



Editorial Kelton Black – EEO UK Chairman

IN TIMES LIKE THESE

Many things are happening that we don't understand. In times like these, when the world doesn't seem to have the answer, we need to seek God all the more. Psalms 121 says "my help comes from the Lord".

Many years ago the Lord taught me to learn how to respond, rather than react, to things that are happening around me. God wants us to respond in faith and not react to fear.

Due to international restrictions, we are not able to move about like we want to. Last month I had to cancel my trip to Bulgaria and this week I would have been in Romania holding an annual leadership and workers' conference. These events won't happen but the mission work still goes on. The needs on the mission field at this time are even greater. We are grateful for the faithfulness of all our workers and pray that God gives them strength and provision to meet the growing demand. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Also during this last month we mourn the loss of our faithful Brother and trustee, George Jesze. We know he had a triumphant entrance to the presence of his Lord and Saviour. Our love and prayers are for his beloved wife, Helen.

I loved George and his ministry. It was simple yet profound. He had tremendous wit and humour; a warm and genuine Brother in Christ. His ability to always speak the word of Faith into every situation was so inspiring. We will miss him greatly but we mourn with a certain hope of our eternal future.

Please continue to pray for the work of EEOUK and thank you for your continued financial support. We do all for the glory of God and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Food Parcels

Covid-19 has seriously impacted the whole world. In the UK the government has stepped in helping its citizens with benefits and business grants to lessen the blow. It has further encouraged people to go out once a day for fresh air. Many countries do not have this 'luxury'.

In Albania and Romania, the lock down really means a lock down. People were forced to stay in their house and one person per household has an hour per day to buy essentials. Only with a very good explanation are people allowed on the street and the army and police are patrolling the streets.

Many people here live from day to day on the wage they earned that day. With such draconian measures in place, no work means no income. Many people were laid off, or their businesses collapsed. Many who normally live and work abroad have returned to their home country. Adding hundreds of thousands and in some countries like Romania, millions of people to the population, all in need of work and food.

Most of the poor, especially in the villages will have some pickled vegetables in stock but with more mouths to feed, or no opportunity to top up their supplies many families rapidly start to run out of food.

Another serious issue is that last autumn was very mild, with very little snow or rain in the winter, so water wells are running low and summer has not even begun.

To ease the need EEO has started handing out food parcels in some countries, providing families with basics like flour, rice, pasta, sugar, oil and beans. A large food parcel costs about £20. This is a great blessing for families struggling to put food on the table. Please help us buy Food Parcels!



MOLDOVA TRIP 2020 – by Gerrit Wiersema

Brother Marchitan was already waiting for us and within 20 minutes we arrived at the Pentecostal Union which would be our base for the week.

Sunday morning visited a Russian church. It was a great privilege to attend, during the service we were allowed to share a couple of words and sing two songs to the congregation.

In the afternoon we visited a project of Pavel, a friend of Tom's, near the Romanian border. Pavel and his brother in law have built a camp site for summer camps. Currently they are building a giant septic tank for the toilets. Hundreds of children and teenagers visit here every year.

On Monday we made the long journey to Cahul, about 100 miles south of Chisinau. The distance is not even that great but due to the roads it takes roughly 4 hours.

We had left early in the morning so just before noon we arrived at the house of our contact person Vihodeth. After a quick coffee we changed vehicles and went with Brother Vihodeth's bus (he has 17 children and they won't otherwise all fit in the same vehicle).

That day we visited 3 large families and even though the father generally works, the income is not sufficient to provide for them all. Moldova is also one of the very few countries in Europe that has no child benefits. In Romania, for example, large families can rely on a safety-net of child support, the Moldovans do not have this 'luxury'. Many families cut their food bill by growing their own food and having animals like goats, sheep, cows and chickens.

The next day we joined Sister Liuda, visiting CSP families. She works mainly in villages outside Chisinau and in the city itself. The first two families live in a village about 12 miles outside the city. The city is relatively modern but the villages are very basic. Hardly anyone has an indoor toilet and the families we visited did not even have running water. The first family used the general village well on the street to get their daily water supply. The family is praying that one day they will have their own well.

Another family that really made an impression on us was a mother looking after her 2 youngest children. The father is currently in prison serving a very long sentence for murder. The older of the two boys was sent to boarding school a few years ago. He came back heavily traumatised, and has developed schizophrenia.

The younger boy nearly died from meningitis when he was about 10; he missed a school year because of it as he could not concentrate. Praise God, his situation has improved since and now he is doing absolutely brilliantly. Mother and sons live in their own home but it is built on the plot of their in-laws, and it is a difficult situation. As there is no toilet or bathroom in the house, they must go to their family to wash themselves or the toilet. With the issues in the family, this was sometimes an absolute nightmare. Our contact person has regular contact with the mother of the family and things seem to go better now, as the mother in law recently started joining a church.



Wednesday was very special as we went to Transnistria, an autonomous region in the east of the country. Transnistria is an area as though the clock stopped in 1989.

We were picked up by Brother Gladun who lives in Ribnitsa in the north. As a team we had taken a lot of Russian Bibles with us to Moldova to hand out. As Transnistria is almost exclusively Russian speaking we thought it to be a perfect opportunity to bless many families. Our contact person asked us only to bring a handful as we might get problems at the border, and arrived there an hour later.

A few border guards came asking for our passports. A few minutes later we received them back, each with a small piece of paper inside, saying we had 12 hours to do what-ever we had to do, and then to be out of the country again. We then entered Transnistria. The Communist hammer and sickle are still in the coat of arms, and at many street corners there are still statues of working men and women. At the centre of Ribnitsa, Comrade Lenin is still standing on his pedestal.

Due to complications with importing goods into the country we decided to buy food parcels in the town. We bought sufficient goods for each of the families we would be visiting that day. Food prices in Transnistria do not differ much from the rest of Moldova and are fairly similar to Western European food prices. Transnistria uses its own currency, the Roubel, where the rest of Moldova uses the Moldovan Leu.

That day we were to visit five families. The meeting with the first family was very special. They have a son, who due to an accident with a transistor cabinet, was electrocuted. He lost one of his arms and was badly scarred all over his body, except his face. The family is praying to find funds so for a final operation before he turns 18, as Moldovan healthcare for children is a third of the price of that of adults, in this family's case the current operation will cost about \$1000 (£900), which will be \$3000/£2700 from his 18th birthday which is in June. **Please help us pay for this brave boy's operation very soon!**

However, I found a lot of optimism in the country, as people make the best of the situation. This boy still plays football on the street, he is able to use a computer using his partly functional left hand and his feet. The same goes for many families despite the dire financial circumstances. Often this still brings in some kind of income, which is not sufficient, but with the Child Sponsor Program top-up, most families just about manage. It is not usual that most children mention maths as their favourite school topic, but their efforts and work with the computer gives hope for future generations to break out of the circle of poverty.

The final 2 days we travelled around Chisinau visiting different families, spending time with them, praying and singing with them and leaving a food parcel.

Tribute to Rev. George Jesze

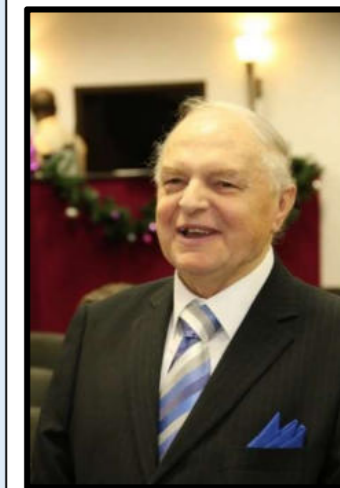
Our dear friend and fellow-trustee, Rev. George Jesze, died peacefully on 11th April 2020, and is now FOREVER WITH THE LORD!

I knew George Jesze since his wedding to Helen in 1966 at Hockley Pentecostal Church, Birmingham, where they met when George interpreted for Pastor Haralan Popov, who had been imprisoned and tortured for his faith. George pastored several Pentecostal Churches in Switzerland for four years. Later he was manager of the Christian East Mission in Frankfurt, where teams picked up Bibles to smuggle into Communist countries. There he got to know Kees van Olst, EEO Intl.'s founder. George, Helen and their children, Paul, David and Elisabeth lived mainly in Germany, and had an interdenominational itinerant ministry ("Voice of Renewal") in UK, Germany and other countries. Later they moved to the UK.

George spoke English, German, Russian and Polish and interpreted for many well-known preachers. He co-authored several books, together with his wife, Helen.

We will miss George very much, but thank God for all his faithful service since he became a UK Trustee in 1999. Please remember the family in prayer at this time.

-Trustee Doulas Graham-



● George Jesze 1940-2020✝ ●

Pakistan Update – by Herman Kesting

Eastern European Outreach worker Herman Kesting recently went to Pakistan to visit the projects which were started by pastor Elisha Samuel.

It was a great blessing to be able to continue the work at the mission school in Lahore. Also a new project was adopted in Kasur, a Muslim village with a Christian minority. A Korean organisation had started a school but was unable to continue. EEO has committed itself to pay the teachers' salaries and the rent of the buildings.

There is also a vision to start sewing classes in Klasawala. There is much interest and a suitable building available. We are looking for funding to purchase a few sewing machines to make this a reality. Seamstresses are in high demand in Pakistan and it will give these people an opportunity to break out of the circle of poverty. The building will also be used for Sunday school meetings.

Due to the Corona virus outbreak the country has also shut down. A few weeks ago we have started a food parcel action in Pakistan as well, supporting 100 families, a £25 parcel will last a family of 5 about a month.



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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 application. However, a freewill gift of £12 per year would help to cover postage and production costs. EEO UK works with Eastern European Outreach International, a group of missions and ministries. The main partner is Stg. OostEuropa Zending (NL), on behalf of Child Sponsor Programme, Christian Care East West, Children's Relief, Medical Relief, Israel Support and Vision Latina