



## Summary of PRAYER WAVES for July 2017

### Colombia

Theo and Sonja Donner live in Medellin, Colombia. Theo works as a lecturer at The Biblical Seminary of Colombia and also writes theological books in Spanish. The Seminary has about a hundred students on campus and almost all of them are Colombian. They typically study over four years, while also working alongside a local church, which the seminary sees as key to integrating what they learn in the Seminary into the context and life of the local church.

The growth of Christianity in Colombia is striking. The church that Theo and Sonja attend has a membership that consists of 70% first generation Christians. This means that Evangelical Christianity in Colombia is both young and shallow. Theo is concerned about giving the church in Colombia depth, strong roots so that they can stand up against the rapid western secularisation that has started in the country. This is one of the reasons Theo has spent the last few years writing a book on biblical interpretation over the last 2000 years of the Christian Church which will hopefully be published by the end of the year.

Colombia also remains a strongly Catholic country, with many people crowding into churches every Sunday and services even held in shopping centres. With such strong ties to the Catholic Church there can be a stigma attached to going to a different church which can keep some people from exploring Christianity deeper. Sonja is part of a woman's Bible study group that meets in a house. They find that Roman Catholic women are open to coming to study the bible in a home setting and a number have come to a living faith in Christ.

### **Pray for:**

- **The continuing work of the Biblical Seminary.**
- **Strength for Theo as he starts teaching a new semester from this week.**
- **Theo's book to be successfully published by the end of the year.**
- **Sonja and her ministry amongst women.**

We are also delighted to announce that we have approved another new missionary couple. Phil and Lydia Evans are being sent by their church in Penzance to work with Malcolm and Ruth Firth in Latvia. Pray for them as they seek to raise their support.