



Outreach

An update on the work in Zhitomir (Ukraine)

In the past year we have experienced many positive developments in our work in Zhitomir. The most important was the establishment of a Medical Technical Centre. From this centre based in the Polyclinic of the local children's hospital, we give support to three city hospitals. Our main focus is still the Children's Hospital. After a big renovation project, we have now a proper working place, with separate offices. This is a great step in the right direction which will really benefit the work. Recently the hospital hired a part time worker who is based at the Medical Technical Centre. God has provided the right person at the right time. This young man, Oleksandr, is very motivated and inventive in finding solutions. It is a real blessing that there is somebody here who can maintain and repair both the Ukrainian equipment and the equipment donated by hospitals in Holland. Unfortunately, because of the crisis the (small) salaries of the hospital staff have been cut even more. This means that a technician who works 20 hours per week earns only £30 per month. With a bonus on top of this they try to keep him motivated.



Update on the work in Iași (Romania)

The playground in Iași is frequently being visited by the children from the area. Twice a week the doors open for the children to play there. Also schools know their way to "Noah's Ark." The children really enjoy the trampolines, the slides, the water pump and the sand pool. They also love the animals. Recently two rabbits, two ducks and two turtles have been added. A really good relationship has been built with the children from the village. It is very clear that these children beg for positive attention, the local teacher told us that most children suffer at home. They suffer from poverty, negligence, which is often caused by alcoholic parents. Recently we started with a weekly club for the children with problems at home. We do arts and crafts, games and sing. We help them forget their problems for a little while.



News on the situation of Ami Ortiz

In March 2008 a few days before Easter, Ami Ortiz, the son of missionary David Ortiz from Ariel, Israel, accidentally picked up a bomb, which was packed inside a Purim gift. It is a miracle that Ami is still alive after the bomb exploded in his hands. Miracle after miracle happened in his life and today he is doing very well. For more than 18 months the Ortiz family has lived with the knowledge that this bomb was meant to kill David, Leah, Ami and a visiting friend and that the terrorist was still walking around free. Recently a person has been arrested and is a suspect in their case. From their newsletter, the following information:



He returned to the U.S. and when he immigrated, he began to be active again in 2006. He carried out a number of attacks the last two of which were the bombing in our house, and the attack on Prof. Ze'ev Sternhel.

based on their belief system and ideology. Therefore we need to be prepared to use all of our legal rights in order to defend not only our freedom to worship and practise our faith, but for the defence of the whole Body of Messiah in Israel.

Recently the media-gag order was lifted from the arrest of the suspect in our case. We found out the details of what has been discovered and about the individual that brought the bomb to our house a year and a half ago. His name is Yakov "Jack" Teitel. He is an American citizen who immigrated to Israel in 2000. Before he officially immigrated, he visited Israel in 1997, and within a couple of months murdered two Palestinians in cold blood, one an Arab taxi driver, and the other a shepherd around the area of Hebron.

Despite the insistence of the police at this time that Teitel was working alone, there have been articles and interviews with terror experts claiming that there is no way that he could have succeeded to act alone. The secret service also has stated that others are involved and other attacks are being planned. We also have information confirming this. His methods were extremely sophisticated and he didn't leave behind evidence. The investigation is ongoing, and so we ask your prayers that all the darkness will be revealed.

At the beginning of November we were featured on Israeli News, and the 2nd November we appeared in the major newspapers in Israel. We asked for prayer from the Body of Christ in Israel for wisdom and for Yeshua to be glorified in us, and I pray that was so. In one of the broadcasts David had the opportunity to express our prayer that the Lord would have mercy on the perpetrator and on his family because he has brought shame on himself, his family, and on Israel by his actions. Please continue to pray that we will be sensitive to His voice and open our mouths only for His glory in the coming days as there will be many follow-up reports.

The results of our case will, God willing set a precedent in Israel, because it is the first case of Jewish terror against other Jews

CSP: Heating for Eastern Europe



We realise that this request has been put regularly in our magazine, but it is still needed. As for many eastern Europeans, the winter period is a very difficult time. In the villages people have to buy wood, which is expensive. In the towns and cities, people live often in apartment blocks, with heating prices already very high, and since countries like Romania and Bulgaria have recently joined the EU, prices have escalated, making heating costs as much as many people's monthly salary, or more! Would you help us provide for the needy, and give your Brother and Sister on the other side of Europe a warm winter? Project nr. 10100

Evangelism in Ukraine

Viki Antal is a young Christian woman from Beregowo a town on the border of Hungary. Every day she visits several groups of children and tells them the Gospel. Every week she visits a local boarding school. At the school a group of young children, aged 7 to 16, listen intently to what Viki has to tell. Viki prays with them and also teaches the children to pray on their own. Together the children join in with a Christian song. Viki teaches them a chorus sentence by sentence. The children learn quickly, and at the end of the day most of the children know the song by heart. If there is still time they play a game or do some arts and crafts. Of course there are some sweets and a glass of juice. The children of the boarding school really enjoy their afternoon programme. It is very important that these children hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Viki knows how important it is to continue telling the Gospel to these children and teenagers in Ukraine.



'Then He said to his disciples, the harvest is truly plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.'
Matthew 9.37,38 (KJV)



Joy because Jesus came

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Children's Relief

★ "The board of Trustees, volunteers and staff of EEO UK wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed 2010" ★

'Today comes but once and comes never to return. We hope it will come again tomorrow; but it does not. It is gone forever, with its inexhaustible possibilities, privileges and responsibilities.' (Record of Christian Work (October 1908), The Evidence Bible p.851)

In the western world we are so blessed with all kinds of different Bible translations, Study Bibles, Amplified Bibles and many more. Some of them have very interesting quotes, facts, references and in-depth information in them. While preparing for this introduction I came across the above quote. Sometimes a particular quote can just hit home.

But while we have the opportunity to read about and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ many times, multitudes of people die without hearing it once. The chance has gone to tell them. People are so hungry for the Gospel, I was really amazed a few weeks ago, to witness people responding to God's call to give their lives to Him. At a meeting; angry men, alcoholics, macho teenagers responded and wanted to be prayed for. Even in the darkest places God is working. The Lord is working so powerfully, that even prisoners were giving their lives to the Lord. A more detailed report you will find on page 3 and 4.

Billions of people still have to hear the Gospel, far away in countries like India and China, or closer by, in Bulgaria, Romania or Macedonia, but what about your own neighbour? Yesterday is gone, we can't turn back time, but we can use the time we live in, we are responsible and accountable for today.

In the following weeks you probably will make some New Year resolutions. I would encourage you to add "winning souls for Christ" or "enabling evangelists, missionaries and pastors to fulfil their calling by praying, encouraging and giving" to your list. I'm certainly going to do that!

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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.

JOY BECAUSE JESUS CAME

Helen Jesze



The other day I was thinking about the Christmases I enjoyed as a child, growing up in the South of England. There was no money for a Christmas tree, but homemade decorations, red-berried holly stuck behind the pictures, a sprig of mistletoe hanging from the lamp gave it all a festive air. The Sunday School party had come and gone, with games and the two poor little brothers who had stolen the cakes and slid them down into an umbrella to take home! But nobody said anything, for we knew they did not have much food.

My parents, not wanting to rob me of all the fun, yet not wanting to tell lies used an original name for a certain red-coated, white-bearded gentleman. I remember when I was four years old, my father bent down and called up the chimney: "Father at Christmas, Helen's been a naughty girl this year, perhaps you don't want to bring her any presents!" My fears were groundless however, for father at Christmas, did bring in a

pillow slip filled with knobby parcels on Christmas morning. My presents were usually jigsaw puzzles, handkerchiefs, a tiny bottle of "Evening in Paris" and the inevitable books, for I loved to read. On the radio we listened to the Queen's speech, and then went round the wards of a wellknown children's hospital with the entertainer (was it Wilfred Pickles?), as he talked with the sick children and gave them presents. On Boxing Day after lunch the guests would start to arrive. They were friends from the church my father pastored. Coats were piled on the bed; a hot cup of tea, one of Mum's mince-pies and a seat by the bright coal fire gave a welcome. When all had arrived the games would start. "Pass the Parcel" and "Charades" were firm favourites, while Mr. P., an ex-Scout Master, always had plenty of games, jokes and riddles to keep us going. Later on, the table was laid with the china "Cottage garden" tea-service, and we all tucked in to

sandwiches, jellies, sausage-rolls, mince-pies and Christmas cake. Then there were carols round the piano, for didn't we only have Christmas because Jesus came to Earth to die for us...? It was all simple fun and fellowship, but I love to remember those times. Nowadays, materialism has hidden the true meaning of Christmas, while political correctness even wants to rob us of our right to celebrate his birth at all! Christmas should be a happy time, but at EEO UK we are so aware of all those who struggle in sub-zero temperatures, with ice, deep snow and very little food, children for whom presents are something they have never even heard of. We want to thank every one of you who have given to help the poor in eastern Europe, but we encourage you to help again this year, every gift is important and can mean so much!

Here's wishing you and your family much joy this Christmas -- BECAUSE HE CAME!

Mission Monitor

by Matthias J. Van der Weide



More than Santa

Sometimes the charitable activities of missions like ours are criticised by the kind of teaching that places spiritual values and preaching the Gospel above all. Organising relief transports, giving clothes and financial support to the poor, makes people sometimes accuse us of playing Santa Claus. In spite of that we wish to keep to the teaching of Jesus in Luke 12, where he speaks of God caring for us materially when we seek to have treasure in Heaven rather than on Earth. He even said: "Sell all your belongings and give the money to the poor". While this is not the case for everyone, there may be times when God will speak even this to one of his children. Jesus says: "Come after and follow me!"

So in the view of Jesus the whole Santa culture is indeed reprehensible because it is simply too limited and does not meet God's standard. This puts also the question to us: Can we be a real follower of Christ if we have not dedicated all our material possessions to God, to do with as he tells us? Are we not indeed too many times playing Santa, giving small gifts to others, sometimes even older gifts we received and passed on to save the money? Jesus' life expresses that God gave us all that he had, and he wants us to simply do the same. Many people and Christians do not want to go that far and find out at the end they have lost even what they had. Let us motivate and support each other in reaching out to help, in a greater way than we have so far.

TRIP TO BULGARIA AND MACEDONIA

- by Gerrit Wiersema -



On Saturday, 24th October, Gerrit Wiersema and trustee Kelton Black went on a ten day trip to Bulgaria and Macedonia to visit projects, and to witness how the Lord is working in the Balkans. Following is a report of their experiences.



Bulgaria

Sunday morning, after breakfast we went to visit missionary Segun and his family, where we discussed the programme for the next two days. In the evening Kelton and I visited a Bulgarian church; it was really good to worship together with our Bulgarian brothers and sisters in the Lord.

On Monday we first joined a pastors' meeting in the Roma gypsy ghetto, in the meeting we also met up with Craig Sibthorpe, a British missionary, who oversees most of the projects. After this



Evangelism Outreach in strumica

meeting we went to a warehouse for second-hand goods which is run by Taki. His vision is that this warehouse should be a self-supporting profitable business that makes money for the ministry.

In the afternoon we visited Segun's main project, FC Jutvari. I had fitted nine pairs of new and secondhand football boots, goal keeper equipment, two pairs of gloves and some socks in my luggage. Also Kelton brought two pairs of football boots, and loads of vitamin tablets for the team with him.

It had already started, so Segun decided that we would only play a game, rather than doing all kinds of different training exercises. I joined one of the sides, and Kelton stood on the edge of the pitch, taking pictures. The next day Segun guided us to the inner centre of the ghetto,

this is a no-go zone. We wanted to visit the captain of the football team, who was ill. But his illness was so severe that he had to be taken into hospital. So we decided to drive back, but, praise God, we didn't have any problems with people in the ghetto.

In the evening we had a church service in the clubhouse of Jutvari. Roma gypsy church meetings are always special and so was this one. I could not understand a word of the worship, but it was sung with a lot of passion. Kelton did the preaching. After the meeting we had to say Goodbye to all the people from the ghetto, as the next day we had to leave for Macedonia.

Macedonia

The Journey went very well and in the early evening we arrived in Strumica, a town in the south-east of Macedonia.

We met up with our local contact Zoran Spasovski and a few members of a team from Rochdale. We would be joining them in the upcoming events in this city. It was also great to meet up again with Peter Graham, the final member of our group.

Just after we arrived, Zoran asked us if we could be ready for action in about 15 minutes, as an evangelistic meeting was planned in 2 hours and we had to prepare everything.

Within a few minutes we were ready and joined the rest of the team; Kelton, Peter and I joined the 8 strong Rochdale group and about a dozen Macedonians from Skopje and the Strumica area. The Rochdale group and the Macedonians had handed out leaflets to over 3,000 people, and invited them to come to the event in the local theatre.

The favour of the Lord could be clearly seen on this outreach. Earlier that day a few of the Rochdale team had been on local TV and radio, and they had also gone into the prison. Following is a quote from Zoran's report on this:



At leaders meeting in Plovdiv

On the 28th, we had a visit to the Prison in Strumica where we had a meeting with Tatjana, the warden, who was very pleased to have us in her office. We prayed for her and prophesied over her life. She said that she felt very unusual and peaceful. We went down to the prisoners where we had a few worship songs and John Nuttall preached to them about Jesus and how Jesus can set them free. We gave a Salvation call, and I have to be honest I didn't expect that any of those 30 plus prisoners would respond. To my surprise 15 prisoners stood up, repented and prayed for Jesus to come into their lives. God's presence was in that prison room.

Around 7 pm, the people slowly started filling the pews and half an hour later, the hall was filled with over 150 people. The people were welcomed by Vane,

a local farmer and also pastor of 5 churches. After a short introduction about the evening he invited the Rochdale group to sing a few songs, followed by 2 testimonies. Then the band from the youth church, Glasnost, from Skopje, played a few upbeat Gospel songs. After the concert Pastor John Nuttall explained the Gospel in an easy, understandable way.

Vane asked whether people wanted to meet with the Lord, and wanted to be prayed for. Over 50 people stood up and wanted to commit their lives and were prayed for.

Also in this meeting 15 prisoners escorted by police were present. The presence of God was so obvious around them, many of those men were crying and repenting. We also prayed for those who asked for



Rochdale team with Pastor Vane

God to heal their sickness.

The next day we visited Banica, and went up a small hill on the outskirts of the village to pray over the village, which is known to be a no-go zone for practically anybody wanting to come and talk about any religion. Most people who have tried to make converts, Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses etc. have been beaten up and forced out, for the villagers there can be very violent and hostile.

About a year ago Zoran and Sasha, his Pastor, visited this village and started speaking in a shop. Within a few minutes a crowd had gathered and people were very interested, they actually asked them to come back. A few weeks later they came there to show the Jesus film. In a

small square in the centre of the village they projected the movie onto one of the houses. When they first put everything out nobody was there, but 20 minutes into the film, about 600 people had gathered. Afterwards more than 200 people wanted to dedicate their life to the Lord and were prayed for; even a small house church was planted on the outskirts of the village.

Many spiritual manifestations have been going on in this village; people encountered Jesus in their dreams, people saw angels pouring oil on the church and the word ISUS (Jesus) was written in a cloud above the house, while the sky was otherwise completely clear, no clouds for miles!

In the evening we had a programme similar to the day before, about 110 people came to the event. After the

programme, more than 30 people said they wanted to become a born-again Christian.

This evangelistic event was even more successful than the team had expected, knowing that the work in Strumica only started a few months ago. We are very excited at what God has in store for this area!

Thank You!

In this way we would like to thank all the people who have filled shoeboxes and donated clothes and money for projects in eastern Europe and for our ministry, thank you so very much. This has made a real difference in the lives of many people, and will continue to do so!