

One Another®

Ministries International

Robert & Debra Lugar

May 1, 2009

Dear Friends,

Our alarm clock is set to an all news radio station. Even as I write, it occurs to me that this is probably not the best way to start a new day. Nevertheless, each morning this week we have been awakened with an update on a new strain of flu relentlessly making its way around the globe, as health officials work desperately to inhibit its spread and stop it from taking root among new populations.

As Christians we are involved in a similar struggle. God has ordained to use His children to carry the message of the gospel to every corner of the earth. Wherever a church can be planted among a new population, the gospel gains a foothold, takes root and continues to spread.

But of course Satan and his forces are hard at work trying to contain, inhibit, and destroy this process. They are inoculating populations by giving them substitutes, lies, scandals, and near misses. They try to insulate groups of people from the gospel by closing borders and closing minds. And they try to make the Christians "less contagious" – weakening their ability to spread the message by destroying their joy, their testimony, their families, and their relationship with God. All these tactics have at times proven quite effective at hindering the spread of the gospel and the establishment of new churches.

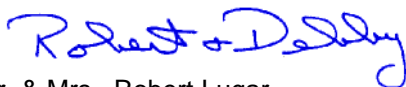
Fortunately we serve a God who deeply loves His servants, who is willing to go to any lengths to offer new life to the people of this world, and who is always ready to answer prayer.

Thank you for offering the sacrifice of your prayers and for the needed encouragement, strength, and resources that come to us from God's hand each day as a result. This month as you continue to pray for us and this ministry, we especially ask your prayers for the new churches taking root in this part of the world:

1. Pray for the churches here in Montpellier, France with whom our team is now involved and for those in France we have been privileged to help start. We ask special prayer for the church in Bayeux as they are currently without a pastor (as are about one third of the churches in France). We are thankful the local believers are remaining faithful and carrying on the work. But we are asking God to provide the leadership and teaching they still need.
2. Pray for the churches being started in eastern Europe, western Europe, north Africa, and central Asia by the missionaries we have been working with during the last couple months. Some have been on the field only a short time and are still working through the culture shock and adjustment, while others have been serving faithfully for 30 years or more. Some are working virtually alone in pioneer locations, while others are serving with or leading ministry teams. Some have suffered trauma, betrayal, evacuation, conflict, persecution, or broken relationships. All are struggling, against great opposition, to see the gospel take root where it is not yet known.
3. Also, please pray for the churches that are being and that will be started by the missionaries and national workers with whom we will be working over the next few months. We don't yet know their stories or struggles, but we know the God they serve. And we know He wants to bring them help, encouragement, and renewed strength and effectiveness in spreading His message and proclaiming His glory.

Thank you for partnering with us in this ministry.

Working together for Christ,



Dr. & Mrs. Robert Lugar