

BARNABAS 2013 – GO & TELL

It is just a few more months before the start of our next youth festivals in Albania, Bulgaria and Romania.

Bulgaria event 1-10 July
Albania event 20 July - 2 August
Romania event 29 July - 10 August

At these festivals we train, equip and encourage young people (16-35 years of age) from different countries in the world, to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. After the festivals teams go out to different areas to help local churches with their evangelistic activities.

Join us

Barnabas conferences are a great opportunity for young people to make friends with people from different countries and cultures, to praise and worship the Lord together, to grow spiritually and step out in faith. Also for church groups this is a great opportunity for outreach and mission.

More information can be found on the brand new Barnabas website: www.barnabas.nu/english or give us a ring at 0800 2980126



Young people at Barnabas Albania

BABY DEPARTMENT HOSPITAL UKRAINE



According to medical knowledge, Scabies is a disease that can be easily treated. However our volunteers in the hospitals in Ukraine have personally experienced that in theory this may be true, the reality, however, can be quite different. The Baby Department has been struggling with Scabies outbreaks for over a year. Volunteer Jacqueline says: 'The babies try to rub their little feet, they have a very irritated skin and it itches all over their little bodies. I only realised how horrendous Scabies

is when I caught it myself as well.'

Scabies is a skin irritation caused by an infestation of tiny parasitic mites that burrow under the skin. It is very contagious but well treatable. Treatment will take time and work with just one baby; it becomes problematic when all the babies in the department are struggling with the disease.

Another volunteer says: 'Over the past year we have tried everything. We changed all

the bedding at least every day, we changed their clothes regularly; we've used special anti-Scabies cream which had to be applied regularly for three days, and on the fourth day all the babies needed to be bathed. Right on that day there was no running water in the building. The hospital has a lack of clean bed linen and baby clothes.' To effectively fight the mites that cause the Scabies, the hospital cleaning staff should be better equipped with disinfectants, protective clothes and gloves.

Presentations in Your Church

We are currently looking to get more people involved in eastern Europe, and to promote EEO UK. If you are interested in having a presentation about the work of EEO UK in your church, house - or cell group, please contact us at 0800 2980 126 or send an email to gerrit.wiersema@eeouk.org

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Eastern European Outreach is a 'faith ministry'. All our activities are dependent solely on the financial gifts we receive. We work on an interdenominational basis, and our goal is the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every way open to us. Our newsletter is published regularly, and sent free of charge on request or recommendation. However, a freewill gift of £7.00 per year would help to cover production and postage costs. E.E.O. UK works with Eastern European Outreach International, a group of missions and ministries. The main partner is Stg. OostEuropa Zending, The Netherlands, on behalf of Child Sponsor Programme, Christian Care East and West, Children's Relief, Medical Relief, Israel Support and Vision Latina.



Outreach

The miracle of Easter

Non-stop violence speeds to its end

Mission trip Ukraine

Barnabas 2013 Go & Tell

Baby department Ukraine



And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."
Revelation 21:5 ESV

As I'm writing this introduction, the temperatures are still around freezing. However, the sun is shining brightly, so I expect that Spring will soon be on its way. Everything is starting to grow; Spring is a new beginning after the Winter.

At Easter we remembered our New Beginning. Through the Lord Jesus' death and resurrection we received new life. With Easter behind us we are now in the days leading up to Pentecost, where we remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit who enables us to go out into the world and share the Good News.

Sharing the Good News is key in all our activities.

Eastern European Outreach UK and Intl. organises many different events and trips in the Summer. We want to challenge people to use the opportunity to join us and reach out; reach out to the unreached, to the confused.

The main article is a trip report from a team that went out to Ukraine. On the back page we share about the needs of a Baby Department in a hospital. At this very moment we are looking for volunteers who are willing to sacrifice at least a year of their lives, to help at this hospital. The Barnabas team is also looking for volunteers to participate in the events in Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria and Romania. There are many different opportunities to get involved (for more information check our website www.eeouk.org).

Spring has just begun, but the Summer will be here before we know it!



THE MIRACLE OF EASTER!

Recently a Christian man I had known for many years, a church-deacon, announced he did not believe in miracles. I was surprised to hear this, and wondered how long it sometimes takes for the proverbial penny to drop, for he had attended a church where God had answered many prayers, some of which had indeed, been miraculous.

This man was like many Christians in 2013, controlled by their natural thinking, their 5 senses. Head faith has taken over from heart faith. We cannot understand God with our natural mind, for God is a spirit, and as we are made in his image, we are also a spirit-being. So believing with our spirit, our heart, is the only biblical way to believe. A 4 year old child can open their heart to Jesus, but a theology professor may reject the New Birth, because he cannot understand it.

We have just celebrated Easter. If we take the miracles out of the Easter story, we are left with only a skeleton but no life. Christianity began with miracles! Every part of Jesus' life was miraculous. Today we are privileged to read the whole story, but the disciples could only see it in stages. Their understanding was limited, and now, it seemed that the crucifixion of Jesus was the end of it all! Where do we go from here?! Their minds grappled with this problem and new situation. They could not grasp that their Lord and Master was now dead. Their world had fallen apart and their dreams lay in ashes.

Of course, Jesus had told them He would rise again, but these words had not registered in their mind. Then, as they were hiding for fear of the Jews and the soldiers, some of their women had come with the tale that they had seen the Lord, and He had spoken with them! Shortly after, two of them ran back from Emmaus, telling how Jesus had met them, as they walked from Jerusalem, with sorrow in their hearts. He had shown from the Scriptures that the Messiah must suffer but that He would rise again, and in the breaking of bread at suppertime, they had recognised Him for themselves!

It was miracle upon miracle, and when Jesus came and visited the disciples, they could only stand astonished at His majesty, and stare at the wounds in those hands and feet. He had become **"The Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world"**, even as John, the Baptist had foretold, and their lives would never be the same. These miracles may have occurred at Easter, yet their reality will last for all time and every one of us who have made Jesus our Lord and Saviour, has experienced a miracle, **the greatest one of all – the New Birth**. As David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister said: "Anyone who does not believe in miracles, is not a realist!"

So let's open our heart today for the miraculous resurrected Christ to show His wonders and His love to us in the coming days.

Mission Monitor by Matthias J. Van der Weide



NON-STOP VIOLENCE SPEEDS TO ITS END

When God called Noah to make an ark, the earth was so full of violence that He saw no other way than to terminate human life on Earth, except for eight souls...

Just having celebrated Easter we know that the opposite happened there. God's own Son was slaughtered and the human race received another chance. Killing God's Son was the greatest evil, and this was not a one-time incident. In the persecution of so many Christians we find this horrible event endlessly repeated!

Endlessly? Not if we take the message of Jesus seriously. He made clear once to an extremely cruel person, King Herod, "Go and tell that fox: 'I drive out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I shall finish my work.'" His last work is the final judgement of all creatures, the dead and the living. We live in a time when even many Believers are falling spiritually asleep and have no expectation or idea about Jesus coming again.

The evil one has become more evil than ever, whether in North Korea, Syria or Zimbabwe, it's all the same. The good seekers still try hard to do better, but we all face limits. Recently scientists presented a photograph which they claimed supported the Big-Bang-Theory. The presenters looked into the spectators' eyes, as if to say, That's how it happened! However, this is limited knowledge and *not* where we came from. We look into a future that brings us home to our Creator God, and He will be all in all again, with the big family that He longed for. I can hardly wait to be *united with Him*, can hardly be silent about *knowing Him* and having *fellowship with Him* every day.

Whether we live or whether we die -- let us act as a servant of Christ, motivated by His unlimited love!

MISSION TRIP UKRAINE



CSP family visit

For the first time we were able to fly directly to Debrecen, Hungary. With a rental car we drove from the airport to the border city of Beregowo in the Ukraine. At the border we experienced a new phenomenon, Ukrainians honking their horns impatiently, as the waiting time was too long. Due to a computer problem it took us 2 hours to pass the border. Ten minutes later we arrived at 'The Ark' a Christian centre that would be our home for the next few days. Here we also met the couple who are in charge of the centre, and a sister of Jaqueline, a Dutch volunteer in the Baby Department in the hospital.

Sunday morning we visited a church service in Muzsály where Marten spoke about Psalm 1. Every single time it is a great privilege to worship with fellow Christians in a faraway land.

Soup kitchen Muzsály

Monday and Tuesday we worked in the soup kitchen run by the church in Muzsály. This kitchen provides a warm meal for over 30 children and several adults on a daily basis. These children come from very poor families that are not able to provide a meal in the evening. Often there is not even breakfast in the morning. These children would then go to school hungry and are unable to concentrate, which means their school-marks suffer.

That is why, in co-operation with the school director, the church started the soup kitchen. There is a selection procedure as the church especially wants to help the poorest families. That is why Sister Kinga who works for the soup kitchen first visits the families that the school director recommends. If

the family desperately needs the help, the child (or children) can come to the soup kitchen and receive a meal every day. The food from the soup kitchen gives the children a full stomach so they can now concentrate at school, increasing their chances for a better future.

On Monday we gave all the children a brand new scarf. The homemade knitwear was gladly received. The team was also able to help with the water supply as the local well had run dry. Sister Kinga was very moved by all the help she received over the two days.

Klaus, Vicky and Arlien

During the week we spent three afternoons with Klaus, Vicky and Dutch missionary, Arlien. The first destination was the Roma village of Janosi a few miles outside of Beregowo. We had prepared a nice programme with mime and songs. After a short practice the Roma children were singing along with us.



We love our new scarves!

Friday afternoon we visited the youth ministry of Klaus and Vicky. The young people love Klaus, Vicky and Arlien. They know that this love is mutual and they can always count on them. These three afternoons we witnessed Klaus, Vicky and Arlien share the Gospel with these young people. What a great privilege to be able to be involved in this ministry. We hope and pray that many of these youngsters will commit their lives to the Lord.

CSP families

The economic crisis has hit Ukraine very hard as well. We especially experienced this when we visited families supported through the Child Sponsor Programme. Some of our team members visited the families we personally support. Visiting your own sponsor child and his or her family is a great privilege. It is difficult to see the circumstances these families have to live in, however it is also great to see that the support is making a real difference.

In one of the families we were able to make a hands-on impact. Together with the grandmother of the family we discussed what needed to be done. Their gas was cut off as they were unable to pay the bills, the electricity company needed to be paid urgently, the water tap was broken and the furniture worn out. The grandmother had moved out with her grandchildren, as this had made the house become inhabitable. With help from the team she was able to move back into her house.

We were also very moved by the Bible study on Thursday morning, where Elizabeth Gabor (wife of Peter Gabor the mission leader for Ukraine) shared about the needs of the Ukrainian people and the projects in Beregowo. Together we prayed for wisdom and provision.

We can look back on a very blessed trip. However we also realise that much help is needed. **Can we count on your help?**