HEATING IN THE WINTER

In recent weeks a big freeze has spread over eastern Europe claiming many lives. Temperatures of well under -20 degrees, putting a huge strain on families to keep their house warm. Many houses are not insulated, forcing families to spend a fortune to keep the room temperature up. This is a big problem not only now, but many families are going into debt simply because the alternative is to freeze to death.



The only thing we can do here is to continue our appeal to raise funds for winter fuel.

NEEDING WORKERS IN GOD'S VINEYARD

Eastern European Outreach Intl. and UK is looking for staff to help at the Abandoned Baby Departments in the hospitals in Beregowo and Vinogrado, volunteers who would dedicate themselves for at least half a year, and preferably a year or even more, to take care of the babies in these departments. This goal is in co-operation with the hospital to increase the chances for these under-privileged children. To accomplish, this a team of motivated volunteers is needed. This team also distributes relief goods to the departments and their staff. The vision is to spread the love of Christ by serving others.



If you want to know more detailed information about this opportunity, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone number 0800 2980 126 or send an email to gerrit.wiersema@eeouk.org

GENERAL **F**UND

Every year we try to send as much finance and aid to the field as possible. It is our desire to help the poor, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But to make this possible we also have to spend money here in our western offices. Every year we face a growing bill for banking costs, accountancy, general office costs, travel expenses etc. Please help us as well in this area of our ministry.

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

If you feel touched by reading these testimonies and needs and want to help, we would encourage you to use the reply slip to mark in which area you want to help. Cheques (made out to EEO UK) and reply slips can be returned back to us using the reply envelope. If you have any guestions please feel free to call us at 0800 2980 126 of send us an email at info@eeouk

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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





READY TO HARVEST

The fields are ready to be harvested but the workers are few. This is probably one of the best known verses of Scripture but it is also very relevant today.

"Ready to harvest" is this year's theme for our Barnabas events which will be held in Albania, Belgium, Israel, Romania and an Asian country. Sharing the Good News and helping the poor has always been the heart of Eastern European Outreach Intl. Ready to Harvest -- many Christians hear this and totally agree with it, but do not want or dare to take on the challenge. We want to encourage Christians to step out of what they have been used to. It is often easier to go out into the unknown than to witness in your own area. Time and time again it amazes me when people go out on a mission trip, how far they actually dare to step out of their comfort zone. People, who at the beginning of a trip, say that they feel uncomfortable praying out loud or sharing a testimony, go on to lead a Bible-study, pray out loud and testify, just a few days later.

Last year we sent out many groups, mainly from the Netherlands but also a team from the UK. This team went to Albania. The curious thing is that it did not only have an impact on the people in Albania to whom we were reaching out, but it also impacted the team-members. This year we want to send out more people, not only to help in our projects and to reach people in foreign countries, but also to change the lives of the participants, and increase the impact they have back in their own communities.

For most Christians it is generally a lot easier to speak to people about the Lord when they are being asked about their mission-trip to a country like Albania or Romania, than it is to witness to people. EEO Intl. offers many different opportunities for people to go out to the mission-field. Call or email us TODAY for more detailed information.



Outreach

Editorial

by Helen Jesze



Muslim lady finds Jesus answers PRAYER!

In January we were again at EEO Intl.'s yearly conference in The Black Forest, Germany. How wonderful to meet pastors and their wives, workers from eastern and western Europe, to hear of trials overcome, and all that God has been doing. Here is a testimony from Bulgaria, given to us by "the ladies" who were also there :

"My name is Emilia. I believed in Mohammed and did not know about God. My baby daughter had a hernia but we had no money for an operation. Then some ladies came to our village, telling us about another God whose name is Jesus, how He healed and saved people. They prayed, and praise God – He did a miracle for our daughter, totally healed without an operation. That is how we became Christians. Later my husband had a tapeworm and needed an emergency operation. We gathered together and prayed. Before the operation, my husband asked for more tests. The results showed he was totally healed.

We lived in a room without a roof, only a piece of plastic. It was very cold and it rained inside. I slept on a broken bed with the children, we had only one thin blanket. My husband slept on a chair with a coat over him. I decided to pray for a proper house and all the things we needed. Soon my husband started work. His boss came and saw the poverty and misery we lived in. He called my husband and gave him building materials and told him to go home and build a house. Everything was a gift! We were able to build 3 rooms but we had only the broken bed and the chair and one plate to eat from. I prayed for furniture.

After some days a big truck stopped in front of our house. My husband got out. The truck was full of furniture, a washing-machine, stove – everything you need in a house. My husband explained that a lady at work was having a new house with everything new, and she had given everything from the old house to him!

So God saved our souls, healed us, built us a house and furnished it!"

How wonderful! God cares for every area of our lives. You may have had an excellent year in 2011 with no special challenges facing you this year. But some of you may know the fear of opening the post, of waiting for that phone-call or the ring at the door, for it could be the bad news you have been dreading. If God can help a little Muslim lady and her family in this way, surely He can help you and me! So be encouraged and put your trust in Jesus today.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you are with me in this new year. You are all that I need for every area of my life. Because of YOU, it will be a great and special year, for the path of the righteous shines more and more, until the perfect day! I thank and praise you Lord! Amen.

Mission Monitor by Matthias J. Van der Weide



God's promise guarantees Israel's future

Many people are speculating right now that an attack by Israel against Iran would be a serious threat, since much of Europe is convinced that Iran is not using Uranium for peaceful energy production only. USA warships are steaming to the Persian Gulf and day by day a new war scene is being built.

We understand people are afraid of nuclear threat, yet already millions of people die in accidents and by deadly diseases and abortions. The enormous blast and fear of radioactivity impresses people, but the silent scream of unborn babies and all other victims of the Kingdom of Earth, should make us more afraid than nuclear weapons.

The Gospel contains the final solution to death and destruction.

Looking at Israel today one might think if the apple of God's eye, Israel, is not safe, then who can be! In our view, they are much safer than any other country on earth for God obviously has a plan with Israel. They are still arguing with Him about the Messiah, but we know that this will end in the appearance of Yeshua of Nazareth. He will prove to Israel that He is the promised One, in its moment of total despair. This will allow God to reach 3 goals: To win all Gentiles who wish to be saved; to win all of Israel and, once and for all, to get rid of all of His enemies. All those who gather against Israel will be exposed, just like those who fight God until the bitter end. But those who wish to live eternally, choose life that only Jesus can give.

LORD, SHINE THROUGH ME!



A small house on the outskirts of Oradea. The house is cold, and smells funny. When we enter we see three people sitting on a bed. Mother Ana and two of her daughters (Crystten, 3 and Maria, 1 1/2). It looks as though they have given up all hope. When Ana starts to tell her story we start to understand a bit why.

Ana grew up in an orphanage. No one cared for her, and she grew up without the feeling of being loved by anyone. She felt abandoned, lonely and afraid. This experience scarred her for the rest of her life.

Just after she left the orphanage she met her first husband. Like Ana he also grew up in an orphanage. They both had a traumatic upbringing. Together they tried to make the best of it and had 3 children. Then disaster struck. The house they were living in burned down to the ground; their son died in the accident.

After this horrible event the father abandoned the family and left Ana and her two daughters on the streets of Oradea. Even in this dark situation she did her best to care for the children. There is always sunshine after rain it seemed, for she met Zsolt. He promised to look after her and her daughters. Together they moved into a small council house. Ana managed to find a job and

Zsolt looked after the children. Together they had 3 more children. But over the years Zsolt changed. He started to drink and gamble, and everything Ana brought home was used to pay for his addictions. He started to beat up Ana and abused the three oldest girls. Finally the police caught him when he tried to sell one of his children, and locked him away. The oldest three children were taken into foster care leaving Ana with her two youngest children behind. There was simply no hope for Ana anymore. In complete desperation, she knocked on the door of Casa Lumina -a "house of light" in the darkest hour.

'We try to give Ana and her girls all the help they need' says Olga van Lavieren. 'Crystten is going to the kindergarten at Casa Lumina. Every morning Ana brings her to the school; she hopes that her daughters will get a better life than she ever had. In the meantime Ana receives counselling from a psychiatrist. Casa Lumina has become a safe haven for her. She knows that she can always count on us, but Ana and her daughters still have a long way to go.'

This is just the story of one family. The Casa Lumina team in Oradea witness the struggles of many families on a daily basis. Olga continues: 'The need is very great. On a daily basis people knock at our door, completely desperate. All of them struggling with poverty, pain and sorrows. Without help from outside these vulnerable people are unable to change their situation. Just a couple of examples, we meet mothers that are unable to pay for medicines for their sick children. Another mother was unable to buy milk for her newborn baby. After we bought her some glasses, a girl was finally able to do well at school.'

Our desire is to help wherever we can, but often we lack the financial means. Sometimes we can only pray for God to provide.

With your help we are able to help many more people. Can we count on you?

If after reading these testimonies and hearing of the needs you want to help, please use the reply-slip and envelope. Any cheques should be made out to EEO UK and do not forget to tick which area your offering should go to, and Gift Aid. Still got questions? Phone 0800 2980 126 or email us: gerrit.wiersema@eeouk.org

