



Outreach

the beginning I told him that I didn't know. But a few days later I decided to go there. I received the money to go through a miracle of God. I have to say that I was attacked in my mind that maybe I would feel so bad during the journey, during the conference.

Barnabas Festival

I had the same bad thoughts and fear as before. But in the end I went to the conference and during it I had such a wonderful time with God. I was renewed, healed, refreshed. I came back home totally healed and renewed. I had no fear anymore. I asked you to pray for me

during the conference but I didn't tell you the reason. Just God touched me and totally freed me, released me. I received my healing and release during the conference in Codlea - Barnabas 2007. Not that someone prayed specially for me, especially for my need.

Do not stop Festival Codlea

I have to say that this conference changed me totally. So many pastors, leaders, and people prayed for me but I received my healing and deliverance exactly during the Barnabas conference. Not that the Barnabas conference did it, but because God was in and over that

conference. His anointing was over it. And His Spirit was moving during it. This is the special thing. And I know that this is happening when there is a lot of prayer. I'm so thankful to God for my healing and release, because to live in fear is terrible, horrible. I can't find the worst word to describe how terrible is. This is just not living.

I want to encourage you with my story that this conference is brings results! Of course I will be there next year in Codlea!

Nurses needed in Ukraine

Eastern European Outreach Intl. is looking for staff to help in the Abandoned Baby department in the hospitals in Beregowo and Vinogrado, volunteers who will dedicate themselves for at least half a year, and preferably a year to take care of the babies in these departments.

In co-operation with the hospital, this goal will increase the chances for these children who have an enormous lack in their development. A team of motivated volunteers is needed here.

This team also distributes relief goods to this department and its staff. The vision is to spread the love of Christ by serving others.

Tasks

- take care of the children stimulate the children in their development
- develop a relationship with the staff
- look for possibilities to develop the situation of these children
- organise tasks to support the goals mentioned above

Qualifications

- You must be at least 21 years of age
- You must have some medical education
- You can function well in a team
- You are open for contacts with the mission workers in the area (incl. Ukrainians, Hungarians and Dutch)
- You are willing to learn enough of the



- Ukrainian and/or Hungarian language to communicate in daily life and work.
- You are a dedicated Christian
 - You have a church who prays for you
 - You have the ability to raise your own funds to cover your expenses

UK Prayer points

- We want to thank the Lord for 2007, which was a very difficult year for the international mission. The mission was attacked in many different ways. We thank the Lord that He has pulled us through it, and we pray for a more stable 2008. We thank the Lord that we were able to be a blessing for many people all over the world, especially in Eastern Europe.
- Please pray for the missionaries and workers in the field and mission offices.
- Pray that many people may get to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.
- Pray for more sponsors and donors, financial gifts

Presentations in Your Church

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 0791 2890384 or send an email to gerrit.wiersema@eeouk.org

Memoriam

Liz Aydon

With deep regret and sadness, we announce the death of our dear friend and voluntary worker, Liz Aydon, on Tuesday 29th January. Since 2004, Liz had been responsible for the CSP administration. For several years Liz had been very unwell, but had done her utmost to continue to help EEO UK. Later she had to go almost weekly to the hospital, and the last 3 months she spent almost entirely in hospital.

We know she is now with the Lord, free of pain and suffering. Please remember her husband, Geordie, and the rest of her family in prayer at this time of loss.

As mission team we are very grateful for the work Liz has done, and the difference she has made in the lives of many people. She was a woman who loved God and loved people.

Please note new Bank details!

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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.

**Your birth was in a hovel
 That was very small
 Your father died too early
 No job, no food at all...
 Gypsy is what they call you
 that's negative from the start
 eleven brothers and sisters
 who cares, who has a heart?
 Four of eleven children
 disabled manifold
 this is your way of living
 that's all you have to hold.
 Your mother plunged in deep despair
 her children in disease
 how can she ever manage
 if no-one sees her needs?
 The hovel's almost broken,
 winter cold creeps through the holes
 O Lord, please send them some-one!
 in prayer to God I call.
 They're worn out and so broken
 let someone go in love
 to break the bread and heal them
 and tell of the Father above.**





Sunrise through knowing Him!

Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge Him. As surely as the sun rises, He will appear; He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth' (Hosea 6:3 NIV).

The shortest day of the year has passed. Every day, dawn starts earlier than the day before. At the beginning of a new year we look forward to new things, but on the other hand there are many pessimistic forecasts: about the climate, environment and the money market. Hope gives unlimited energy to people. Looking up at a seemingly unlimited universe, we come to know that some - to many unknown -- Person is protecting our planet from being demolished by celestial bodies way bigger than our Earth.

There is nothing more inspiring than sunrise, although this can also create fear in nervous people, for they feel that another day of trouble has started. We want to encourage those people who are suffering with the words from Luke 2: 28,

'When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because redemption is drawing near' (Luke 21:28 NIV).

The name Hosea is closely related to the name of Yeshua (Jesus), and has the same meaning -- Helper or Saviour! There is Someone who is holding up the universe and sees every single individual. He knows us and invites us to get to know Him! That is what Hosea wants us to know. The same can be said about Jesus' first followers; one after the other came to know Him (John 1:46). He who was announced as the Person who can save the people from their sins. That He would sacrifice His life and pay with His blood for the punishment of all Mankind so the relationship with God could be restored, was something they only understood later.

When times are difficult because of disease, disaster, disappointment in people and in circumstances, there is also a 'sunrise' which brings new relationships, blessing, prosperity and healing.

The Bible is a unique and amazing guide for our daily life. Let us follow the advice of Hosea, who admonishes us to get to know our God and Creator, and find help in Him for the problems of everyday life.

Not only in Eastern Europe or in the Third World are problems and

diseases, which crush people. Also the Western World is under the curse of failure: failing to guard creation and the environment; failing in our relationships with others and with God. But if we start to acknowledge the Lord first, our lives will start to radiate like the sun rising in the morning. Graham Kendrick sings in his world-famous song 'Shine Jesus, shine' about this:

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me*

(Graham Kendrick Copyright © 1987 Make Way Music, www.grahamkendrick.co.uk)

As Eastern European Outreach UK we want to start 2008 with finding Him, who says in Revelation 2:28 'I will also give him the morning star' (NIV).

Then he will change our circumstances as when Hosea prophesied over Judah: 'Also for you, Judah, a harvest is appointed' (Hosea 6.11 NIV).

DIPPING IN 'THE CHANNEL' FOR FOOD PARCELS FOR EASTERN EUROPE

Christmas here in the UK is mainly focused on gifts, food and being together with the family. Millions have been spent to make it THE celebration of the year.

There is nothing wrong with enjoying a good time with the family and having some nice gifts under the Christmas tree. If the Lord has blessed us we should not feel guilty and we should enjoy this. On the other hand, we should not forget people who are less well off in this world -- about 80-90% of the world population!

One of those groups of people who are significantly worse off, are the gypsies in Eastern Europe. Many of them had hardly any food around Christmas, let alone presents!

To end our first year in the UK I wanted to do something different. In Holland we have the tradition of the New Year 'dip' at the beach near The Hague, and I was wondering whether they do something

similar here in the UK. I found out that this tradition is the same here, but it is usually held on Boxing Day. A few minutes in the sea wouldn't be so bad! So the idea for a sponsored Boxing Day Dip to send food to gypsies in Eastern Europe was born.

On Boxing Day at about 8 am we were packed and ready for take-off to Folkestone. At about 9.30 am we arrived in this very beautiful town, and parked the car a few hundred yards from the sea. The lovely weather caused quite a queue for the registration, but after about 15 minutes I was officially registered as one of the dippers of 2007. On the beach I went to the group of dippers -- I think about 70-100 people. My wife, Laura, went to stand in the large crowd of supporters, ready to film everything.

After the countdown I was one of the first in the water. Unfortunately the countdown wasn't only for us to jump into the sea,

but also for the crowd to move in as close as possible, which made it almost impossible for Laura to make a proper video of me jumping in. When I finally found Laura back in the crowd, she told me that she couldn't film anything, and that I should go back into the water. So I had to do it all over again, or better, half over again, as I didn't dive in completely the second time. My legs felt frozen, which changed quickly, however, when I exchanged my wet clothes for some warm and dry ones.

Actually, altogether it was a very good experience; even Laura wouldn't mind trying it next year. So it will be pretty likely that we will jump together at the end of this year!

How much money has exactly been raised I don't know yet, as donations are still coming in. But at this very moment of writing the total amount is way more than I had ever expected.

TESTIMONIES FROM THE FIELD



About a week ago, for a few pence I bought the book 'Gods Smuggler' by Open Doors founder Brother Andrew. His testimony about meeting brothers and sisters in Christ behind the former Iron Curtain is absolutely amazing. What he experienced was almost the same as Brother Konrad, when he started Eastern European Outreach Intl. with the goal of serving the Lord, and by that serving His children in need. Before the fall of the Berlin Wall this happened by supplying our brothers and sisters in Christ with Bibles, through encouragement visits, and some practical help. After the fall of the Wall this changed to spiritual, practical and financial help.

I personally find it very encouraging to read these testimonies about God's timing and provision, and would like to share with you some amazing testimonies from the field.

Albania

A testimony from Xhina Kurteshi Xhina is one of the young women who took part in last year's Barnabas conference and outreach in Albania. Since 2006 the Youth department of Eastern European Outreach Intl. organises an annual conference in Albania. The goal is to train young people with evangelism skills and to encourage the local churches.

Muslim family

My name is Xhina Kurteshi. I am a 16-year-old girl and high school student at the local school in Iba. I heard about Christ when I was about 10 years of age; ever since it has been my desire to follow Him. To do thi, it is very important to get to know Him. In our village is a small church where we have several services every week. It was my desire to attend these meetings, but my parents are Muslims. It was not easy to get permission from my father. Fortunately I am blessed with a very loving mother. She spoke with my father, and together we are visiting the church services. I got baptised when I was 13 and my faith and relationship with Christ is growing every year!

Barnabas experience

In the summer of 2006 I attended the Barnabas conference for the first time. This conference was organised by EEO in the city of Pogradec on the border with Greece and Macedonia.

It was a new experience for me. I learned how I could share the Gospel with my friends and family! I am busy putting into practice what I learned at the conference.

Brothers and Sisters

I learned a lot in the summer of 2006, but not enough, because you can never learn enough about the Lord! That is why I joined the conference of 2007 as well. It was great to have fellowship with Brothers and Sisters who believe in the same God as I do, and with whom I have so many things in common. The goal of Barnabas is to reach the lost 'sheep'. We learned how to spread the Gospel in a simple, practical and interactive way, so that people in the villages and cities could understand it.

The outreach campaign was fantastic. In my village we organised a summer camp, which attracted over 60 children each day! Here we were able to put into practice what we had learned at the conference.

My father was very surprised when he saw me in a clown costume, telling the children about God's love!

It has been a real blessing for me to attend both conferences and I am looking forward to the 2008 edition!

Romania: Just in Time

Our local contact persons regularly visit families who participate in the Child Sponsor Programme. They bring the financial support and encourage them with God's Word. Often this visit is an answer to prayer.

The testimony of a Romanian Mother

A Romanian mother recently told one of our contact persons that she only had

10 Lei (about £2) left in her wallet. She desperately needed detergent to wash the dirty clothes of her children. After buying this, only 5 Lei was left over. The mother asked her husband what they should eat that day, but there was hardly enough money for a meal. 'Don't worry,' her husband said, 'trust in the Lord'. A few hours later the contact person visited the house with the sponsorship donation. They were able to buy food and pay some bills. We often hear that the help from donors is coming just at the right time.

Bulgaria: Testimony from Rosalia Radeva

Rosalia is a contact person for the Child Sponsor Programme, and also works as translator on mission trips in Bulgaria. This year she went to the Barnabas conference in Romania, and joined the outreach team to Silistra in Bulgaria afterwards. After the outreach she sent us this testimony:

What happened before...It was May 2007 when my father phoned me and told me that his father had died. (My parents are divorced so that's why.) Some days ago my grandfather had been sent to the hospital because he was not feeling well. A few days later the doctors said that he is doing better. But on the next morning he had a heart attack and he died.

Feeling terrible

After the call of my father I went to their place. I got home in the evening and I went to sleep. During the night I woke up and I was feeling really terrible. My blood pressure was so low. When the doctor came she told me that I was fine and that it was nothing serious; it was just my nerves and because of that my blood pressure was so low.

Next week before I went to bed, I felt terrible once more. It was again something to do with my stomach and my blood pressure. From that moment I didn't want to sleep at home, I didn't want to live in my own house. I told my mother: "Mum, I don't want to sleep in this house, let's go to the house of my grandparents" (the parents of my mother).

Stay with grandparents

For about a month and more I was living in the house of my grandparents. I just didn't want to sleep in my own bed because I had the feeling and the thoughts that it would happen again like before.

Prayer against the fear

I went with my mother and my grandmother to a town about 400 kilometres away from Bourgas, to visit some Christian friends -- a pastor and other leaders in the church -- to pray for me. After we came back from there I was feeling better but not completely free from the fear.

I felt so horrible when I had those thoughts of fear, I just couldn't think of anything else. I felt as if I was frozen. It was really terrible.

Invitation

It was July when I wrote to Gerrit and asked him if the outreach team would be coming to Bourgas this summer. He told me that the team was going to Silistra, and asked me if I would come to the conference in Codlea. In