we had to find a replacement for her very quickly. We are grateful for God's provision of a man for CLC Miskolc and a lady to help part time in our Budapest shop. Both of them were a great help in the busy Christmas period.

We printed a new book at the end of the year - *Radiant* by Priscilla Shirer - which was received well by customers. We also reprinted five other titles. We ventured into producing new gift items, and these are selling well too. We are happy to be the distributor of the *Fire Bible* in Hungarian - it is well received across denominations.

Testimony

Our book, *Created for Love*, serves as the basis for our online course on Christian self-esteem. Among the attendees was a woman in her fifties. Though she became a Christian many years ago, she was dealing with unforgiveness from her childhood. During the course, she gradually understood the power of forgiveness. She was able to let those hurts go and be free. Praise the Lord!

Italy

Population: 61 million (1.1% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1956

Ministry: 6 Bookshops, Discipleship and Leadership training, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Ivano Cramerotti

Bestsellers: *Boundaries, More than a Carpenter*



It was a challenge but, in 2023, we saw many people returning to the bookshops and establishing relationships with our staff again after two years of increased buying online. We prayed about this and made efforts to make online customers aware of our bookshops. Customers trust our knowledge of the material and appreciate the great variety of literature they can find in our shop.

We want to be a blessing to our country, and online webinars, workshops and interviews with authors and publishers are effective ways of doing this. We have also been hosting a book club via Zoom from our bookshop in Turin for the past two years. Participants really appreciate this. In one instance, the author of the book being reviewed joined in the discussion, answering questions and giving insight into the book.

We praise the Lord that church events in person started up again and, thanks to the good relationship established with several Christian denominations, we've been invited many times to have book tables at conferences during the year. We were usually informed in advance about the subject of the event, and this helped us provide relevant content. Sometimes, we also had opportunities to present the ministry of CLC.

Netherlands

Population: 17.4 million (4.3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1962
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Web sales
Director: Karel-Jan Karels & Louise Harkes
Bestsellers: *Never Alone* (Dutch title), *Storm over the World* (Dutch title)



Volunteer gathering

In May 2023, the Near East Ministries (NEM) organised a conference, and we were able to host a book table with our new managers, Karel-Jan and Louise.

In June, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of our shop in Apeldoorn. This was reported in a regional and a national newspaper, and we had the opportunity to tell our story on the radio. We praise the Lord for opportunities where we can be light!

Due to the extensive publicity, the news that two young managers had taken over the bookshop spread through the country. A well-known Christian author of children's books (Bert Wiersema) heard about us, and we were able to organise two book-signing events with him. We extended the invitation to the local Christian primary school, and the event drew many young children to our bookshop.

Throughout the year, it was our continuous prayer that there would be enough volunteers to help in the shop. These prayers were answered: our team has grown, and we have heard from several people who wish to join us in the coming year.

We are also thankful that we could have several team coffee sessions and meals throughout the year - a great time of fellowship and getting to know each other.

Poland

Population: 37.1 million (0.3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1991
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Web Sales, Wholesales
Director: Eva Rymer
Bestsellers: *The Picture Bible for Little Ones*, *Jesus Our Destiny* (original German title)



Eva & Sabine at the Katowice Fair

In January 2023, CLC Poland had a new website. It is proving to be efficient, with a significant growth in web sales.

Eva, the National Director, attended several conferences with book tables during the year. She also went to children's summer camps, taking Bibles, books and gift articles. Children buy a lot - including books! For comparison, the sales are higher during a week-long camp than during the same time in the bookstore.

At the Katowice Book Fair in November, CLC was one of four religious publishers among the 250 stands, attracting 60,000 visitors. While at the fair, a young boy was looking with interest at a Children's Bible, published by CLC, which was on display. His mother, who was at the next stand, did not encourage her son to look at the book, and they moved quickly away into the crowd. Eva had a sudden desire to give the Bible to the boy as a gift; she managed to find him, and the child was delighted to receive it.



December is always a busy time, but was harder for Eva as her coworker was not able to help in the bookshop that month. She was grateful for prayer for special strength over that period.

Portugal

Population: 10.2 million (3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1985
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Mobile, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Carlos Cunha
Bestsellers: *A Purpose Driven Life, More Than a Carpenter*



Carlos sharing at a book event

We thank God for the opportunity once more to be the official bookshop for the main evangelical events across Portugal, including the Global Leadership Summit, which gathers together a significant part of the evangelical leaders in Portugal.

Praise the Lord for the many opportunities to go around the country and serve churches from several denominations by preaching the gospel and providing the communities with book tables. We are grateful for the growth in sales this last year and for the team members who joined our team.

Praise the Lord for the fact that we were able to raise funds in our country to purchase 200 books for Mozambique (CLC Maputo) to give away to the youth of an evangelical mission near Maputo called "Casa das Formigas". The funds also allowed us to give away 100 Bibles to evangelistic missions in Angola. Praise the Lord for opportunities like these.

We are thankful for the growing partnership between CLC Portugal and CLC Mozambique. The teams meet regularly via Zoom and share insights and knowledge.



Giving books away at Casa das Formigas in Maputo

Romania

Population: 18.3 million (5.4% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1991
Ministry: 2 Bookshops, Publishing, Web sales
Director: Ronela Micula
Bestsellers: *What Happens when Women Pray, Has the Tribulation Begun?*



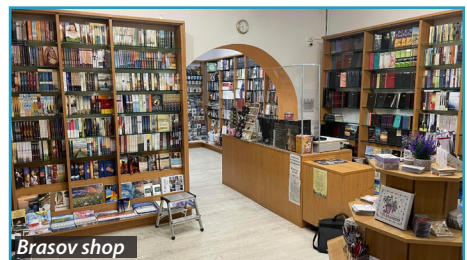
Daniela at a conference book table

From a staffing point of view, 2023 was another challenging year. We started out encouraged by two new and potentially long-term workers joining our team. However, for various

reasons, it did not work out, and they both left after a few months. Praise the Lord, just before one of them left for university, I received a request from a young lady looking for a job at CLC. I was initially doubtful and not very keen to respond. However, after the request came a second time a few days later, I had to recognise this to be a serious intention and invited her for an interview. It turned out that this was indeed a serious intention, and God certainly answered our prayer. We were grateful to welcome Denisa, a university graduate, onto the team.

We don't have the resources to run many book tables, but Daniela, the CLC Timisoara Manager, had a book table at a university in Arad. In Brasov, we held a book table which, although not as successful as we had hoped, gave us the opportunity to distribute, freely, 100 Gideon New Testaments.

We made progress during the year with our publishing, printing two titles and preparing four other books for print.



Brasov shop

Switzerland

Population: 8.5 million (4.4% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 2008

Ministry: Web sales

Manager: Carlo Ciafani

Bestsellers: *Gender Ideology, You and Me Forever*



Carlo and his wife Sara in the new office

Since we no longer operate a physical bookstore, we have no stock for book tables. Nevertheless, we've managed to stay active in two recent events - one in collaboration with Open Doors and another at the annual gathering of Christian entrepreneurs in Ticino. During the latter event, Carlo had the privilege of sharing a personal testimony and recounting the CLC story.

In the past months, we've been diligently working on introducing a Portuguese section to our Swiss website. We discovered that over 3% of Swiss residents are Portuguese speakers, so this is a great opportunity for us to provide literature to people in their native language. Italian is spoken by 7% of the Swiss population. The Lord willing, we will also incorporate products in French, a language spoken by 20% of the population.

In addition to these efforts, we've navigated the logistical challenge of relocating our shared office space. Thankfully, through God's grace, we've secured a solution without incurring extra costs. While this transition has consumed some of our time, we're grateful to be settled into our new space.



UK Staff with Equipping the Church publications

United Kingdom

Population: 68 million (8.8% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1941

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, National Conferences, Print-on-Demand, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

Missions Director: Neil Wardrope

Bestsellers: *The 5 Love Languages, First Steps*



Chester warehouse team

The main focus of our work is the distribution warehouse, which has grown significantly although the work has also become more complex. The warehouse is very full, and we have faced the double pressures of trying to reduce stock levels as well as supplying an ever-widening range of stock more efficiently.

We took the decision to install a Print-on-Demand facility in our warehouse. Inevitably, a lot of attention and energy was dedicated to the project, but it was completed by the end of 2023. We trust that this facility will be of great benefit to publishers so that they can hold smaller quantities of their titles and reprint them on a regular basis. It is clear that an increasing proportion of the books we distribute are sold online - well over 50% - and so it is an area in which we need to excel.

Our work at events and conferences grew significantly, and we were able to host a mini tour by Gary Chapman promoting the *Five Love Language* series of books. The two conferences that we organize - 'Mission Worship' and 'Hand-in-Hand' - were held as physical events again after three years online.

We published a book on the important topic of infertility titled *The Wait*, and it was one of the first books to come off the Print-on-Demand equipment.



Cover of the book
in Spanish, a CLC
Editorial (Colombia)
publication

LATIN AMERICA

God uses books to change lives

We received an encouraging testimony from a man in the city of Barranquilla who came to our bookshop. This man received a copy of *Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts* on the day he was thinking of ending his life. When he received the book, he opened to the second chapter and God spoke to him so powerfully that he decided to not harm himself.

We give glory to God as he continues to use books to transform lives through his Word. **PRaise THE LORD!**

AFRICA

Growing and maturing in Christ

One of our regular customers is the team leader of a group of missionaries in the eastern part of our country, a Muslim-dominated area. Sometime ago, he visited the shop in Bo and shared how two leadership books he bought in the shop have helped him in his leadership position.

A young university student on the Njala Bo campus has testified that the titles *How to Pray* by R. A. Torrey and *Humility* by Andrew Murray have helped her with her prayer life on the university campus.

WE PRAISE THE LORD for the opportunity we have every day to share resources that help people grow and mature in Him.



Book table in Bo, Sierra Leone



Bo shop in Sierra Leone

LATIN AMERICA

I am immensely grateful to the Lord for His support and provision for each of the eight Latin American countries during 2023.

We carried out many projects, acquired properties, and opened new facilities and bookshops around the region which have allowed us to serve our customers more effectively. One of the highlights was the opening of the new CLC Ecuador headquarters and distribution center in the city of Quito. Thank you for your prayers as we worked on this big project.

We also saw changes in our staff and National Directors in Venezuela and Mexico. Praise the Lord for His guidance during difficult times of transition.

Although some of our countries faced political turmoil, the Lord made a way.

By the grace of God, we were able to join in the celebration of 75 years of ministry in Uruguay, being the first CLC location in Latin America.

We thank God for the results at the regional level, as we are seeing overall growth and the possibility of continuing to expand the ministry.

We thank God for His support and ask for His wisdom to continue with the expansion of His kingdom.



David Pabón

Regional Director for Latin America

Chile

Population: 18.5 million (18.4% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1958
Ministry: 12 Bookshops, Mobile, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Edgardo Roldán
Bestsellers: *Incendiario* (original Spanish title), *Our Daily Bread Devotional*



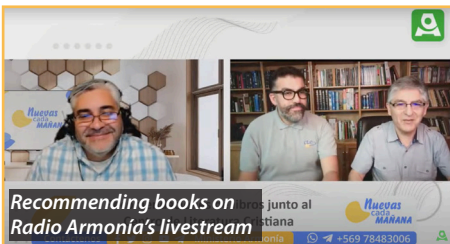
Teens & young adults visit the Concepción shop

In 2023 we were finally able to hold our annual conference in person rather than virtually. It was a time of great blessing and fellowship, between older and younger co-workers. We are grateful for those young workers who have been added to the ministry in recent years. We thank God that one of our colleagues, who was diagnosed with cancer in 2022, has had a good recovery and continues under medical care.

We praise the Lord for the great distribution of Bibles that has only been increasing in recent years. We have also seen an increase in the number of local schools that have been adding the Bible and other texts to their annual reading plan, or have gifted a Bible to their students.

Our portfolio of wholesale customers has also grown, with new customers communicating with us mainly by WhatsApp, which allows us to send them images, videos and even hold video calls.

We are grateful for the possibility of having a weekly half-hour program on Radio Armonía, the main evangelical radio station nationwide. It has been a blessing to collaborate with such an important ministry for Christians in Chile.



Recommending books on Radio Armonía's livestream

Colombia

Population: 49.3 million (7.5% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1973
Ministry: 12 Bookshops, Publishing, Mobile, Social Foundation, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: David Pabón
Bestsellers: *The 5 Love Languages*, *A Sus Pies* (original Spanish title)



Regional leaders from Latin America, North America & the Caribbean joined by Regional Directors, International Director and special guests

This year the Lord has surely blessed us to be a blessing. We opened a new bookshop in Bucaramanga and were also able to remodel one of the bookshops in Bogotá.

We had many opportunities in the publishing sphere of the ministry, which have had a positive impact on our sales.

We made nine trips in the bookmobile to different areas of Colombia, allowing us to better serve our customers. We participated with book tables in more than 60 events throughout the country. Through the Thompson Bible Seminar, we were able to train 1,797 people in the use of the Thompson Bible.

Our 32nd annual National Book Summit was held in the city of Bogotá, with the participation of 14 publishers, and 200 booksellers from different towns in Colombia.

Through the Social Foundation, we trained 2,700 people as literacy teachers. In addition, we donated books and provided humanitarian support, including medical treatment for those in need.

We also had the opportunity to host fellow CLCers from Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia at CLC Americas and The Caribbean Regional Conference which took place in Bogotá.


Ecuador

Population: 17.4 million (8.5% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 2001
Ministry: 4 Bookshops, Mobile, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Mónica Rojas
Bestsellers: Reina Valera Bibles



New Guayaquil building

2023 was a year of a 'Leap of Faith'. It was a challenge to complete the building project in Guayaquil but the Lord provided. We opened our doors in October, and we began to see a good flow of customers and even new believers who came, and continue to come, to the new headquarters. This fills our hearts with infinite joy. Our team is encouraged to see this and is happy for our brand new space.

We have been able to provide literature to fulfil different needs and reach many groups throughout the year. We held marriage workshops, pastoral training events, financial literacy workshops, Thompson Bible Seminars, and many other events.

We promoted a significant project, the reading of Christian literature at an early age through the YWAM reading plan in schools and colleges. Please continue to pray as it is difficult to promote this in schools and colleges, especially secular ones.



Distribution of Sunday school material

We did social work for children, youth, Sunday school teachers, and pastors through our resources and with the help of other ministries. Through the International Office, we received Chinese Bibles, which we continue to distribute.

The Lord is good and faithful, His presence and provision never failed us this year.


Mexico

Population: 129.8 million (8.3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 2014
Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Daniel Huertas
Bestsellers: *Incendiaro* (original Spanish title), *The 5 Love Languages* pocket size



Book table at a special event

2023 began with changes in management as Daniel Huertas took over the National Director position. There were also significant staffing changes which made navigating this time a challenge. The adaptation of the team was one of the biggest challenges during this year

We can say that the Lord has been good. Thanks to God we were able to reduce our debts significantly and we were able to start importing material again.

We were able to attend two large events during the year. One was with the Reformed Baptist Church and the other with the Pentecostal Church of God. What a joy



Giftng a book to a store visitor

to be able to serve as an interdenominational ministry! We also made some visits to customers and brethren from churches outside of Mexico City which helped us to strengthen our relationship with them.



Staff Christmas gathering

The Lord has constantly answered our prayers and provided the resources to cover payroll, rent and other fixed expenses. He has also answered us when we had to make decisions, He has brought peace and guided us in our team work. We praise the Lord for his goodness day by day.

 Panama

Population: 4.4 million (19.3% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1976
Ministry: 5 Bookshops, Social Foundation, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Héctor Burke
Bestsellers: *Incendiario* (original Spanish title), *The 5 Love Languages*



Part of the team at the International Book Fair

2023 was a challenging year, with a combination of joys and challenges. During October and November, the country was immersed in strikes preventing the free transit of people and vehicles. This situation had a great impact on the ministry to such an extent that we had to make staff reductions.

CLC in the town of David was the most affected, with almost two months without being able to receive a supply of goods. To solve this situation we proceeded to rent a truck to carry more than six pallets of merchandise. It was a long journey as we waited 12 hours at a roadblock, even having to sleep in the truck. We praise God we were able to reach our David bookshop. He surely sustained us during a very difficult time in our country.

We praise God for the many opportunities and divine appointments we had at the 2023 Panamanian International Book Fair mid-August. Through our social foundation, we had the opportunity to collaborate in various trainings, workshops, and even a national spelling bee contest.



Sara, Myllene & Milton at the Spelling Bee



Héctor at the Spelling Bee

 Peru

Population: 32.4 million (11.6% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 2019
Ministry: 3 Bookshops, Publications (*Buena Tierra/Good Soil*), Mobile, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Cristian Farias
Bestsellers: *Por qué Dios me hizo Niño* (*Why Did God Make Me a Boy?*); *Por qué Dios me hizo Niña* (*Why God Made Me a Girl?*), *Estás Invitado* (*You're Invited*)



Book table at a college

2023 presented important challenges due to the situation in the country. Despite this, we managed to maintain constant distribution through our three bookstores and online store. We carried out various activities during the year, such as visits to schools, a seminar for preachers, and training workshops for teachers. We made 40 visits to schools with our mobile bookstore and set up book tables.

The Buena Tierra team conducted training for Sunday School teachers during the summer with the theme "You are Invited". More than 10,000 children were impacted by hearing the good news.

Given that the National Director works remotely from Chile, visits to Peru have been a significant source of motivation for the local team. CLC Chile has been instrumental in providing essential resources for the director's support and travel to Peru. We also thank God for the support from CLC Ecuador and CLC Colombia, and for the opportunity for three members of our team to attend the CLC conference for the Americas in Colombia.

We were grateful for the visit from our International Director, Gary Chamberlin, and our Regional Director, David Pabón, who were very helpful in analysing our local situation, providing ideas for development and proposing improvements.

Uruguay

Population: 3.4 million (6.2% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1948

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Mobile, Web sales, Wholesale

Director: Humberto Urrutia

Bestsellers: *Incendiario* (original Spanish title), *Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts*



Book table

We thank the Lord for 2023, a year full of opportunities and challenges where we saw his hand reach many people with good literature.

We held several workshops in the rural areas of the country, with the theme “How to be a church in atheist and agnostic contexts”. This was an impactful and well-attended workshop. We continue with the work of the mobile van serving every corner of the country, fulfilling the purpose of making literature available.

The work in the bookstore has been growing, with a good flow of customers, and good channels of distribution.

We have had a high turnover of personnel. It has been difficult to find workers, which delays our goal of delegating leadership.

In November we celebrated the 75th anniversary of CLC Uruguay, where we were able to recognise the workers who served in CLC during the past years. It was an emotional and encouraging time. We have seen the answers to prayers in several areas, especially in the health of our staff and their families. God has been good!



The team at the 75th anniversary celebration

Venezuela

Population: 30.5 million (10.8% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1970

Ministry: 4 Bookshops, Web sales

Director: Eliel Nicolliello

Bestsellers: *The 5 Love Languages*; *Good Morning, Holy Spirit*



Eliel at a book table

2023 was a year of many changes for CLC Venezuela. There was a change of the President of the foundation and also of the Board of Directors. These changes require large amounts of extensive, slow and expensive paperwork. Praise the Lord, we will be able to update the legal side of the foundation. We still face challenges as every day there are new guidelines, and legal changes that we need to comply with.

As a testimony, we must say that we have managed to pay our staff on time, and even provide two small Christmas bonuses in December. We also testify that, with the help of CLC Colombia, we have



Eliel sharing about the ministry

been able to buy new merchandise. This was good for our customers, as they are often on the lookout for new materials and resources.

A pastor who works with a group of missionaries bought a large amount of *Jesus Para Todos* (Jesus for All) economy Bibles and distributed them to the Guajira people, an indigenous group of Venezuela, many of whom did not have access to God's Word. Thank you for your prayers and support for us.

EUROPE

The first Bible I ever held

National Director, from Central Asia 2, shares:

“A young girl walked into our shop, asking for Bibles. After I helped her choose one and put it in her hands, she mentioned it was the first Bible she had ever held and asked if I wanted to hear her story. This young girl was from a small, far-away town and, as a teenager, she dealt with depression and suicidal thoughts. One night, she had a dream where she saw someone clothed in light. Even though she did not know anything about Jesus, she knew it was Him and decided to look for some information about Him online.

She found a Bible, started to read it and received Jesus as her Lord. She then told her Muslim family this, and they started to treat her as an outsider. Nevertheless, she continued to grow and could not get enough of the hope and love Jesus offered after she searched for it and could not find it. She was now a university student in the capital and found our shop online. I asked her if I could hug her and welcomed her into the family of Christ. She was hesitant to attend church, but she promised she would be back at the shop.” **WE PRAISE THE LORD FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF SOMEONE’S JESUS STORY!**

LATIN AMERICA

Serving the local community

A local church youth group in the city of Concepción visited our shop in September. Most of them had no idea that Christian bookshops existed! We gave them a tour of our shop and shared about the ministry.

WE THANK THE LORD for opportunities like this, where our community can connect with us and we can serve them.



Local youth group
visiting the shop



Viña del Mar shop

In our Viña del Mar branch several customers have been part of a book club discussion of *No Desperdices tus Emociones* (Don't Waste Your Emotions). Customers shared that the book has helped them in the management and understanding of the complexity of their emotions.

NORTH AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Praise God for His faithfulness in the countries of North America and the Caribbean where CLC is ministering.

This is such a diverse region! In Canada, we operate primarily in the French language in Montreal and in the province of Quebec. We also promote great Christian literature in other languages such as English, Haitian and Spanish to large immigrant populations in the area.

For our United States team publishing is a real strength, in addition to the growing ministry of Multi-Language-Media. Through this department, they sell thousands of Bibles and books in over 120 languages. If you need a Bible or New Testament in almost any language, just ask our USA team!

In the Caribbean, we are so grateful to the Lord that we are seeing clear growth on the islands where we have shops. It has been a challenge, but the Lord has seen us through this far and we are trusting Him that he will fully restore and expand our work there.

I am delighted to announce that Jim Pitman of CLC USA has been elected and appointed as the new Regional Director. Please pray that the Lord will give him special insight and wisdom into each situation in this very diverse region.



Gary Chamberlin

*Regional Director for North America
& the Caribbean*

Antigua & Barbuda

Population: 100,489 (19.9% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1961
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Manager: Arah Martin
Bestsellers: *Prayer Rain; Prayers That Rout Demons*



Team inside the shop

We praise God for answered prayers in 2023! Though it was a challenge to make payments on time to our distributors, the Lord provided and we were able to pay for stock received. We are grateful that the Lord is helping us to recuperate after difficulties from the pandemic. There are still challenges, including not having running water at the shop. Hence, we have to take bottles of water to the store for use.

We held two book tables, one of them at a concert. Many dropped by to see our table and to ask questions about CLC.

We keep an open Bible in the window display of our shop. It was a joy for us that many people passing by stopped to read it and even came in to share their difficulties and to ask for prayer.



Team

We would like to thank Jim Pitman from CLC USA for reaching out to us. Through his input, the Lord blessed us with financial contributions and gifts of books and Bibles from Tyndale Publishing. This was an answer to prayer in our time of need.



Arah (bottom right) and delegates from Latin America, North America & the Caribbean at the Regional Leaders' meeting

Barbados

Population: 303,431 (34.2% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1957
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Director: Marion Manning
Bestsellers: *Inspire: Matthew & Mark; The Bible Made Easy for Kids*

Due to a sluggish economy and Marion Manning's lengthy illness, 2023 was not as profitable as we would have wished. Barbados is dependent on tourism, which has not yet recovered after the Covid pandemic. However, improvement is predicted in 2024 when the Cricket World Cup is to be held in the West Indies.



Plot of land we would like to acquire

Another ongoing concern at the shop is the lack of parking space for our customers. We continue to pray that we will be able to acquire the plot of land next door.

While Marion was unwell she did as much work as she could from home and staff members Jefferson Alleyne and Emmerson Williams kept the ministry going in the bookshop.

Reverend Paul Leacock, our Board Chairman, attended the CLC Regional Conference for the Americas and Caribbean in Bogota by special invitation and was greatly blessed.

We are grateful for special financial help received from CLC USA. This allowed us to replenish our stock and to meet various expenses.



Inside the shop

We are also very thankful that we received our stock in time for Christmas. We praise God for His continuing faithfulness! Thank you for your continuing prayers.

Canada

Population: 38.5 million (7.7% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1944
Ministry: 3 Bookshops, Web sales, Wholesale
Director: Fritz-Gerald Joseph
Bestsellers: *Our Daily Bread, More Than a Carpenter*



Team

We moved our distribution warehouse to a new location in 2023. It is 85% larger than our old warehouse and this forced us to make significant organisational changes to ensure the continuity of operations. We created new positions and hired new employees. We are already seeing the positive outcomes of these changes and we bless the Lord for this.

Every year, we participate in the Montreal Christian Book and Arts Fair. The event was a huge success in terms of the number of participants and authors who came from all over, including internationally.

We implemented a new distribution contract with the Geneva Bible Society which includes distribution in North America for all of their publishing houses. This new partnership has been successful so far and we pray that it continues.

We organised special sales events at the warehouse, which went very well. Many customers travel to buy books. We exceeded the sales target.

The greatest challenge we face is finding qualified staff to serve in strategic roles. We remain confident that as the Lord has provided in the past, He will do so again.



Team at a book fair

Dominica

Population: 74,656 (16.8% Evangelical)
Date CLC work began: 1947
Ministry: 1 Bookshop
Manager: Tajya Winston
Bestsellers: *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Women, The Spiritual Man*



Promoting new merchandise at the shop

In 2023 we saw God's sustaining hand. We had the privilege of encouraging our customers through prayer, which is a vital part of the ministry and we truly appreciate those who are praying for us.

We were also able to give small donations to churches and ministry groups for spiritual and evangelistic events.

The Lord has answered our prayers for greater awareness of the bookshop. More and more customers are visiting the shop. Many share their gratefulness for the bookstore ministry. In particular, a lady who is going through chemotherapy said to me how she feels so strong and encouraged every time I pray with her when she visits the shop.

We praise God that we received some significant financial help through donations from CLC USA and CLC International. We are also thankful that new stock arrived in time for Christmas - an answer to prayer.



Tajya Winston

We have experienced the love, mercy, joy, peace and the righteous right hand of our Lord in this ministry. We are certain that everything is working out for our good according to His purpose for us. Please continue to pray with us.

Trinidad & Tobago:

Population: 1.4 million (20.2% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1951

Ministry: 3 Bookshops

Director: Sandra Robinson

Bestsellers: *Prayers that Rout Demons, Awesome Father*



Paula (Port of Spain shop) & Kadeen (Point Fortin shop)

In 2023 we experienced what it means to walk by faith and not by sight. We met as a Caribbean team every Tuesday at 8:30 am for prayer and we believe it was this initiative that opened the doors for the miracles we received.

Spearheaded by CLC USA, we received a donation of needed stock from Tyndale Publishing. In addition, we also received a cash donation, part of which went to pay (finally!) an old invoice for Bibles.

We also faced staffing challenges. The Tobago store supervisor resigned and the manager of CLC Point Fortin retired. The store had to be closed sporadically but the situation was resolved in June when we hired a new full-time staff member who is doing very well. She is a committed reader.



Special birthday delivery to a customer

We bless God for our social media and E-store manager, Leanda Taitt, who has come fully on board with CLC operations, coordinating and making deliveries to customers wherever required in Trinidad and Tobago. We now have over 7,000 followers on Facebook! A highlight of the year was attending the CLC Americas conference in Bogota in September.

United States:

Population: 339 million (28.9% Evangelical)

Date CLC work began: 1947

Ministry: 1 Bookshop, Publishing, Web sales, Wholesale

National Director: James Pitman

Bestsellers: *Sit, Walk, Stand; Jesus Calling*

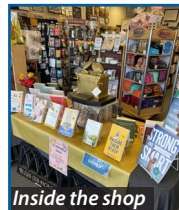


Team

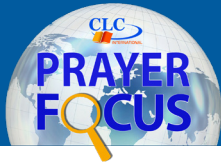
In summary of our highlights, challenges, and how the Lord answered our prayers in 2023, we can report that God provided!

He provided unexpected grants and funds to meet our needs and to enable us to share with others. We also saw His provision in the form of a 3-year renewal lease for our CLC bookstore. He provided committed workers, customers, and supporters for the ministry. He provided new partnerships for the production, distribution, and transport of His word. He provided an opportunity for us to fellowship as a team and for several staff to connect internationally at the regional conference.

He provided unity within the membership in deciding on a new leadership structure and in choosing the three staff who now collectively serve as the US Leadership Team. He provided willing workers to step up when our Publisher stepped down. We are so thankful for all of God's provision as we look back over the past year knowing that we can continue to trust Him in the year to come!



Inside the shop



Prayer Focus: World Report

Week 9 - (March 1st to 3rd) AFRICA

Friday (1st) - Benin: Last year, we gave thanks that our landlord's plans to sell our bookshop were abandoned. However, in the meantime the premises have been sold and we need to vacate by the month of June 2024. Please pray as we search for a suitable new place, conveniently situated but at an affordable price in the current unfavourable business climate.

The Weekend (2nd - 3rd) - Benin: Pray that the national economic situation will improve significantly for the good of the people of our country as well as for the CLC ministry. In the meantime, pray for some extraordinary sales to help us with our struggling cash flow. Also pray that we may improve and increase our presence on social media in order to better attract customers, both new and old.

Week 10 - (March 4th to 10th) AFRICA

Monday (4th) - Benin: For many years, we have been praying that in the long term, the LORD will give us our own premises for CLC ministry here. Please continue to pray with us for this until the moment of our breakthrough. We believe that this is a major key to our future sustainability.

Tuesday (5th) - Burkina Faso: Pray for an end to the terrorist conflict, which has been going on here for the past five years. In 2022, the country suffered two coups d'état: in January and September. Then, in December, there was an attack on a military camp by a group of 3,000 men in the town of Djibo, which is 210 km. from the capital, Ouagadougou.

Wednesday (6th) - Burkina Faso: Pray for the resilience of our team so that, despite these difficult times, CLC continues to be a source of blessing for Burkina Faso, providing Bibles, books and other resources along with a word of encouragement and a listening ear. Some customers ask us to pray for those to whom they will be offering a book or a Bible, and this we do gladly.

Thursday (7th) - Burkina Faso: Pray for the protection of our small team, Luc and Gérard, when they go out with book stands at various events and for their safety in the shop. Pray for wisdom in knowing how far afield to go since all travel is potentially dangerous due to the situation in the country.

Friday (8th) - Ivory Coast: The administrator for the premises where the CLC bookshop in Abidjan is located told us that the rent would increase by 15% from April 2024. He pointed out to us that the law allows rent increases every three years. Pray that

our negotiations to limit the increase to 10% will be accepted.

The Weekend (9th - 10th) - Ivory Coast: Please support us in prayer as we seek qualified people who are committed to the Lord to join our teams in Bouaké and Abidjan so that we may further develop the work in our country. We have had a number of helpers join us in recent years but, so far, none have remained for the long term, and this is a big concern for our shop managers.

Week 11 - (March 11th to 17th) AFRICA/ASIA

Monday (11th) - Ivory Coast: Our International Office has launched the idea of a possible project for a well-located building to house a third CLC bookshop and a distribution centre to serve the West Africa francophone region. Pray for God's leading and direction, wisdom and discernment to know if, when and how this might come to fruition.

Tuesday (12th) - Kenya: Please pray for a new bookshop initiative at a Bible college in Nairobi. Pray for the launch event (set for March 2024), shop staff, the customers, and the space provided, that the presence of God will be manifested. Pray that God will bless our partnership with the Bible college.

Wednesday (13th) - Kenya: Please pray with us that CLC Kenya will faithfully and capably mentor the leaders for the ACABA* Gala 2024 in Uganda - that they will not be afraid to host the programme but will take a step of faith and discover that God is enabling them for the task. (*African Christian Authors' Book Awards) .

Thursday (14th) - Kenya: Please join us in praying for the refining of our publishing infrastructure so that all the books published by CLC Kenya will be good examples of editorial and design excellence on the African continent.

Friday (15th) - Mozambique: There has been an unexpected delay in the production of our third print run of low-cost Bibles due to a "system error" at the publishers. Consequently, the Bibles, due to arrive in February, will not now arrive until June. Please pray that there will be no further delay as these are the lowest cost Bibles that we are able to supply to our customers and they are very popular.

The Weekend (16th - 17th) - Mozambique: Pray for our bookshop in Beira, where the missionary who has overseen our work for the past 15+ years has just relinquished that responsibility due to semiretirement. Pray for the possibility of a new missionary who can help us in the same way. Also pray for



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someone who can assist or substitute Sacramento (who serves alone in the shop) as and when needed.

Week 12 - (March 18th to 24th) AFRICA

Monday (18th) - Mozambique: Please pray for our bookshop in Nampula, northern Mozambique. At the end of January, Isaque left us to pastor a small group of new believers in Pemba, Cabo Delgado. Pray for God's blessing upon him and his little family as they adjust to this huge step. Pray also for brother Sangara, a final year seminary student, who has replaced brother Isaque.

Tuesday (19th) - Sierra Leone: Please pray for the provision of a good supply of stock to arrive in Sierra Leone from the UK and the USA at the right intervals. Pray for David Scouler as he liaises with the different publishers and distributors in order to acquire the best deals, and pray, too, for the shipping and customs processes that are both complex and costly.

Wednesday (20th) - Sierra Leone: Please pray for a new staff member with the required skill set to join the team at the headquarters in Freetown. We are looking for someone with a good working knowledge of basic computer programmes and who is adept with social media for the purposes of outreach and marketing.

Thursday (21st) - Sierra Leone: Pray that the two bookshops in Freetown and the one in Bo City become better known by the churches as well as individual believers and that the mobile outreach in Bo City will reach new communities with the Good News. Pray for safety for Matthew Ndoijeh as he drives the "kéké" (motorised tricycle) and that the vehicle will resist the inclement external conditions.

Friday (22nd) - French-speaking countries: We thank God for strengthening the fellowship among the five French-speaking countries of CLC, Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, France and Ivory Coast. Please pray that the working relationship between these countries will also continue to grow so that more books and Bibles may be made available to those who are seeking God.

The Weekend (23rd - 24th) - International Office:

Please pray for our personnel as they continue to seek the best way forward to grow CLC's mission on the African continent. In this regard, pray especially for Gary Chamberlin, Hervé Lessous and Liz Patten. Pray that God will help them to understand the

particular needs of this great continent and how CLC can be a blessing there.

Week 13 - (March 25th to 31st) ASIA

Monday (25th) - India: Please pray for the ongoing building project in Chennai that we will have all the finances and that the workmanship will be carried out to a high standard. We are so thankful to God for all that we have been able to do so far, and we are also grateful to different members of the CLC family worldwide who have supported us with their finances and their prayers.

Tuesday (26th) - India: At the end of January, we celebrated 70 years of ministry in India. As we look back at the testimony of all that God has done through the years, we want to place our faith in Him for all that is yet to come! Please pray for our leaders for health and strength and continued strong vision for the future work here.

Wednesday (27th) - India: Every year in the month of April, we conduct a special sale at our headquarters building when customers from far and wide may come to stock up on good books at low prices. Please pray for another good response to this event this year.

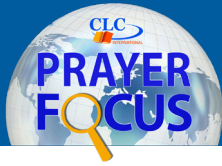
Thursday (28th) - Indonesia: Please pray for us this year as, together with local churches, we plan to hold different seminars on topics as diverse as mission and parenting. We also would like to produce a book this year, so please pray for wisdom to choose the best title. Lastly, please praise God with us for all ongoing opportunities to present book tables and gospel booklets wherever possible.

Friday (29th) - Japan: One of our prayer requests is that we may be able to create an e-commerce website. This would enable customers, especially those who are far away from our bookshop, to purchase books online. Please pray for God's guidance and also the financial and professional provision needed to make this possible.

The Weekend (30th - 31st) - Japan: Another prayer request for Japan, is for the effectiveness of our social media platforms. Pray that these will become powerful instruments in promoting our shop and ministry, leading many to subscribe to our Instagram and Facebook accounts so that we may keep them informed of the resources we have available. .

Week 14 - (April 1st to 7th) ASIA

Monday (1st) - Japan: Above all, please join us in praying that our ministry will have a profound and



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lasting impact on the Japanese people, drawing them closer to God and leading them to salvation and maturity in the risen Christ. It is our deepest desire to see lives transformed by the power of the Gospel.

Tuesday (2nd) - Myanmar: First of all, please join us in thanking God for allowing us to keep going with the CLC Myanmar ministry despite the many difficulties of recent years. We give God glory for the dedicated staff who have worked very hard in the midst of many challenges. Please pray that we may always see His mighty hand at work, both in their lives and in the ministry.

Wednesday (3rd) - Pakistan: Please pray for Pakistan's political and social situations, especially given the events of the ongoing war between different states. May God bring peace, stability and resolution to the conflicts and protect the people of Pakistan from any harm or negative impacts caused by these circumstances.

Thursday (4th) - Pakistan: Please lift the ministry in prayer, asking for God's continued provision and guidance. Pray that it continues to shine as a lighthouse and as a channel of blessing as the team reaches out with the message of Christ. May God provide for the ministry's needs and grant wisdom and strength to overcome the challenges that come along.

Friday (5th) - Pakistan: Pray with us for the development of a commercial website for the ministry that would enable people from distant locations to access and purchase our products. May God provide the necessary resources (both human and financial) for the establishment and maintenance of this website. Let us pray for His guidance and blessings throughout this process.

The Weekend (6th - 7th) - Philippines: This year, we would like to explore new markets as widely diverse as government institutions and Catholic schools. We trust that God will open doors of opportunity and provide us with the wisdom and resources we need to make a positive impact in these areas. Please pray with us for this.

Week 15 - (April 8th to 14th) ASIA

Monday (8th) - Philippines: We ask for God's continued guidance as we prepare for the transition in our national CLC leadership. As our Director approaches retirement, we trust in God's perfect timing and plan for choosing a successor. May God

grant wisdom and discernment to those involved in the selection process, ensuring that the new leader is equipped to lead with integrity and effectiveness.

Tuesday (9th) - South Korea: South Korea has three special nationwide days coming up in May: May 5th is Children's Day in Korea, May 8th is Parents' Day and May 15th is Teachers' Appreciation Day! For each of those days, we plan to make new advertising video clips and upload them on YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram. Please pray for creative ideas!

Wednesday (10th) - Thailand: Some months ago, we asked for prayer for the process of changing our entity into a foundation. Please continue to pray for this. Pray that everything goes smoothly and within a reasonable timeframe and that this will be of great benefit to the ministry and those we serve.

Thursday (11th) - Thailand: Please pray with us that God will provide the necessary funds to renovate our building and that we will manage all ministry assets well in the future.

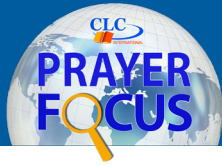
Friday (12th) - Thailand: At the time of writing, we have been unable to find someone who would be able to help us create a new website. Please pray that God sends that "someone" to help us! Also, please pray that we may continue to increase our sales, even during the hottest season (April) and a period of several national holidays!

The Weekend (13th - 14th) - Asia Region: At the end of January, representatives from the CLC Asian countries met together in India with some members of the International Office for several days of fellowship and various CLC activities. Please pray for lasting encouragement from the time together and for the new Asian Regional Director who will succeed Romualdo Macinas when he retires.

Week 16 - (April 15th to 21st) EUROPE

Monday (15th) - Bulgaria: We praise God for an increase in revenue last year, and we are very thankful for the new part-time helpers He has provided for our bookshop in Sofia. However, at the time of writing, we are still in need of a person who can handle a full shift on their own. Please pray with us for this.

Tuesday (16th) - CA1: At the end of 2023, national authorities began visiting the churches for inspection purposes (tax, fire regulations and other). One church was even closed for some time. At the time of writing, a seminary has been closed and it is not



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yet known whether future permission for further activities will be given. Please pray for this situation and also for our bookshop sales.

Wednesday (17th) - CA2: Please pray that we may acquire new Christian books in the Russian language this year. Pray for wisdom regarding how to approach this, whether by importation and/or Print-on-Demand methods within our country.

Thursday (18th) - CA2: Please pray that either the business that rents the other side of our property would begin to pay on time or that God would provide us with a new tenant.

Friday (19th) - CA2: Please pray for our new National Director as she trains staff and learns to delegate some tasks as appropriate. Also pray for her in planning ahead as she grows in balancing the "urgent vs. important" - something we must all learn!.

The Weekend (20th - 21st) - Cyprus: Pray that our evangelistic efforts to direct people to the Lord may result in their response to Him and that they will receive Him in their hearts in truth and reality. Pray that real fruit may be yielded to Him - fruit that will abide (John 15:5).

Week 17 - (April 22nd to 28th) EUROPE

Monday (22nd) - EE1: Jesus said, "Pray to the LORD who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields" (Matthew 9:38). We ask you to please pray with us for new CLC workers in our country. This is our long-term request.

Tuesday (23rd) - EE1: There is currently an ongoing process of the re-registration of all religious organisations in the country. Since CLC is registered as a religious ministry, we have to go through this process as well. Please pray that God enables us to come through it all without any problems so that we may be able to continue with the CLC ministry.

Wednesday (24th) - EE1: As a religious organisation, we used to benefit from a reduced tariff for our electricity costs. However, the law changed and now we must pay a higher rate. Meanwhile, our authorities presented us with a list of back payments that need to be made, dating back to 2017. We are grateful that we can pay in instalments as it is a lot of money for us.

Thursday (25th) - France: We give glory to God for our growing publications department, which now (since we were able to acquire Editions Vida)

includes the prestigious *Thompson Chain Reference Bible*. Please pray that God will bless us with wisdom leading to yet further growth and that we may have an even wider distribution reach among the French-speaking populations globally.

Friday (26th) - France: Please join us in giving thanks for three of our team members who have retired in recent months: Anne Marie and Pascal (from the headquarters in Montélimar) as well as Denis (Grenoble bookshop). May the Lord accompany them in this significant change of season in their lives. CLC France is very grateful for their service over many years.

The Weekend (27th - 28th) - France: We were delighted to complete the renovation of our MontPELLIER bookshop in 2023. We were also looking for a new staff member to take over and so we praise God that we could integrate Sarah into the team. Since reopening at the end of September, many young people have been visiting. We still have plans to change the furniture this year.

Week 18 - (April 29th to May 5th) EUROPE

Monday (29th) - France: We've just added the "Bible & Games" brand to our range of publications. The aim is to promote knowledge of the Bible through games for all ages. Several games already exist, so we want to bring them together and develop new ones. A game designer is joining the team for this purpose!

Tuesday (30th) - France: We thank God for our Board of Directors. After more than 10 years as Chairman, Edgar Cazaban has handed over to former Vice-Chairman Fredy Stanicki, and Eric Perier has taken over as Vice-Chairman. In addition, after several decades, Marie France Arena has passed the baton to Mme. Elisabeth Allier as secretary. Our appreciation goes to them all for their dedication to CLC.

Wednesday (1st) - France: We are thankful for the good team atmosphere in the bookstores, at our head office and in our logistics department. We are also grateful that we have been able to improve the working environment to make it more cohesive. Last, but not least, we are grateful for the sales that continue to grow and enable us to carry out numerous projects.

Thursday (2nd) - Germany: Please pray for the health and strength of our team and for God's guidance as we make purchasing decisions with regards to our stock. We want to be able to offer "spiritually



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healthy" titles to our customers! Pray that we will always be sensitive to their needs.

Friday (3rd) - Hungary: We are planning to print good-quality journals. Please pray for the process, such as design and layout, for a good printer who is able to produce them and for the distribution of the journals.

The Weekend (4th - 5th) - Italy: Please pray for the relationship with our suppliers, for improved communications and for timely notifications about new publications so that we may always have these for our customers. Also, please pray that as the work increases, we may find suitable volunteers for our bookshops. This is difficult in the current challenging economic times.

Week 19 - (May 6th to 12th) Europe

Monday (6th) - Italy: Since the previous Warehouse Manager relocated, we have been redistributing his tasks among the other staff. Pray with us that we may be able to find a second part-time worker for our warehouse, which is especially necessary in the busiest months (starting in September and continuing until February of the following year).

Tuesday (7th) - Poland: Please pray for Eva Rymer and our small team in Katowice that our bookshop continues to be a lighthouse on the busy street where it is located. Pray that our staff will have a "word in season" to encourage and bless the ones who visit us. Pray, too, for wisdom in deciding ministry activities going forward, including possibilities for publishing in the Polish language.

Wednesday (8th) - Portugal: After much prayer and asking God for an additional staff member, we are so thankful for Patricia who joined us full time at the beginning of this year. Please pray that with Patricia on board, our small team may be further enabled to make the most of the many outreach opportunities that come our way on a regular basis, sometimes involving travel to other parts of the country.

Thursday (9th) - Romania: We are very thankful for the staff whom God has brought to us, and we pray for God's blessing upon them and their families. Also, He has helped us to catch up considerably with our publishing programme, which fell behind during the pandemic. Please pray that we may complete this task.

Friday (10th) - Romania: Please pray for God's help regarding some changes in our legal accountancy,

which require a new intervention from an IT programmer in order to implement the latest requirements in our internal invoicing system. The system (called Euro-Invoice) is connected with our stock system and now needs to be connected with the Fiscal Legal System.

The Weekend (11th - 12th) - Romania: Please pray for protection over the CLC property since a neighbour has initiated legal action against some other neighbours, including CLC. We ask that our property may not be affected negatively in any way. We also need God's help to find a good roof repairer, so thank you for praying for this too!

Week 20 - (May 13th to 19th) EUROPE & LATIN AMERICA

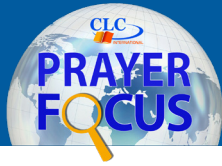
Monday (13th) - EE2: We are thankful for God's answers to prayer! One such was that we finished a year of national crisis in our country with a profit. Another is that our tenant (a Christian) made progress health wise and also in his business challenges. Although he still has a long road ahead of him, we give thanks for what God has done so far.

Tuesday (14th) - Switzerland: We do not have a physical bookshop, but we do operate an online service. Even so, we pray that we will have opportunities to set up mini book tables as in previous years so that we can serve and bless our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are also working on a Portuguese subsection of our website, and we pray that this will be truly helpful.

Wednesday (15th) - United Kingdom: Pray for the development of our Print-on-Demand project as we are seek to lower the cost and improve the quality of the books we produce. We will be communicating with publishers to see how we can best serve them. We also plan to investigate what we can print apart from books, all with the intention of sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Thursday (16th) - United Kingdom: Pray for all our IT staff working with the websites and systems. Their work is essential to communicate well with those who connect with us via our websites. Their work is often very technical but all with the purpose of providing a satisfying experience online.

Friday (17th) - United Kingdom: Pray for our warehouse staff in Sandycroft. They do a vital work ensuring that the orders are sent out rapidly, but their work is largely hidden away. It is a very physical job, so pray for bodily strength and health.



Prayer Focus: World Report

The Weekend (18th - 19th) - Chile: Pray for a new location for our warehouse, either to lease or buy. The current property is leased, but the owners have a sale agreement with the Chilean government. We are still looking for a good option that involves many variables, but we are confident in the Lord's provision. Pray we will find something before the imminent sale of the current leased property.

Week 21 - (May 20th to 26th) LATIN AMERICA

Monday (20th) - Chile: Pray for needed new workers for some of our branches, that God will send believers with firm convictions and a commitment to the work. Also pray for two properties owned by the ministry: one is for sale and the other is in the process of being improved so that we may lease it out.

Tuesday (21st) - Colombia: Pray for God's blessing and further growth in all areas of the ministry in Colombia - the bookshops, distribution warehouse, the website, the social foundation and the mobile ministry as well as other outreach activities. Pray for those who take the vehicle into remote areas to bring God's Word and good Christian books to those who need them there.

Wednesday (22nd) - Ecuador: We hope to have some authors from overseas visit Ecuador this year. Pray that God will guide the various publishers and the schedules of these authors that they will be a blessing for our country.

Thursday (23rd) - Mexico: We are so thankful for the Lord's constant provision, both spiritually and financially, and for the privilege we have to fulfil the Great Commission through the ministry of CLC. Pray with us for the new location of our distribution centre and for the opportunity to open two new bookshops this year.

Friday (24th) - Panama: We continue to thank God for the acquisition of the building for the construction of "La Plaza CLC David", and we ask for prayer for all the construction plans and processes, including for the financial provision for this great project.

The Weekend (25th - 26th) - Peru: We thank God for the many visits to Christian schools we could make last year - nearly 40 in total. In some, we had book tables and in others we explored the possibility of incorporating our books into the curriculum. Pray that God will continue to open these doors so that

we may strengthen the ministry in the schools.

Week 22 - (May 27th to June 2nd) LATIN AMERICA

Monday (27th) - Peru: Due to our fragile financial situation, several measures must be taken this year to keep costs low while increasing distribution. Please pray for this increase so that we may continue to grow and be financially healthy.

Tuesday (28th) - Peru: God has been leading us to consider how our publishing ministry, "Buena Tierra" (Good Soil), can strengthen and grow. One possibility could be that it is taken over by another publishing house (with more resources than CLC Peru) that is interested in its special work. We ask for your prayers that God may guide and bless as we try to find the best way forward.

Wednesday (29th) - Peru: The manager of the Trujillo bookshop shares this testimony: "A frequent customer recently bought the book *Maternidad Redimida* (Redeemed Motherhood). This lady has seven children and mentioned that this title has been one of the best on motherhood that she has read. She added that she loves the bookshop as it is a way for her and many others to access good resources".

Thursday (30th) - Peru: A customer came to the bookshop, upset about her marriage and hinting that she wanted to separate. We spoke with her and recommended the book *Pacto Matrimonial* (Marriage Pact). After some time, she returned and told us that she was already in a better relationship with her husband. She said that the book helped her to understand many things and that her marriage was restored.

Friday (31st) - Uruguay: Please pray that God will bring us the right personnel who will be committed to the mission of CLC, and that our distribution and ministry levels will continue to grow. We also need to change our accounting and sales programme, so please pray for wisdom in the related decision-making.

The Weekend (June 1st - 2nd) - Venezuela: Pray that we can meet our expenses and improve salaries for our staff. Pray that we may continue to import new merchandise and thereby renew our inventory. Also, pray that we may enter into partnerships with other organisations so that our CLC Foundation will reach new places and become more widely known.



Prayer Focus: World Report

Week 23 - (June 3rd to 9th) NORTH AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Monday (3rd) - Antigua & Barbuda: This year, we desire to increase our outreach to the surrounding community and the entire country, thus creating more interest in the bookshop. As part of this, please pray for us to be able to use social media more effectively and to have more opportunities to do book tables.

Tuesday (4th) - Barbados: Please join us in giving thanks for the Lord's continued financial provision, including special donations from CLC USA and the CLC International Office, and please pray that we will have wisdom to take advantage of an improved economy.

Wednesday (5th) - Barbados: Our long-term prayer request has been that we may finally acquire the land next door, which would give us some much-needed parking space for our customers! We look forward to being able to inform you that this has come to pass, but, at this point, we are still praying for this breakthrough!

Thursday (6th) - Canada: Given the economic realities of our location, we thank God especially for last year's increases in both our retail and wholesale departments. Please pray with us for this trend to continue!

Friday (7th) - Canada: We are still in a transition period for staff serving in strategic positions within the organisation. Pray that this transition goes smoothly and that the Lord supports and strengthens us through these changes.

The Weekend (8th - 9th) - Canada: We are currently working on redesigning our website to facilitate online sales. Pray that we may successfully complete this project. Meanwhile, we remain thankful that our online sales are stable.

Week 24 - (June 10th to 16th) NORTH AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Monday (10th) - Dominica: Please join us in praising God for His goodness and for sustaining us financially. We would love to start a mobile ministry for outreach here on the island and would appreciate your prayers for us to be able to do this with an appropriate vehicle.

Tuesday (11th) - Dominica: We are very thankful for our bookshop, which, at present, is on the first

floor of a small shopping mall. However, the location is not so visible, and the stairs provide a particular challenge for our older customers. Please pray that we will be able to move to a ground-floor property in a helpful location very soon.

Wednesday (12th) - Trinidad & Tobago: We praise God for CLC USA and Tyndale for their love, support and intervention on behalf of the ministry here. This has hugely contributed to a feeling of integration, which has been both healthy and helpful for our team! Our prayer request is for the further development of our social media platforms so that we may reach more people with the Bibles and books that we carry.

Thursday (13th) - United States: We praise God for His abundant provision, and we ask for His wisdom and generosity of heart in using and sharing what He has entrusted us with.

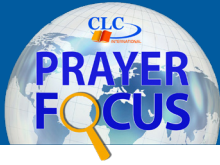
Friday (14th) - United States: Pray for all of the equipment and personnel needed in the CLC Publications department to fall into place. Our previous Publisher, Dan Barlow, has stepped down from the position, leaving numerous gaps to be filled. This is a great opportunity for us to improve our effectiveness in the publishing process as we learn, teach and use new skills, and focus on in-house marketing.

The Weekend (15th - 16th) - United States: The campus where our headquarters and warehouse are located will most likely need major work done to connect with a new water source. Please join us in praying for God's direction and the finances that will be needed for this project.

Week 25 - (June 17th to 23rd) INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Monday (17th) - International Director: Please pray for Gary Chamberlin in his role as the International Director of CLC. Pray for good health, strength and stamina in his travels but also in the many daily tasks when he is at home. Thank God for the vision that has been given to him. Pray for the upcoming elections for this position in the month of September.

Tuesday (18th) - Africa Director: Pray for Liz Patten in her role as CLC Africa Director. Please pray for the ongoing discussions about how best to approach the work on this great continent in the



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future. Pray for more people to want to be involved at an international level, not only with the right skillsets but also (if possible) some previous experience of the African continent.

Wednesday (19th) - Asia Director: Please pray for the newly elected CLC Asia Director, Sohee Yoo, that she will quickly adjust to her new responsibilities. Pray that despite the differences in language and culture, she will build excellent relationships with the other Asian leaders that will lead to great blessing as they work together in CLC.

Thursday (20th) - Europe Director: Pray for Hervé Lessous, in his role as Director of CLC Europe. Hervé has oversight of 16 countries and, in addition, he serves as the Commercial Director for CLC France and offers a level of support to the three CLC French-speaking countries in West Africa. Pray for health, strength and wisdom as he handles all these responsibilities.

Friday (21st) - Latin America Director: Pray for David Pabon as he oversees the work of CLC in Latin America. David is also the Director of CLC Colombia, currently one of the "largest" countries in CLC in terms of ministry departments and output. Pray for David that he will be able to wisely divide his time between Colombia and the other CLC countries in his region.

The Weekend (22nd - 23rd) - North America & The Caribbean Director: Pray for Jim Pitman, newly elected Director for the USA, Canada and the Caribbean islands. Thank God for Jim's years of experience in CLC and his heart for mission worldwide. Pray for health and strength for his travels and for wisdom and discernment about how best to help in the different areas of his new responsibilities.

Week 26 - (June 24th to 30th) **INTERNATIONAL OFFICE &** **COMMUNICATIONS**

Monday (24th) - Trustees: Praise God for the International Office trustees, a dedicated group of volunteers working hard to govern the charity and ensure that CLC maintains its vision and purpose as well as keeping within the legal requirements of the UK where the International Office is based. Pray for this group to continue working well together as each one brings their gifting to the table.

Tuesday (25th) - CLC World: We thank God for the CLC World magazine and its dedicated production team, including the Editor and other main content contributors as well as our proofreaders and translators of the *Prayer Focus* insert. We are grateful for God's help in meeting the printers' deadlines time after time as well as for those who make the magazine available for online readers also!

Wednesday (26th) - Digital Department: Please pray for all those involved in the digital department, especially Neil Wardrope, Ivano Cramerotti and Cristi Cotovan. Pray that significant strides may be accomplished in the second half of this year, especially with regard to specific projects that have been on the "back burner" due to the excessive workload involved.

Thursday (27th) - Publishing Department: Pray again for Gary Chamberlin who, in addition to his role as International Director, also oversees the global publishing activities of CLC. Pray for him as he encourages the publishing teams in various countries and provides guidance where needed. Pray, too, for a project to produce 25,000 children's Bibles in a number of languages for distribution around the world.

Friday (28th) - Financial Provision: We stand amazed before our faithful God! Truly, He has enabled and sustained us for almost 83 years! Pray for discernment as we consider how to put together some grant applications for various international projects of interest. There are many possibilities, but we can only do so much at a time. May He lead us and continue to provide!

The Weekend (29th - 30th) - Praising God: As our different teams look back and evaluate the first six months of 2024, please pray that we will have clear vision to see how we can improve performance in the second half of the year. Pray that we will have courage to make adjustments where necessary and that we will allow ourselves to be challenged while still setting realistic goals.

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Panama Building Project	\$ <input type="text"/>
Publishing 25,000 Children's Bibles	\$ <input type="text"/>
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