

NEEDING WORKERS IN GOD'S VINEYARD

Volunteers for the Baby Departments in hospitals in Ukraine

Eastern European Outreach UK is searching for staff to help at the Abandoned Baby Departments in the hospitals in Beregowo and Vinograd, volunteers who will dedicate themselves for at least half a year, and preferably a year or even more to take care of the babies in these departments.

The goal is in co-operation with the hospital, to increase the chances for these underprivileged children. To accomplish this, a team of motivated volunteers is needed. This team also distributes relief goods to this department and its staff. The vision is to spread the love of Christ by serving others.

Laurie Sanderson is a volunteer from Canada who recently started working at the hospital in Vinogradiv. Following is her experience the first day in the hospital.

Tuesday, January 22 was my first visit to the hospital. I only went for the afternoon because they wanted to ease me into everything so I'm only doing 3 half days in my first week. I had my first adventure that day. One of the babies was wet so Lily (a Dutch volunteer) told me I could take him back to the room to change him. So I did. I thought

that he had just peed himself but I found a big messy mess and I was trying to clean him up but I couldn't find proper clothes for him in the room and I didn't know where to dispose of the clothes and diaper and discovered that they put cloth inside the diapers so they can reuse them. It was quite the ordeal. Then I noticed something that was upsetting. There are lots of bugs in the rooms -on the cribs, where they keep the clothes, in the garbage, basically everywhere in the babies' rooms. That really surprised me and I really didn't like it. But the babies were so precious! The first baby I held was little Kobrie. He would cry as soon as I put him down but when I was holding him he was just so content sitting on my lap and looking at me. The girls often hold two or three and sometimes even four babies at a time, but that day I thought I would start with just two. I was holding two little guys in the rocking-chair and they were so happy to be held because they just spend the whole day in their cribs, otherwise. At one point they were both just staring at me. Then they both fell asleep. It was so precious. I know 100% that this is what I am supposed to be doing now.



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

FROM LIVING ON THE STREET TO PLANTING A CHURCH

Cornel Covaci born into a family with nine children. He was the only one sent to an orphanage. Just after the revolution Cornel turned 18 and was ordered to leave the orphanage and to live on the street.

After years of living on the street he met Olga who had just started her ministry in Romania and enrolled in the 'second chance' programme. He found the Lord and was baptised in March 1997. The Lord gave him a burning desire to work among his own people, the Roma gypsies. He followed a one year Bible course, with a training in Ukraine. Later he moved to the village where his family lives, about 15 miles outside of Oradea, where he helped at the local church. After about four years the Lord called him to minister to the people in the village of Dicănești. This village is completely separated from the outside world. When Cornel first visited the village there were no believers. Together with Pastor Cristi Giurgila and his wife Mirela from the Casa Lumina church he started to share about Christ. In April 2012 fifteen people were baptised in Dicănești. This was for Cornel a confirmation of his calling to continue to work among the people of this small village. At least twice a week Cornel walks from his own village to Dicănești to meet with the believers. Wednesday morning there is a prayer meeting, and on Sunday Cornel leads a service. He also visits the Christians regularly, does counselling and spends time praying with people.



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

Can We Miss God's Provision?

A divided house

God's work in Pakistan

Needing workers in God's vineyard

From living on the street to planting a Church



So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6: 31-33

I have just returned from our annual mission conference in Germany. A perfect time to meet mission friends from all over the world. It was a time of being built up, but also of sharing testimonies.

It is very sobering to hear about the desperate circumstances so many on this planet live in. On the other hand it is also very encouraging to hear the work the Lord is doing through people and how He provides.

With your help, our contacts in the east were able to help many families by providing food parcels, and people were able to visit the hospital and also receive treatment. Children were able to go to school, wood was delivered for heating. Families received counselling and prayer. Some boys on death-row even got their life back. But most importantly, people were introduced to the Gospel and many gave their heart to the Lord.

In this issue of Outreach magazine, you will find an article about the current situation in Pakistan. One of my colleagues made a trip to this country and met with our persecuted Brothers and Sisters. Another article gives testimony to God's goodness, showing how a young man who was living on the streets of Oradea became a pastor among his own people in a forgotten corner of Romania. There is also a possibility to get involved yourself. Eastern European Outreach UK and Intl. organises many mission trips and there are also opportunities to get involved for a longer time, for example in the Baby Department (see also P.4).

We hope this magazine is an encouragement to you, that you may see, like us, that despite the hardship and difficulties, that our God is able to help and deliver!

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Can We Miss God's Provision?

Many years back, I had a phone call from a pastor who had encountered a shortage in his ministry, and his ministry was on the verge of bankruptcy. The Lord showed me the letter "Y", and told me to imagine driving from the bottom to the top. He said that my friend's provision was on the left hand branch, but somehow, my friend had strayed onto the right hand branch. There was no provision there, since it was not God's will for him. Therefore, he experienced sustained, long-term, shortage.

Jesus warns of following principles that can take us away from God's provision for us. In Matthew chapter 6, He tells us:

24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?

31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

So according to verse 24, the first thing that can take us off God's path for us is trying to serve money. You might say "That's not me. I don't serve money!". But let me ask you a question. When God lays a project on your heart, do you make plans to obey Him, or do you seek permission from the "god" called Money? If you seek permission from your wallet, aren't you serving both God and money? Now, I don't advocate running into debt, but if it is really the plan of God for you to do that project, won't He provide, even at the last minute? Shouldn't you be stretching your faith to receive what you need for that project, rather than being led by an apparent shortage?

According to verse 25, the second thing that can take us off God's path for us is worrying about provision. That does not mean that we don't plan ahead financially, but simply that we don't get anxious (worrying) about it.

In verse 35, Jesus shows us the right order of things. If we seek first-place, God's Kingdom (i.e. the development of His rule & reign on earth) and His righteousness (His way of being & doing right), then our provision becomes His responsibility, and ALL THESE THINGS (the food, the drink, the clothing) i.e. the necessities of life, will be ADDED to us.

Rev. Greg Knight.

Greg Knight is a new trustee with EEO UK. His wife Pat is from the USA, they live in Dorset UK, and they have 2 young children.

Mission Monitor by Matthias J. Van der Weide



A DIVIDED HOUSE

The so-called United Nations will never reach the point of even reaching what real unity requires. Moscow, Mecca or Washington will never be able to act together on behalf of the nations' wellbeing. Jesus said that no house can exist divided against itself. The worldwide visible Christian churches are also not showing any form of effective unity. Our focus is therefore on this unique and worldwide Church that represents the Body of Jesus Christ who is its Head, and rules this world in an invisible but very effective way. When the New Jerusalem, the eternal city, comes down from Heaven (Revelation 21), as a bride adorned for her husband, all creatures will see this.

In the Netherlands, inhabitants of a large area around Groningen have heard the message that their houses are threatened by the Dutch government's natural gas winning (in Slochteren) policy. This causes local earthquakes of increasing strength and damages. Many lives and houses are threatened. Their excuse was: The 'big' money we earn with this is worth the risk!

Money has slowly replaced the importance of human life. This is the sickness of our world today. For this reason, many refugees find no help. Mammon rules this world. It is up to us as people who recognize Jesus and His unconditional love, to make this love visible, not only by works of compassion, but also Words of compassion to this darkening world and its desperate inhabitants. We can only fulfill this high calling if we remain connected with Jesus Himself, so that He can direct us and make our lives fruitful. It makes sense to follow Jesus.

GOD'S WORK IN PAKISTAN



For many years EEO UK and Intl. has been sending out teams to Pakistan. Last year we were advised not to come with a team as the situation has become increasingly dangerous. So last year only one EEO worker went out to Pakistan to visit the projects and to encourage the local team. Following are a few of the experiences he had during his visit.

Free behind Bars

The house where I am staying is like most Pakistani houses. A door made from steel bars covered with chicken wire. No insulation against the cold, but it does give some security. Inside the walls are in poor shape, a lot of mould and little paint. Decoration is not a priority. A roof is most important and this house has one. There is more than enough space, the different apartments are all connected with a central space, here I find a dining table, a water tap, a TV, a couple of sofas etc. The different apartments are to sleep and keep your personal belongings. All the rest is being shared.

The shopping street is a no-go zone, as four days before my arrival a Swedish missionary was shot in broad daylight. She died a few days later. The West is being seen as the enemy. The anger of the people is currently not only aimed at the Christians, but towards anyone white. This attitude can change within a day but at the moment I have to be extra careful.

Safety

Dressed in the local Pakistani clothes I am waiting on the sofa to go to church. My host had advised me to wear Pakistani clothes for my own safety. Three men join us when we walk towards the church.

We won't be going to the church service promptly at 9.30 as the Church is

opposite to an Islamic centre. When their service started we quickly walked past and went to church, and before the end of their meeting we left the church and went back to the house where I am staying. We had to take these precautions for my own safety but also for the safety of the local Fellowship. It dawns on me more and more that the freedom of the Christians here is limited by the unwritten Islamic laws that are forced upon them.

My host told me that it is not only the Muslim oppression. It also happens that Christians manipulate each other by threatening to leave torn pieces of the Koran in the garden. Every Christian is living on the edge.

Another brother shared that a Christian community was burned to the ground after a fight got out of hand. Seventeen people lost their life and hundreds lost their livelihoods.

Midwives

Today I met up with the Bible study group from the local hospital. I was led into a small room where I found twenty-two women praying. I shared about how to continue to give without receiving. Being a midwife in Pakistan is a tough job. The women have to be available for at least 12 hours per day, 6 days per week. Their pay: £100 per month. Their work is very hard, unhygienic and dangerous. These women

are at the frontline of new life. It is important to tell you that these women continue without getting burned out. Their secret lies in Galatians 5. The fruit of the Spirit is given to us so we can continue to give without getting burned out. A Dutch Sister gave me a donation to share among these brave women. I had 22 envelopes, exactly the number of women present. I am very grateful to the Lord for His provision.

Special Meeting

I am waiting for our local mission contact. This afternoon I shall be visiting a few of the boys for whom we organised a special financial rescue action last year (without this, these boys would have been executed). I am curious to hear their testimony. One of the thirteen has died in the meantime, I want to know what happened to him.

In order to avoid attention I dressed up like a Pathani. Pathanis come from a tribe in the North of the country. Their traditional shawl comes in handy to cover my face.

Like a modern Lawrence of Arabia I entered the village. My contact points to a small poster with the face of a young man. He told me that he was one of the thirteen. After the trials he was severely beaten to death by a Muslim mob.

It is extremely difficult for Christians in a closed Muslim country. Christians are outlawed. We meet four of the young men. We speak about their current situation and their time in prison. One of the boys tells me that he feels unsafe and shows me his gun. Two other boys tell me that they can't leave their (Christian) village as Muslims will attack them. Also their families are being threatened. I shared with them about God's peace and protection. The proclamations were very strong and we felt a very strong presence from the Lord. After a meal my contact brought me safely back to the place I was staying.

