

NEWSLETTER CEC-MASVIDAL

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Trip to Latin America

As we already informed you, our missionary began an expedition of almost two months through South America, in which he visited contacts in Uruguay, Argentina and Chile. As a whole, it has allowed us to formulate and execute a series of projects that will mark the lines of growth and future of the CEC-Masvidal in the coming years.

1st project: CEC-Masvidal has signed an agreement with the United Methodist Church of the United States (*Disciplineship Ministries of The United Methodist Church*), to make a reality in the Catalan Countries the edition and distribution of the famous and historical devotional *The Upper Room / El Aposento Alto*, for the first time in Catalan.



As is known, it is a daily devotional with more than 80 years of history, interdenominational, of great quality and penetration, and with a worldwide presence that exceeds 100 countries and 30 languages.

Under the name of 'El Cenacle', this Catalan version will incorporate –apart from the classic edition on paper– online editions for the main digital devices. The

first number that will be published will be the one that corresponds to the first bimester of 2019. In a few days you will be able to make your reservation and find all the information on:

<http://elcencle.org>

We thank God for allowing us to start this special ministry.

2nd project: Our organization has established collaboration agreements with various centers around the world to offer everyone who feels called, the possibility of international volunteering.



With the name of *NET.Masvidal*, we started a missionary agency that wants to be a safe bridge between people and global destinations dedicated to social work, from faith in Christ. We trust that this can also be a good instrument by which our local churches can have access to a missionary outreach and promote among young people the incredible experience of loving God through the most disadvanta-

ged, with volunteering for 1 up to 3 months. These experiences return to the churches and to our society, transformed people and driver of change.

We start with 12 destinations, in 9 countries, on 3 continents. Visit the web:

<http://netmasvidal.org>

3rd project: CEC-Masvidal is shaping a strategic alliance that would allow it to become a logistics center for the reception of missionaries from other international agencies, as it passes through intercontinental transit. This had been a project pursued by our entity for months. We ask you to pray about this and we hope that in the next newsletter we can confirm a happy ending.

On the occasion of the past International Women's Day

From CEC-Masvidal we fight to not accept patriarchal attitudes that prevent women from reaching the same positions and ecclesial ministries as men. And this applies to all Christian denominations. Ecumenism can never be an excuse to cover up embarrassments under the banner of mutual respect, because being a misogynist is against fundamental rights.

Other news

Renewal of webs

During the months of February and March, CEC-Masvidal has been carrying out a renewal of the image of its websites. We invite you to visit them, and give us ideas:



- First website of CEC-Masvidal:
- Website of Ecumenical Theological Seminary:
- Educational portal of SETEC-Masvidal:
- Creation of the web of NET.Masvidal:
- Preparation of the web of El Cenacle:

<http://cecmasvidal.org>

<http://setecmasvidal.org>

<http://plataforma.setecmasvidal.org>

<http://netmasvidal.org>

<http://www.elcenacle.org>

Holy Week and retreats in the Ahadia

In the Ahadia de Biescas we celebrated some special days of liturgy and recollection during the solemnities of Holy Week. It was significant the participation of Holy Thursday in the framework of a snack-dinner in the garden of the Ahadia, as a common thread of the celebration of the Cult and the washing of feet, with the presence of people of up to 5 different nationalities, and where –as an anecdote– the Lord's Prayer was heard in 5 different languages by the attendees.



On the other hand, we remind you that you can book the realization of weekend spiritual retreats in our house in the Pyrenees: you can check the availability on <https://ahadiadebiescas.wordpress.com/>

"Only a name in such a place".

Some years ago, I went to Bolondo to search in the middle of the tall grass of the courtyard of an old Presbyterian church, the tomb of the first missionaries who arrived in Equatorial Guinea. Of those tombs remained only a few vestiges and perhaps some of the crosses where their names were written with little legibility. Today I think of my missionary friends, some with great ministries, others struggling to learn the language, understand the culture and trying to find a way to present the gospel in a contextualized way, so that those where they serve can understand it.

As well as those vestiges of Bolondo, forgotten in time and with them also the impassioned and unreserved work of those missionaries of yesteryear, today we write in our hearts with erasable ink to our missionaries. When they passed by our churches, we told them: "from here we will support you", but the days passed and the commitment vanished.

How much does a call cost? How long does take me a prayer for him? Will I be in need if I send an offering? Letting in the life of our churches our missionaries become "just a name in such a place" is not fair to them, because behind that name there will always be people, families, friends and brothers of ours who not only left their country, but they also demoted their interests (houses, profession, job) facing each day new challenges in the nation, ethnic group or tribe where God led them to serve. In addition, the missionary task will always be as broad, deep and coherent as the needs and demands of human life and behind that broad, deep and coherent work that we call mission, the "such place" will be translated into one step of faith and in a being in the midst of nomads, refugees, religious blocks, service in children's homes, women, the elderly, biblical translation, literacy, health, business, education, relational evangelism, discipleship and church planting.

These men and women are exposed in the field where they serve, to diseases, persecution, loneliness, discouragement and frustration. They have won battles, in others they have been wounded and they have needed us, as when something happened to us, but here, and those who loved us surrounded us encouraging us to continue. Why not put ourselves in their place, why not find out who they really are, where they are, what they need, what specific prayer needs they have, plan a visit even if they are far away. That missionary will thank you.



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