

K and K Visit Report

May 2018

PRAYERS MOVED EBWU & ABWU TO CENTRAL ASIA

Prayer partnership for the Continental Unions of the BWA Women is a very relevant heritage that is actively at work. In 2014 at the annual Executive Committee meeting of the Worldwide Baptist Women in Turkey, it was announced that the prayer partners for the next quinquennium would be European Baptist Women's Union and Asian Baptist Women's Union. With great excitement Aniko Ujvari, President of EBWU and Precy Caronongan, President of ABWU acted on what God has laid on their hearts separately even before this meeting - to pray and reach out for Central Asia to be part of the Worldwide Baptist Women. Central Asia, their common boundary partly belongs to Europe and partly to Asia, and is very much in the heart of these two continents. EBWU and ABWU became official prayer partners from 2015 - 2020.

As years went by praying led to some actions, as God opened doors one step at a time. At the ABWU

in Russia and an Uzbek young lady was among the delegates from all over Russia. They continued praying to the Lord for the next step as they already connected with women representatives from some of the nations of Central Asia. They continue to pray that they can also touch base with Tajikistan and Turkmenistan to complete the Stan nations of Central Asia.

Prayers and correspondence continued until a need was identified that can be responded to readily - help the women of Central Asia have a women's ministry and introduce the observance of the Baptist Women World Day of Prayer.

Finally, on April 26 - May 3, Aniko and Precy went to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to act on the prayer



Young Women's Leadership Conference in the Philippines in August 2016, God brought to the fellowship three young ladies from Central Asia accompanied by their Korean missionary- a Kyrgyz, a Kazakh, and an Uyghur!

In October that same year, EBWU had its conference



concerns for this area. From three churches 100 women 20 to 70 years old including house church leaders gathered at Salem (Shalom) Church on April 28. The importance of effective women's ministry was discussed, EBWU and ABWU introduced, connecting it to the BWA WD. The training session was ended with the introduction and observance of the 2017 Day of Prayer. They were encouraged to join the Baptist women of the world in observing the DOP this coming November. Offering was collected. 50% was given to them as seed money for their organization and 50% was for the WD.

On May 2, the same was conducted in Spring of Blessing Church in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. 17 women and church leaders attended from three churches.

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Attendance was low because of Christian seminars being held at the same time. There was more participation among the women and questions were asked spontaneously such as, “Why is Central Asia not on that map?”



Baptist Women’s meeting in Rio de Janeiro in 2020 was promoted. Having learned that it is held every five years, they offered to

host the women’s meeting in 2025 in their area, identifying the venue and the organizer!



MEETING WITH UNION LEADERS

On two separate occasions Aniko and Precy met with the leadership of the churches of Central Asia in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. They had a lunch meeting on April 30 with the President and Secretary of the



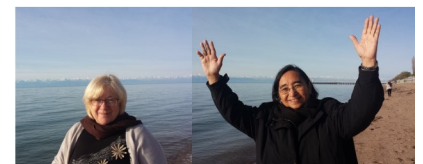
Central Asia Baptist Union. Aniko and Precy explained that while they were in Central Asia mainly for the women, they also took the opportunity to explain about the worldwide family of Baptist that misses Central Asia because they are not connected yet. They were encouraged to consider joining as they

have rich stories to tell and opportunities to bless the rest of the world.

Before leaving Kyrgyzstan, Aniko and Precy had an early dinner with the leaders of Kyrgyzstan Baptist Churches as well to discuss same concerns. In both countries, Aniko and Precy requested the church leaders to allow their women to organize as a women’s group and be part of the Baptist Women, and allow them to attend the upcoming ABWU and EBWU meetings in August and September this year.

VARIOUS GROWTH EXPERIENCES

Aniko and Precy learned a lot from this visit—beauty of the land, its peoples and ministries in Central Asia. Visiting the oldest Baptist churches in K and K was such an inspiration and encouragement. To God be the glory!!



Thanks so much to Liliias, Dr. Joseph and their families and friends!!!!