



Greetings,

As I write this newsletter, the **FLAG 2016** organizing team is busy with final preparations for the upcoming convocation in **South Africa, April 21-26**. Lots and lots of work has gone into planning this convocation, particularly over the last couple of months. My days have been full of resolving issues with communications, registrations, speakers, visas, the program book, lodging, meals and local transportation to name a few!

Bringing together over **160 delegates from 22 countries** produces interesting challenges! And, thankfully, the Lord has answered each plea for help in the midst of every situation.

One of those challenges has been working with the delegation from the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**. You might remember that I traveled there in May 2014 and again in August 2015. As a result of these two national FLAG convocations, we have **44 delegates** coming to South Africa!

During that first FLAG convocation in the DRC, we prayed that they would catch a vision to help reach the French speaking area of Africa, about 18 countries. I remember being overwhelmed when they stated that they wanted to influence ALL of Africa! (48 countries – not counting North Africa). Now, two years later they have 44 legal professionals who share this vision! That is so encouraging!

The challenge they present for me has been in corresponding with them all. They speak French. I do not!! While Karen has enjoyed translating some of the emails, Google Translate is faster! Faster, but not necessarily accurate! Making sense of a Google translated email is *almost* like learning a foreign language. I'm getting pretty proficient at understanding "Google-ese".

One of these Google translated texts had several of us (including a very proficient French speaker) perplexed. Here is part of a French message we got from them:

*"Une fois de plus nos remerciements pour tout ce que vous faites de maniere à nous faciliter la tache sans oublier vos prieres et nous **crayons** fermement à la reussite de cette conference."*

Google translated it like this: "Once again thanks for all you do in such a manner to make our task without forgetting your prayers and we **crayons** firmly to the success of this conference."

A crayon in English is a crayon in French. It took us quite a while to figure out that our friends had misspelled the French word for believe. We had a good laugh wondering if they wanted us to bring crayons!!

Please be in prayer for this special gathering. If you would like to read more about it you can go to this link <http://www.flagglobal.org/>, click on the "register now" button, then click on any item under "information" to read about the convocation. Pray that the week would be of great value to these men and women. Please pray that as the speakers talk about "**Walking with Integrity**" the Lord will speak to their hearts about living for Christ in their legal profession.

We are privileged to have the Honorable Mogoeng Mogoeng, Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, as one of our key speakers. He will be talking about helping to fulfill the Great Commission as men and women of integrity as well as being light with the law profession.

While I finish up the details here in Orlando, Karen is already in South Africa with some of her Leadership Development/HR team. They are experimenting with a new approach to coaching the 13 LDHR leaders around the globe, meeting in groups rather than individually, hoping for more of a peer-coaching environment. She will be able to join me for the FLAG conference!

We would also appreciate your prayers for the finances to cover the expenses for FLAG - \$4,000.

If the Lord would lead you to help, you can go to <https://give.cru.org/0395348?q=0395348> to make a contribution to us or send a check made payable to Cru to our address below.

Stay tuned! We anticipate that we will have stories to tell!!

*Pat & Karen*

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