



PRAYSERV

INSERV'S PRAYER LETTER - February 2010 – April 2010

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Dear Friends

We pray that you had a blessed time over the Easter period as you remembered the death for our sins and the resurrection from the dead of our precious and glorious Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1 – 8). We have had a very busy start to the year and the rest of 2010 and indeed 2011 looks as though they will be busy times for us at Inserv. In part, that is the reason why you have had to wait so long for this prayer letter. We thank you for your patience in this regard and ask that you will forgive us for that. Thank you for your prayers for us and please do continue to pray for us (1 Thessalonians 5:25). We are involved in the Lord's works and can only accomplish what we do with his help so your prayers for us are essential.

A. INSERV

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On the 6th of February, a Saturday morning, we held our AGM meeting. Pierre Wedepohl shared about research he is doing on immigrants in South Africa and the implications this has for missions. Peter Vumisa shared on the need for missions' mobilization in Africa. This was followed by a delicious breakfast and fellowship with some of Inserv's supporters who had joined us for the AGM.



Fellowship during our AGM

We are now full swing into a very busy 2010. Peter Vumisa is preparing for a trip to Zambia from 15 to 20 April to visit his mother, who is not well. He is also planning a ministry trip to Zambia in July/August in the same community they used to work before they came to South Africa. The Global Day of Prayer (GDOP) Conference to celebrate 10 years of the GDOP takes place in May in Cape Town. This conference will be combined with some WENSA (World Evangelization Network of South Africa) and MANI (Movement for African National Initiatives) leadership meetings. Willie Botha will be representing Inserv at the GDOP conference and WENSA/MANI meetings. At the end of July, Pierre Wedepohl plans to conduct computer mapping training in Nigeria. In October the 3rd Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization takes place in Cape Town. This is a very important congress with about 4000 church and missions leaders from nearly every country in the World expected to attend. Willie, Peter and Pierre have the privilege to be invited to attend this Lausanne Congress and Lord willing we will be able to serve the Kingdom from our experience and knowledge at this meeting.

Some major projects we are involved with in 2010 include the following:

1. The MANI CAP (Country Assessment Process) – see below for more details
2. Helping to evaluate/edit drafts of information on South Africa and other Southern African countries for the forth coming edition of the Operation World prayer guide.
3. TOPIC (Training of Pastors International Coalition) research project to determine the training needs for pastors and other church leaders in South Africa. Peter is assisting with this project.
4. Peter, together with others, is working on a book on the topic of Christian missions from an African perspective.

5. Pierre, in partnership with the PEN (Pretoria Evangelization and Nurture) is working on a tourist map of the Pretoria area which will be available to visitors to Pretoria during the FIFA World Cup in June and July. One unique feature of this map will be that it will include the location (and information about) key churches which visitors can attend when in Pretoria for the World Cup

In our previous letter we mentioned about Ansie Swanepoel who is considering to join Inserv. She is currently doing DTS (Discipleship Training School) training with YWAM (Youth with a Mission) in India and the news we are receiving from her is that she is doing well and learning a lot. The Lord is really teaching her about cultures, herself, what is really important in life and what it is to trust God in all aspects. Please continue to pray for her as they are preparing to go on an outreach as part of the training and to put into practice the lessons they have learned in class. Also pray for her as she needs to make decisions regarding her future in a short while and joining Inserv is one of her possible options. Her expertise will be of great value in the work we are doing.

PRAYER FOR:

- Peter's mother in Zambia who has had two strokes and is not in good health.
- Willie's mother who recently had surgery to remove one of her Kidney's which had a cancerous growth on it.
- Retha Nothnagel's mother who recently had a second back operation.
- Liswaniso Kamuwanga, his wife Ignutu and two small children. Liswaniso, who formerly worked with Inserv on a part-time basis, has been seriously ill for some time and a number of weeks ago was diagnosed with TB Meningitis. His recovery is slow and they are struggling as family.
- Pierre has made contact with a single Christian lady, Martine Dekker, from Australia. For some time they have been in contact via e-mail, Facebook and Skype but have yet to meet in person. They are seriously and prayerfully considering a future together. Martine is coming to visit Pierre in South Africa from 28 May to 10 June. Please pray for God's wisdom as they meet and look to what the future might hold for them.
- Financial challenges that developed in the past few months that will have an influence in the way that Inserv was supported over the years financially. Pray for wisdom and insight and the development of new ways of financial support for both Inserv and the individual staff members that will enable us to continue the ministry we are involved in.

Summary of some dates and programs we will be involved with from April to October 2010:

22 April	Inserv Trust Meeting	Willie + Trustees
19 May	WENSA Meeting – Cape Town	Willie
19 to 23 May	GDOP Conference and MANI Meetings – Cape Town	Willie
24 to 25 May	Chris Mynard – Info Management Specialist visits Inserv	
26 to 30 July	Computer Mapping Training – Nigeria	Pierre
16 to 25 October	Lausanne Congress – Cape Town	Willie, Peter, Pierre

B. RESEARCH PROJECTS

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MANI (Movement for African National Initiatives) COUNTRY ASSESSMENT PROCESS (CAP)

For the past 4 years Inserv has been responsible for the updating of people group data in Southern Africa within the context of MANI. This process has proved to be a very challenging exercise in this region and in the continent.

A Continental consultation is planned for September 2011 and the MANI leadership has decided to focus on the updating of the people group data in all the countries and to use this updates to strategically direct those attending this consultation. There are a few reasons for doing this update;

- Firstly to help every nation to clearly understand the unfinished task in their country in order to develop a strategy to reach the untouched areas as well as to get a better understanding of the progress of the church in every country and in the continent.
- The existing data is owned by organisations and people outside of the African Continent and there are many mistakes regarding the situation in Africa. There is a need in Africa to not only get the correct data available but also to own the data in order to develop relevant and contextual strategies by local churches and ministries.
- By owning the data, we believe it will help the church to take better responsibility for the God given task of the Church in Africa to reach Africa with the Gospel but also to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth, outside of the continent of Africa.



Much effort has been made since last year to assist national leadership and processes in countries to update the data in their respective countries. This has proved to be an enormous challenge with unique challenges in every country and region to consider and overcome in order to accomplish this task. The updated data will be managed within the EIS (Ethne Information System) which is the African database developed over the past 5 years to serve as the information management system for Africa.



Appointment of a new regional leader

The biggest challenge in Southern Africa proved to getting the nations to update data through the national MANI leaderships. The idea is that as churches in countries work together to update their own information, they will understand better the challenges for themselves and be in a better position to address the challenges they are facing in their countries. This has not been a very successful approach and with the challenge of updating information for the 2011 Continental conference, an effort is being made to correct data as much as possible by using knowledgeable people with access to existing information in the countries. Inserv has made good

progress in most of the countries we are responsible for. Inserv has also been assisting countries in the rest of the continent and training sessions were conducted last year in Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire and this year in Cameroon. These workshops were attended by leaders from different countries in the regions. Currently much work is being done to prepare spreadsheets to assist countries in the updating process. Deadlines for the return of this information is scheduled for October 2010 in order to evaluate the returned information. Early next year representatives from the different regions will meet to enter all the gathered and updated information into the EIS database for use during the September 2011 Continental Consultation.

DATA (Database Advisory Team for Africa) meetings were held in Cameroon in February together with a consultation for the Francophone Central Africa countries. It was during these meetings that Willie gave training and assistance for the gathering of data as part of the CAP project. Much planning and discussions took place and the DATA team requested Willie to start taking over responsibility from Barbara Bills regarding the continental coordination of the African Database. Barbara's commitment is until September 2011 and she is currently praying to hear where God wants her to go after staying around 6 years in Africa coordinating the development of

the EIS database for Africa. Pray for her as she is seeking God's guidance regarding her future and also for the handing over process and the understanding of where God wants to take this work in the future, raising the people needed for research in the continent.

Work on the development of the database continues to be a critical issue as it still takes a lot of time to test, write manuals, prepare the user interface and generally get the system to be able to work and to make it possible and easy for the data to be managed effectively. Jacques Smit and Barbara are spending many hours on this and we pray that this will go quickly in order to focus on the gathering and entering of data into the database.

THANK THE LORD FOR:

- The progress made in the development of the EIS database.
- People in countries mobilised and focused to update data and gather information.
- His provision over so many years in many areas and that we know that this is only possible by Him and that no one person or organisation is able to achieve anything.

PRAY FOR:

- Wisdom to know how to address all the challenges ahead of us on all levels in this process.
- Resources to be able to achieve all our goals in our region and in the Continent.
- Ability to manage time and resources but also to clearly know what God requires and to be obedient to Him and not to demands from people and programs.
- Jacques and Barbara primarily responsible for the development work on the Database.
- Every regional and country coordinator responsible to update and evaluate data for every country.

C. Retha Nothnagel (Secretary)

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My name is Retha Nothnagel and I have been involved at Inserv since September 2007. I am the administrative person who does the filing, writing of minutes of staff meetings and other needed administrative tasks. I am also the receptionist who will often be the first person you speak to if you phone the Inserv offices or come and visit us at our offices.

I am also involved in my local church, the Wonderboom South Dutch Reformed Church. I am part of the worship team, a deacon, sing in the choir and secretary of the Church Committee. You can do a lot for

God's Kingdom if you use your talents in God's Kingdom and be instruments in other's lives. The Lord has sent a few people for a specific reason on my way and I realized that I was changed through them and by God.

PRAYER FOR:

- Pray for my mother's recovery after back surgery.
- Pray for me as person that I can have more patience for her circumstances and understand her better. We are staying together in a flat and these challenges could put pressure on our relationship.
- Pray for my work here at Inserv. Pray that the Lord will make me effective every day and that He will guide me clearly how to use the day

Yours in Christ's Service

The Staff and Trustees of Inserv

**"Wisdom even comes from a small ant hill."
(Tonga proverb from Zambia and Zimbabwe).**