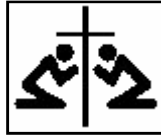


Summer 2010

east-west contact



And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8 verse 28

From the Editor

One of my favourite verses in the Bible quoted above teaches us that God always wants the best for us. Back in January we were due to book the flights for the trip to Ukraine in April. I was having ongoing medical tests and was therefore unable to go on the mission. The tests later proved to be O.K. but I did not know this at the time. Had I booked the flight the money would have been wasted as my mother went to be with the Lord in April, and I could not have gone to Ukraine as the funeral was right in the middle of the mission. God knows our circumstances and when things seem difficult or unfair, remember that He works all things together for good.

So it was that in April Glen Rickard and Anne MacMillan together with Michael and Val Bonsor (a Baptist Pastor and wife from Dunfermline, Scotland) visited Christians and churches in Western Ukraine. Anne, Michael and Val spent three days in Budapest visiting Christians that have supported the work of E.W.F. in previous years. Peter and Maria Czatho are faithful Christians and I remember visiting Peter on my first mission with E.W.F. with Dennis Boxall and Bill MacMillan (both now with the Lord) way back in 1996. Zoltan and Eva Nagy-Perge are another couple much used of the Lord in Communist times, distributing Bibles and Christian Literature. Please pray for these Christians and their work in Budapest.

In Ukraine the group had a busy time, speaking nearly 30 times at meetings and groups to adults, children old people and in the open air. Their return to the U.K. was delayed three days due to the air flight restrictions because of the Iceland volcanic ash. A shortened version of Anne's report follows.

Thank you once again for your prayer support and very generous financial support.

With love and blessing in Jesus,

Colin Dickson (Editor)



Peter Czatho, middle, with Michael and Val Bonsor



Anne MacMillan, centre, with Zoltan and Eva

Please note that the E.W.F. Post Box Number has changed to:
East-West Fellowship
PO Box 678
WIGAN
WN1 9HY
U.K.

If any Churches would like a visit from an E.W.F. worker, please contact us.

**Report by Anne MacMillan on the visit to Zakapathia,
Western Ukraine, April 2010**

Pastor Valentin met Glen, Michael, Val and I at Budapest Airport on 9th April having just undertaken a seven hour drive from his home in Mukachevo, Ukraine. He very kindly agreed to transport us to Tyachiv where we spent our first weekend. This journey took a little more than ten hours on some of the worst roads. We did thank God for safe travel and especially when we heard later in the trip of the serious fault in Valentin's car!

Although our time of arrival in Tyachiv was 11:00 p.m. we were greeted on the street in front of Maranda's house with a big WELCOME banner. At that late hour we had a meal and then Glen and I set off through the dark silent town to the home of David and Leska where we were to spend three nights. Michael and Val stayed with Maranda, Vasya and little Natan.

The New Life Church was started by four young couples: Maranda and Vasya, David and Leska, Sergey and Andrianna and Sacha and Natasha. Our first gathering was with seventeen teens. We had a session of games and then upstairs Michael gave them an illustrated talk. We enjoyed a meal at Natasha's home.

The Sunday service took place at 12 noon. Vasya introduced this and the four young wives sang in a really lovely group. Michael preached and led communion as in Ukraine only ordained pastors can do the Lord's Supper. This was a very enjoyable service and was followed by the customary tea and cookies.

Monday morning saw us all out on the streets in the town centre handing out invitations to a specially organised Evangelistic outreach meeting to be held in the evening. This was an introduction to the new church and an opportunity for us to preach the Gospel. We really prayed much about this and thanked God when we saw that we were running out of seats! We all took part, singing, testifying and preaching. One of the girls called Oneka came to faith and Michael, Val and Glen prayed with various people at the end. We had sadly to say goodbye to the church where we had felt so much at home and it was hard. We felt we'd like to have stayed longer to encourage these young people with such vision and enthusiasm.

I must mention one family who made a lasting impression on me: the Mishinko family whom Maranda is helping. There is Mum Edita, Dad Mishi and five wonderful children living in abject poverty. The two older girls Sondi 16 and Brigi 13 and brother Mishi 14 have become radiant Christians and pray for their parents. Dad came to our meeting. These kids do cleaning and other little jobs to bring a little money into the home. We loved these children and were sorry to leave them. Glen left funds for the work at Tyachiv.

On Tuesday 13th April we made a 4 hour journey to the home of Pastor Valentin, his Wife Tanya and 2 children, Vladyk aged 8 and Lina aged 4. Valentin's church is the Baptist Church in Beregovo but he also is very passionate about evangelising among the Hungarian speaking people (170,000) who live in the Trans Carpathian Region of Ukraine.



Games with the children with Glen Michael and Anne.



We all took part, singing, testifying and preaching. Anne with translator.



Glen, left, handing out invitations to the Evangelistic outreach meeting.



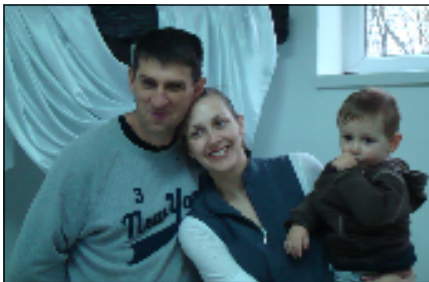
The church congregation at New Life Church, Tachyv. Maranda, Vasya and Nathan are in the middle at the front.



Valentin, left with William, the American missionary.



Val, Anne, Michael and William on their way to the gypsy house church.



Please pray for Vasya Maranda and Natan.



Daniel, Lorna and Ben, missionaries working in Zapshony.



Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Note Maranda, right.

Our first meeting was a house church in the village of Nagy Dobrony where we were given a lovely welcome. Michael spoke about the faith of Moses and Glen spoke on having peace with God and having the peace of God in your lives.

We had the great joy of meeting William Withers and his wife Wynna. They are missionaries from Texas who have been working in Ukraine for many years, he took us to our first gypsy house church through sewage, water, mud and a chicken farm! There were 19 present of all ages and we got such a welcome, Their love for God and their eagerness to hear His word was evident. Michael took as his subject "I am the good shepherd" and Glen followed with a talk on "how much God values us". Valentin made an appeal and Janu came to faith. Four ladies asked to rededicate their lives and Val prayed with them. William prayed for healing for one lady who is quite sick with lung disease.

We had an hour or two to relax so went off walking along by the river and enjoyed some ice cream! Then we headed off to a village church where Val and I sang and Michael and Glen preached.

Saturday - Early afternoon on Saturday we set off to the capital of the region a few hours drive away, Uzhgorod to attend a very good meeting in the home of a young couple, Robbie and Octavia and three boys. This group was well attended and actually had belonged to the Hungarian Reformed Church. Their priest was not a believer and they felt it was right to meet together to study God's word to them so that they would grow in the faith. I gave a testimony and as a foursome we sang Faithful God then Michael and Glen preached. This group had lots of questions which kept us on our toes!

Monday - Valentin drove us to the village of Zapshony to meet a young couple who are missionaries from Hungary. Their names are Daniel, Lorna and little Ben. In two and a half years they have established a flourishing Baptist Church in a large room in their house and have built a baptistry outside in the garden. They have a nice room set aside for children's work and a mum and toddler group is slowly growing. Lorna also has been given some sewing machines and she is teaching patchwork to some of the village ladies. This is a brilliant work which we felt led to support.

Tuesday - Our flights had been cancelled. We all went to see the Lake of Tears high up in the Carpathian Mountains!

Wednesday - Since we had no way of getting home, Glen, Val and I were able to go back to the gypsy house church. There were even more there that night and all three of us spoke.

Thursday - Again no flights gave us the opportunity to go back to the service at Beregovo Church and share in the ministry and worship. We said our farewells as we now knew we had flights home via Prague the next day.

Friday- We left Mukachevo at 2:00 a.m. UK time and arrived in Manchester at 10:30 p.m. happy to be back home but definitely having had a worthwhile and blessed trip. Praise God!!!

Anne MacMillan

Latest News



Colin Dickson presenting the Bibles to the Chernobyl Children



Above and below - the summer camp near Tachyv



The E.W.F. Contact was due to be published in June.

We apologise for its late publication. This is due to the fact that we moved house in May and our belongings were in storage for a time. We then had difficulties with the Post Office regarding the new PO Box Number. Happily all is now in order and our new PO Box Number is on the front page.

Colin & Paulene Dickson

Pray without ceasing.
1 Thessalonians 5
verse 17



July / August Billinge Family Church, Wigan hosted a group of “Chernobyl Children” from Belarus. These children have been affected by the radio-active fallout that is still causing medical problems. Seven of the ten children made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus. Please pray for these children that they will grow in their Christian Faith and find a good church in Belarus. East-West Fellowship provided Bibles and Bible story books in Russian.

The Widows project in Nikopol, Ukraine continues to provide help, food and clothes thanks to the generous gifts donated by supporters in the U.K. We were also able to send a gift to help support **Vladimir**, a pastor from Nikopol who has suffered a stroke and is in need of medical help. We hope to visit Nikopol again in the Spring next year. Nadia Bokoch is in charge of the project and writes:

Hi, Colin, this is Nadia. We hope you are doing well there. Thank you and God for all help you do for people in the Ukraine. This summer has been very hot down here, no rain.....just sun and sun. Family of Vladimir is very grateful for your financial help.....later on I will send you some pictures that I took while giving all those money to them.

Maranda Heytsi, our representative in Ukraine, with her husband, Vasya work in the village of Tachyv. Maranda writes:

*Dear Brothers and Sisters, Family, and Friends,
Shout with joy to God all the earth! Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious! Come and see what God has done, how awesome His works in man's behalf! From Psalm 66.*

Greetings! God defiantly works in man's behalf. How wonderful His love to us all. For almost 9 months now, we have been meeting as a new church. There is a love and closeness that God continues to bless us with.

These past summer months were mostly filled with camp preparations and the camp itself. The Bible camp went very well. We had 28 teenagers all from non-Christian families. The days were spent with sport activities, crafts, Bible lessons, small group discussions, competitions, and of course swimming in the river. Each evening there was a meeting at which there was singing, and a talk concerning the Bible lesson of that day. God blessed our time with wonderful weather, no major injuries, and some wonderful relationships with the kids. Praise the Lord! Thank you for your prayers as well!

We ask you to continue to support us in prayer. May the Lord bless you richly!

With Love,

Vasya, Maranda, and Nataniel

The Trustees of E.W.F. are: Dr Tony Stone - President, Mr Colin Dickson - Director, Mr Glen Rickard - Treasurer
Mrs Ann Macmillan - Scottish co-ordinator, Mrs Gwyneth Boxall, Mrs Paulene Dickson, Mrs Isabel Jones, Mr Eddie Jones,
Mr Chris Porter.

Registered Charity No: 284 790 Founded 1981

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