



International Confederation of Christian Family Movements



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT COUPLE

JANUARY 2005

Dear Everyone,

Thank you for your letters of concern regarding our safety in Thailand during the tsunami disaster. Please forgive us for not having responded earlier because we were in the Philippines and had no e-mail access in my (Elma) mother's house. Thus we rarely read our mail or read it in a hurry during the busy Christmas season. We returned January 9, and since my school opened January 10, I have just been doing schoolwork the past two weeks.

Bangkok was spared the catastrophe, but almost everyone in this city has been personally affected by the tragedy. One Dutch colleague, his wife and her parents, are seriously injured and will be in the hospital for months. Their six-year-old twins, students in our school, are lost. An American colleague whose Thai wife comes from the disaster area lost his father-in-law and 30 close neighbors, though he and his wife ran to the hills just on time. Twenty family members of one of our bus drivers are dead. There are many more sad stories.

This letter is a grateful endorsement of the CFM USA-led fundraising project to help tsunami victim families. Attached is the inspiring appeal of CFM USA Presidents Peter and Jane Buchbauer, published in their newsletter ACT. Nobody could have expressed the call for CFM solidarity in human suffering more effectively.

Donations are always timely because rehabilitation is a long process. Thus, our gift to suffering families will not be less useful because it is late; time will only make it more necessary. As the donation is solicited by mail, a bank draft sent to ICCFM Treasurers Peter and Carolyn Broeren, with a short note indicating that it is for Tsunami Relief, would be the easiest way. Direct personal donations or donations channeled through countries or continents are all good ways to do it.

Peter and Carolyn Broeren
ICCFM Treasurers
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**Pittsburgh PA 15235
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As intended by CFM USA, the contribution will be managed by the ICCFM Secretariat, with input welcome from all of you. We can stipulate where and how to spend the money--for example, to rebuild a school, to support orphans, to buy medical supplies, to contribute to low-cost housing projects, etc. There will be a lot of choices to assure that our money is put to good use.

Please heed the call for Tsunami Relief funds. As CFM'ers, we value the human family, and our personal sharing with suffering humanity, at some cost to ourselves, is our commitment to this value. Let this personal giftgiving be an important international project for the ICCFM.

May God move us to be generous and to act now.

**Love,
Nop and Elma Muangkroot**