

# HOPE

Summer Camps Bring Hope to Europe TEN 60th Anniversary Supporter Conference Gospel Van Hits The Road in North Macedonia Lives Changed Through Essential Gifts

## **Hope Bringers**

#### By Vjeko Mršić, Senior Pastor of Good News Church Split, Croatia

Greetings from Split, Croatia. My name is Vjeko Mršić and I serve as Pastor of Good News Church Split. I am privileged to share something with you through Connect magazine on the theme of hope.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long. (Psalm 25:5)

We live in a time when many people are searching for hope or are losing hope in their lives. The Bible clearly says that the only hope is in God our Saviour. The truth of God gives us hope, not our own dreams or desires. David prays to God; 'Guide me in your truth and teach me...' Why? Because his hope is in God all day long. There are many ways we can bring hope to people around us. Through summer camps and the different activities that bring hope to the kids and families. By sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ which brings hope into a hopeless world. In working and serving alongside each other; this brings hope as we are encouraged knowing we are not alone.

Many things that can spark a small light of hope in our lives but true hope is only found in Jesus Christ. We find hope in his love for us, his care for us and in his promise to return for us. I hope that you are encouraged by the stories and testimonies you read in this Connect magazine and I invite you to bring hope wherever you are.



Vjeko Mršić (bottom left) and everyone at Camp Fokus

#### TRANSFORM EUROPE NETWORK

Registered office: 23 Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4JT

Tel: +44 (0)117 961 5161 Email: info@ten-uk.org Web: **ten-uk.org**  Connect Magazine is written and produced by the TEN team. Design by Simon Petherick Graphic and Web Design.

Transform Europe Network (TEN) is the operating name for Eurovangelism. Registered in England and Wales as a charity (no. 1140592) and company limited by guarantee (no. 7507682).



## Welcome

The war in Ukraine continues, ebbing and flowing but with little hope of ending. Lives continue to be destroyed and lost. Is there hope? One might justifiably ask.

As with any crisis the headlines tend to be hopeless, but the kingdom of God is not. It's often unseen but God's rule of peace, truth and love is operating in the lives of individuals and communities all over the world.

Recently, I asked the Beginning of Life team, in Moldova, about their work with those impacted by the war. Vladimir Ubeivolc, Co-Founder, explained how their team meet the needs; providing food for the hungry, delivering the restorative work of therapeutic care and counselling for refugees and mentoring psychologists working in Ukraine. Peace-building work. Beginning of Life also supports church leaders in Ukraine, and those forced to uproot to other nations, to establish Christian communities.

The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough. (Matthew 13:33)

You'll never read about this work in the national media but it's happening; hope, like yeast working its way through the dough.

This edition of Connect is all about bringing hope. Please can I ask you to pray specifically, this season, for the transformative power of hope to be at work across the region. Thank you for being part of bringing hope to the Balkans and Eastern Europe as you show interest, pray and give.

James Vaughta

James Vaughton, CEO, TEN

P.S. Check our Gift Catalogue (included in your email or post)—a great way to give a gift to friends and family that makes a lasting difference. Just imagine a Bible you buy could be read for years or a pair of gloves keep a child warm for the colder months. That makes you a hope bringer too!

#### Contents

- 4 Good News Church and TENteams at Camp Fokus Croatia
- 6 Jesus is Our Superhero: CASA Camp Romania
- 7 Partnership in Badicul Moldovanesc Moldova
- 8 Country Focus Croatia
- 9 Prayer Diary October - December
- 15 Online Prayer Gatherings
- 17 Lucy's Roundup UK
- 18 Lives Changed Through Essential Gifts
- 19 See You There! UK
- 20 Bringing Hope Through SEAM North Macedonia
- 21 TENteach Gets Ready for January
- 22 Hope on The Road North Macedonia
- 23 Good News with Youth Missionary Academy Bulgaria

#### CURRENT CAMPAIGN



## Good News Church and TENteams at Camp Fokus

In July, TENteams sent a team of eight people from the UK to support Good News Church Split run a children's camp at Camp Fokus. Here's what some of the leaders had to share.

#### Robi Atlija, Croatia

I'm from Good News Church Split, in Croatia. Our church owns a camp and conference centre in the mountains, called Camp Fokus. It is in untouched nature, with its own source of drinking water, forest and meadows. The Lord has blessed us abundantly with this place, and we want to be a blessing to others as well.

Camp Fokus is a spiritual oasis for healing, growth, and also renewal and reconciliation for families and individuals. We run our own camps there, but we also rent it out to other churches so that they can enjoy themselves and be blessed. In addition to fun and rest, we long for our camp to be a place where the presence of God is strongly manifested, where many will believe and decide

to serve the Lord

with their lives.

#### Ellen Thompson, UK

I'm 17-years-old, from Northern Ireland. I went on my first mission trip with a TENteam, travelling to Camp Fokus.

This experience was both enriching and transformative. The group I was with provided unwavering support, engaging conversations, and inspiring testimonies of God's work in their lives.

One of the highlights was our time with Good News Church in Split. The church members were incredibly welcoming and open-hearted, making it easy to form meaningful connections despite the language barriers. I am especially grateful to Vjeko, Robi, and Josipa for hosting us and for their evident love for God, which was truly encouraging.

During the camp, we often sang the catchy theme song, 'Bog Uvjek Radi Nešto Uzbudljivo' which translates as 'God is Always Doing Something Exciting'. It served as a beautiful reminder of the exciting works God is doing worldwide and filled me with gratitude and love for everything he does for us.

Robi oversees games at Camp Fokus (left); Craft activities at Camp Fokus.

#### Toby Huckett, UK

Going to Camp Fokus was a super eye-opening experience and really helped me explore my faith with God. It was lots of fun for

our UK team to do activities with the children and help out wherever we could.

One of my favourite moments was when I helped with the worship by playing the cajon (hand drums). Seeing the pure joy on the kids' faces as they all sang and connected with Jesus really helped me see how strong God's love is for everyone. I also enjoyed capturing moments with my camera and showing the photos to the children at the end of each day, which was great as they loved seeing all the funny photos.

I want to thank TEN and everyone who came on the trip as it was so lovely to make new friends and share the experiences together, as well as explore Split and see how beautiful it is. The trip was an amazing experience and is something that I will cherish for a long time. I would recommend it to anyone.

> Toby (top-left); fun and games at Camp Fokus; the TENteam enjoy Split, Croatia before heading back home.

## who amp batia home.

#### **TENteams & Church Trips**

Will you join us next year? Short-term trips are a great way to step out, grow in faith and serve others. We are currently planning TENteams trips for 2025.

If you are considering a church trip, contact us to discuss more about the different opportunities available. We are partner-led which means our partners let us know if they would like to receive a team and if so, what they would like help with.

To get the latest on TENteam opportunities or to talk to us about trip opportunities for you or your church, contact us at **ten-teams@ten-uk.org**.

## Jesus is Our Superhero: CASA Camp

By Rachel Lee, TEN Ambassador and Project Champion for CASA Grace in Romania

In July this year, a team of nine from Elim Church Keynsham joined the amazing CASA Grace team for our 18th CASA summer camp.

Thirty-six children and twenty-seven teenagers from families supported by the CASA team attended the camp, which is set in perfect surroundings in the middle of beautiful countryside.

Our aim? To bring hope to each one of these precious young people. Hope gives the motivation and courage needed to succeed. We wanted to remind them they are not forgotten; they are loved and that each person is fearfully and wonderfully made. We pray each young person took hold of this truth.

Our theme for the children was 'Jesus is Our Superhero.' We shared the gospel each day and many of the children decided to accept Jesus into their lives, with the knowledge they are so loved.

Each day was filled with fun-packed activities; zip wire, sports activities, water slides, crafts and cooking

> workshops to name a few. Many of the children said they had the

best time of their lives, enjoying the freedom of just being children.

For the teenagers, we shared the importance of training. Ryan, Senior Pastor at Elim Church, shared the gospel with the teenagers daily, and our UK team shared testimonies which had a big impact on many of the young people. We talked about the importance of prayer, Bible study and worship, to draw closer to God and bring hope, even when life is tough.

It was an absolute privilege to pray for many of the teenagers individually. Saying goodbye was quite an emotional time, but we know each young person returned home with renewed hope.

"...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

Face painting and craft workshops at CASA Camp

## Partnership in **Badicul** Moldovanesc

By Jo Matthews, Kinmel Bay Church, Wales I have been visiting Badicul Moldovanesc in Moldova for ten years. Kinmel Bay Church has been partnered with the church there for fifteen. I have seen many changes over that time. The village now has street lighting for two hours a day, and there is a new smooth road running through the village.

**Badicul Moldovanesc Church has seen** many changes in that time too; growth from one person to over forty people, a new building, a new church plant in the neighbouring village of Larga Nouă, and much more. Sadly, in 2020 Pastor Lucian Tabac passed away from Covid-19. Pastor Igor Ismailov now leads the church.

In the past, I have taken teams of young people and we have led children's holiday clubs and fun days for the whole village. Currently, due to the war in Ukraine, I am unable to take young people. However, the church now lead their own great Bible holiday clubs and fantastic fundays, so God provides and continues to bless.

When I visited in July this year, we considered how to bless the church, so a lady from our church who is a foot care practitioner joined us. She treated the ladies of the church to foot care

and massage sessions. We also visited people, helped clear the park, attended the church plant and enjoyed fellowship with our church family in Badicul Moldovanesc. On our final Sunday we attended a baptism. Next time, I hope to take a team out who will help with the construction of the church building in Larga Nouă.

God is working among and blessing the faithfulness of the church in Moldova. I am reminded of the feeding of the 5,000. They may have little but when they give it up to God they achieve so much.



### Country Focus: Croatia



By Ico Matulić, Pastor of Evangelical Pentecostal Church Korčula in Croatia

Croatia has a very small number of evangelical believers (less than 0.5%), especially the area where I serve in Dubrovnik, in Neretva County. Although economically developed, with growing tourism, there are few people who have hope or faith in the future. Many dissatisfied young people go abroad to work.

Although we are a small congregation of thirty members that can hardly cover our own activities, we saw a great need in our surrounding area. We prayed that God would speak to us and he gave us the example of the church in Philadelphia in Revelation 3:8. God praised the church because although they had little strength, they worked for him. God opened a door for them that noone could close.

God opened the doors for us to serve on the island of Hvar, the peninsula of Pelješac and in the city of Ploče. There is already a group of believers in Hvar who invited us to serve with them. So, since January, we've visited once a month. We have been serving in Pelješac for the past four years and we already have a mission station there. Our plan is to hand over that ministry to the existing church this year.

There used to be a church in Ploče but it closed, unfortunately. Two years ago, we started revitalising that church with the support of other two churches. This year, I took on the responsibility of pastoring the church. Three people were baptised in June; a married couple and a man called Benjamin. Benjamin is the son of a believer from the church but the family is dysfunctional. He suffered with

social anxiety, so he was shy about any relationship with us. We prayed for Benjamin for a long time and when he became a believer, God healed him.

> Left: Church group in Hvar Middle: Pelješac home church Above: Ico baptising a married couple and Benjamin



#### Prayer requests from Eastern Europe and the Balkans

October – December 2024

ten-uk.org/daily-prayer

#### October

#### Youth for Christ Kosova, Kosovo



Following our youth camp in the summer, we ask you to pray for all the young people who came. Remember them as they live out their daily lives, often with family and friends who are hostile to the gospel. Pray that the seeds planted during the camp will bear fruit.

#### Mission Possible Albania, Albania



2 Our youth meetings started again last month. Ask God

to provide us with a person who will work with us and the young people. We want to see the church in Bathore grow and the young people proclaim Christ.

3 Ask God for clear vision and continuity for both our children's and women's ministries.

4 Pray that we can share the gospel widely and without fear in Bathore. We want to see Bathore become a place that bears God's Name.

**5** Please pray for God's protection for our families and that unbelievers will come to Christ. Ask God to give us strength and wisdom as we bear witness of Christ.

6 We pray for wisdom and insight from God so we can find premises that we can own instead of rent.

#### Mihail Hiorescu, Moldova

We are holding a Harvest celebration this month. Pray that everything goes well and that



the people we invite come to the celebrations.

**Evangelical Church** of Macedonia, North Macedonia



From Thursday until

• Saturday, there will be a men's camp for adults and children from our churches. Pray for all who attend as they engage with the sermons, prayer, worship and outdoors.

**9** On 27th October, all the churches from across our network will join together for a large conference in Skopje. Pray for us as we prepare and encourage as many people as possible to come and rejoice in the Lord together.

**10** Pray for our churches' Christmas programmes and evangelism events during that time. We will also give out Christmas shoe boxes. Thousands of children will be blessed. Pray especially for the new children and adults that will come.

#### Emil & Vesna Puzderlievi, North Macedonia



Pray for ANA—our annual women's conference in

Struga. The theme is 'Arise & Shine – Make a Change' and I, Vesna, will be one of the two speakers. We expect approximately 500 women and some will hear the gospel for the first time.

12 This month and in December, we will host teams from Germany and the United States. Pray for us as we work together to share the gospel in Struga.

#### Vasile Grigorita, Moldova



**13** This month, we are preparing for our outreach mission week which will

take place next month and will involve our home groups. Please ask God to guide us and provide for our needs.

**14** Pray that God will give us wisdom and equip us as we prepare for all our church's Christmas ministries.

#### Dusan & Mira Beredi, Serbia



**15** Tomorrow and Thursday, we are expecting to host 200 people at our conference for

Eastern Europe. We will be joined by Christians from Korean churches. Ask God for his blessing and guidance.

**16** Pray for the guys at the Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre. There are twenty in the programme who are struggling with addiction to heroin, alcohol and crime. Ask Christ to set them free and for us to help them.

**17** Pray for us as we begin a new business venture to sustain our ministries. We are developing a plan to rent out construction machinery and equipment.

#### Evangelism in Action, Spain

**18** Today and tomorrow will be the 8th Evangelical Congress in Andalusia. The



theme is 'Serving Your Generation' and its basis is Acts 13:36. Please pray for the congress.

**19** We thank God for the two camps we had this summer. We hosted 72 children and 93 teenagers, many of them non-believers. Ask God to work his transformative power in our follow-up with the young people.

20 We had six festivals for children and evangelistic events in various places in Malaga - praise God! Please pray for our follow-up with contacts from these events and for good relations with the mayors and local authorities.

#### **Ruslan & Larisa Telpiz,** Moldova



21 Pray for our Taekwon-Do School with Bible Studies.

May the Lord provide all we need for it to be a blessing and help people in their discipleship.

As we host our FRANK outreach mission this month, pray with us that the local people will be open to the gospel.

**23** Pray for our Day Care Centre's work with children from socially vulnerable families.

#### Open Heaven, Romania

**24** This week, we will be joined by a young team from our church partners in the



UK. Ask God to grant them safe travels, equip us all as we serve together and for a deepening of our relationship and discipleship.

Robert & Krasi Salamanovi, North Macedonia

25 This month, we are hosting a youth event.

Please pray with us as we ask God to help us start youth meetings.

#### Dragan & Biljana Manev, North Macedonia



26 Praise God for the English team that visited us earlier this month and supported our work. Please ask God to bless our work together.

**27** In December, our Roma youth group will perform puppet shows to spread the gospel. Pray for us as we prepare for the show and that God will open hearts for the Good News of Jesus Christ.

#### Andrei & Eugenie Ghidion, Moldova



28 Pray for our Harvest celebration that we had in our village centre. We sang Christian songs, shared testimonies and gave a Bible message. Please ask God to bear fruit in the hearts of those who came to see us.

**29** Please pray for our Day Care Centre which we restarted in September. Ask God to sustain this ministry financially and practically and pray especially for the children who come here.

**30** Next month we will celebrate ten years of our Baptist Church in the building we use now. Thank God for his provision and faithfulness.

**31** Next month we are holding an outreach week so we value your prayers for good conversations and for people to receive the gospel and come to our church.

#### November

#### Dusan & Mira Beredi, Serbia



November is the month to fight against addiction. Our Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre is

organising a series of events, donor evenings and celebrations to highlight our work so far. Pray for us. 2 Next month, we will host 'Zimnica' (Pickles), our international youth conference. We are expecting 150 young people from across the region for two days of refreshment, socialising and encouragement.

#### Arben Bedulla, Albania

**3** Pray that God provides finances for the church building in Zvezdë.



**4** Pray that the men of this village put their trust in Christ. At the moment, only the women have put their trust in him and belong to the church.

Ask God to provide people with hearts to serve him in leadership.

6 Please pray for the children in this village to come to our meetings and have the freedom to believe in Christ.

We are grateful for our food project and ask that God will provide as many food packages as possible for people in need.

#### **Ivan Petrov,** North Macedonia



8 We are organising a youth conference in North

Macedonia. Please ask God to guide us and provide all we need practically and financially.

**9** Please pray for Christ to draw more young people to himself, so that they put their trust in him.

**10** Ask God to stir the hearts of believers so that they are not lukewarm in their discipleship. We want to see revival.

Pray for the church in Sveti Nikole and that new people would come to know Christ.

**2** Ask God to provide financial support for me and the church in Štip.

#### Boris & Urša Ćurčić, Montenegro



**13** We want to see more Montenegrins getting saved. Pray with us for people who are hungry and thirsty for the truth.

**14** We are currently putting together a little book of our testimonies. Pray with us that we give these books to the right people, that the books bless their readers and awake a faith in their hearts that God can restore them.

**15** We need to construct a second church toilet. Currently, we only have one and we need one each for male and female. Ask God to provide the finances we need.

**16** Pray with us for Ivana who has been coming to our church for eight months. We want to see her give her life to Christ and be baptised.

**17** Pray with us for a family we would like to have live with us and serve in the church too. We believe God has already given them a desire to move to Montenegro so we ask that he makes a way for this to happen.

Vance & Tanja Golomeovi, Serbia



**18** Please pray for me, Vance, as I lead prayer meetings in the church in Pozarevac.

**19** Ask God to guide me, Vance, as I have one-to-one meetings with people at the church.

Pray for the preaching in the church.

Ask God to bless and grow the children's ministry.

**22** Pray for God's blessings and guidance for our home groups.

#### Mihail Hiorescu, Moldova

**23** Ask God to equip, give wisdom and encourage each church member to carry out



home visits and be more open about sharing their faith.

**24** Pray for God's Word to be preached at our services, and that the message would impact those who hear it.

5 Please pray for God to provide more workers in his harvest fields.

Robert & Krasi Salamanovi, North Macedonia



**26** Pray that God blesses our creative workshops,

particularly with the new children who have started coming.

Ask for God to guide us as we reach out to the new miners with the gospel.

**28** Pray for protection for us as a family.

#### **Evangelism in Action**, Spain



29 This weekend, we are hosting a retreat for young women at our Pinos Reales Centre

young women at our Pinos Reales Centre in Madrid. Pray for us all as we focus on deepening our personal relationships with God.

**30** We are preparing for our Christmas musicals in several towns with the support of the Victoria Choir, which is made up of children and adults. May the message of the songs reach many hearts.

#### December

#### Valeriu Munteanu, Moldova

Pray for our ministry among the teenagers.



We need a youth leader to work with us. Ask God to provide the right person.

**3** Pray for the local secondary school, for the students and particularly for the principal and teachers in their important work.

4 Ask God to give us wisdom as we discern the best way to teach the people in our community about him. It has been hard for us.

5 Please pray that our children would repent and accept Christ as their Saviour.

#### **Anita Dimitrievska,** North Macedonia



6 This term, we have been running the Alpha Course

at our church. Please pray that as we draw the course to a close, those who have attended will come to know salvation.

**7** Please pray for Ohrid. Ask God to bring new people to the church who are hungry and thirsty for him. We are praying that all generations are reached through the church.

#### Vjeko & Josipa Mršić, Croatia



8 We praise God that he blessed us with great summer camps. At Camp Fokus

there five camps with a total of 243 people altogether. Nobody got hurt so we thank God for his protection.

**9** Last month, our brother Slavko Hadžić spoke at our evangelism seminar. Pray that as a result of God working through Slavko, the believers who attended will have a desire to share the gospel in Split.

**10** This month we will have our Christmas worship night. Pray that Emmanuel will be among us.

Rock of Ages, Romania



Please pray for all the groups who will work through our Bible study programme in the prisons, and for the salvation of the prisoners. **12** Pray that we can cover all the expenses of the programme and for the number of prisoners taking part in it to increase.

**13** Ask God to provide all we need so we can help families in need with food and winter supplies.

**14** Pray for the financial support needed for our workers.

**15** We are preparing for Christmas programmes for all the prisons we work in. Ask God to work powerfully as we share about Jesus Christ coming to earth.

#### Srdjan & Ruth Vorotovic, Montenegro



**16** Please pray that we can have a permanent place to worship.

7 Pray with us for the salvation of Darko and his family.

Pray for the salvation of Bojan and Juliana.

19 Join us in prayer for Devi and her sister, Dharma, that they would not depart from the path the Lord has set before them. Pray also for the salvation of their parents.

**20** Ask God to bring us into contact with more people who are genuinely seeking him. Pray for believers to grow deeper in their faith in the Lord.

#### Gavril & Aghi Covaci, Romania



**21** Please pray for those in deep need this winter, especially sick widows and mothers, and the poor.

**22** Ask God to sustain our mission. I am struggling with finances for a mission car, diesel, winter tyres and repairs.

**23** Pray for the believers in our churches, for their faith and spiritual growth and for the young people and children.

**24** Please pray for us. We are both ill and in pain. I, Gavril, have a back problem and Aghi suffers with a leg problem.

#### Emanuel Hospice, Romania

hos**p/ce** 

25 We need a nurse, called by God to join our paediatric department and work with children who have life-threatening illnesses and their families.

**26** Pray for the patients and families referred to Emanuel Hospice to find comfort, hope and peace with God while they are cared for by our staff.

**27** Pray for our nurses Paula and Dana. Paula's husband Cornel, passed away very soon after his diagnosis of acute myeloid leukaemia. Ask God to comfort Paula. Dana's husband, Cristi has bile duct cancer. Pray that Dana will have the energy needed to support Cristi and their three children, and to also have the energy to care for hospice patients.

28 Ask God to provide all we need to complete construction of the new hospice building. Pray our contractors will successfully install the electric and heating system and that we will raise all the funds needed.

Albano & Genta Manxhari, Albania



**29** Thank you so much for praying over us and our ministry. We praise the Lord for all he has done.

for his glory and for this church we are leading.

**30** Pray for our family and ask God to keep us strong, healthy and united in grace and peace as we serve.

**31** As we begin another year of service, please pray that God will lead us, that he will fill us with his vision that will be worthy of his kingdom and that we will be faithful in our ministry. "Greetings from Macedonia. Praise God we have wonderful



news! Since last year we have shared the need to purchase a church property in Radoviš (where Robert Salamanov leads our church plant). Thank you for your prayers. Praise God this prayer is almost answered. We believe God's timing has come and over a very short time (a couple of months) we've raised [nearly 90% of what is needed]. Please pray about this; for God to provide the remaining amount. Thank you very much. God bless vou."



Petre Petrov, President of the Evangelical Church of Macedonia

## Do you enjoy what we share in Connect?



Have you enjoyed what you've read in this edition of Connect? Or do you have a suggestion?

Would you like to hear more about a particular aspect of our work or learn more about a particular country? What has inspired you? We encourage you to write in or email us with your thoughts and suggestions. Contact us, either by letter or email Naomi at: naomi.greenwood@ten-uk.org

## Online **Prayer Gatherings**

#### By Lucy Reid, Mission Engagement Worker at TEN

#### Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

It is God's heart for us to remain in constant connection with him. Through prayer and intercession, we experience the privilege to partner with him and see his kingdom come in spaces, places and nations.

We believe coming together to pray is a beautiful and powerful thing, which is why we organise regular online prayer gatherings where we get to hear from one of our partners over in the Balkans. We pray for them, their ministry and their nation as well as other partners and their situations.

Our online prayer gatherings are a great opportunity for us as believers to come together and intercede for God's kingdom and to minister to those we partner with. It is a space where our partners can receive as well as share. So, with this in mind, now is the time for you to get your diary out and pencil in our next online prayer gatherings, which we have alternated between lunchtime and evenings to try and find a time which works for you. Join us for our next online prayer gathering on 7th of October 2024, 12–1 pm. We will be joined by Erion Cuni from Life in Christ Evangelical Church, part of the Church of God denomination in Albania.

Erion is an amazing church leader and planter who oversees the work of multiple churches and the ministries they run. He is married to Gentiana who is also involved in the church ministry and together they have two children.

> Gentiana and Erion Cuni

## Future dates for the diary:

**21st January 2025** Evening prayer at 7-8pm

**19th March 2025** Lunchtime prayer at 12–1pm

#### GIVE TO TRANSFORM EUROPE NETWORK

1. SINGLE DONATION
vould like to give £ (total amount). Please acknowledge my donation: ()
enclose a cheque made payable to TEN $\bigcirc$   Please charge my: Visa $\bigcirc$ Mastercard $\bigcirc$ CAF Charity Card $\bigcirc$
ard number:
ecurity code: (Last three digits on back of card) Expiry date:/
ignature: Name on card:
2. REGULAR DONATION
struction to your bank or building society to make standing order payments to TEN. ame and address of your Bank or Building Society:
Bank/Building Society:
Branch address:
Postcode:
count number: Sort code: Sort code:
count number: <b>38611760</b> , sort code: <b>30-94-80</b> , the sum of:
First payment date: DD/MM/YYYY
Ind on the same day of each successive (month/quarter/year) until otherwise advised.
ignature: Full name: Date:
3. I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE TO:
TEN's Strategic Fund* Specific people or projects:**   I would like any tax reclaimed to go to the above people or projects.   (Leaving this blank will enable us to use your reclaimed tax for our Strategic Fund*.)
4. giftaid it MAKE YOUR GIFT WORTH 25% MORE!
you are a UK taxpayer please complete this Gift Aid declaration which will enable us to claim tax back n your gift, making it worth 25% more.
Im a UK taxpayer and want TEN (registered name Eurovangelism) to reclaim tax on <u>all my donations until further</u> <u>itice</u> . I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all y donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay the difference.
ease notify us if you: want to cancel this declaration; change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax a your income and/or capital gains.
itle: Full name:

Address: Postcode:

Date:

Please tick if you want tax to be reclaimed only on this single donation.

<sup>†</sup> The strategic fund forms part of our general funds and enables us to meet whatever need arises.

At least 85p in every  $\pm 1$  donated goes towards your chosen fund, with no more than 15p ensuring we continue to support that ministry, now and in the future.

Please complete and return this form to: Transform Europe Network, 23 Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4JT

## Lucy's Roundup

By Lucy Reid, Mission Engagement Worker at TEN

#### David's Tent

'They brought the ark of God and set it inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and they presented burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before God. After David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.' (1 Chronicles 16:1-2)

David's Tent is a festival which centres around one thing worshipping Jesus. The 72-hour worship event took place over the August bank holiday (23rd-26th) and created a space for believers to gather and worship. This year the festival moved to Charlton Estate in Malmsbury, and I went, representing SWAN (Southwest Agencies Network) alongside Gemma Locke from Reach Across.

TEN is part of SWAN; a network of mission agencies based in the southwest region of England and South Wales. The heart of SWAN is to equip Christians in these regions to engage with cross-cultural missions. As part of this, we collaborate as mission agencies, attend

JWAN

Christian events and festivals together, and run Christian Union mission nights, where we discuss topics like what it means to be a missionary. If you are part of a CU in the southwest or a church that wants to host a missions evening which includes learning about short-term opportunities, you can contact me at: **lucy.reid@ten-uk.org**.

Worship at David's Tent; Lucy with Gemma Locke representing SWAN

#### The TEN Podcast

Now autumn is underway, get ready for the release of the next TEN podcast series coming this autumn. Keep a look out on our Facebook and Instagram pages or our monthly emails for more details. If you haven't listened already why not check out some of our previous episodes which are available on Spotify, Amazon Music, Audible and Apple Music. The PODCAST

## Lives Changed Through Essential Gifts

#### By Ken Millwood, Partners Officer at TEN

#### A big thank you to everyone who bought items from our Essential Gifts catalogue in the past twelve months!

The top sellers were Blanket, Winter Coat and Children's Bundle (Compassion), Livestock (Sustainability), School Supplies, Snacks for School and Children's Bible (Education).

> Funds were distributed to help partners run local projects. We have recently sent funds to

#### Livestock Helps Rainbow Rehab Centre in Serbia

"Dear friends, thank you so much for your help with our centre. Thanks to you, we bought eleven piglets each weighing 25kg. By December the pigs will weigh 200kg. The centre receives vegetable surplus from stores and old bread, which we also use for feeding the pigs, thus reducing costs. Only pig feed supplements are purchased. We sold four pigs, enabling us to buy additional food. The men in rehabilitation worked on raising the pigs, which taught them responsibility and gave them a sense of self-worth. They proved to be responsible and it contributed to their restoration." Dusan Beredi buy Bibles to support evangelism in North Macedonia. Further funds are set to go out to a bee project in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to buy Children's Bibles in Romania.

Be sure to check out our Essential Gifts catalogue. Maybe you could buy a gift on behalf of a friend or relative, as a present or something for yourself. www.essentialgifts.org

#### Helping Roma Children in Bulgaria

We bought backpacks, socks, gloves and hats for the children. [The Roma church has] very poor children. This help is invaluable to them. It helps them to know God's love more vividly. Thank you on behalf of all the children. The whole village knows about this help and sees that there is no ulterior motive. Simply, the need is supplied once again, and the church has [respect] among the people."

Nikola Atanasov

## See You There!

By Melanie Griffiths, Supporters & Churches Officer at TEN

#### Christian Resources Exhibition 2024

Join hundreds of local church reps, church leaders, and anyone involved in Christian work and ministry, in a day of discovery—of new ideas and resources, specialist advice and inspirational worship and teaching. (CRE 2024 website)

TEN will be at Christian Resources Exhibition this year at the Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes, 9th-10th October. Visit us at our stall (P45) and discover our resources to support our partners. Find out about church partnerships, TENteach and team trips which bring hope, encouragement and God's love across the Balkans. Hear James Vaughton speak about 'Creating Sustainable Mission Partnerships'

on Thursday. It's a great day out. Why not bring a group from your church along? As TEN is an exhibitor, free tickets are available to our supporters. Email Melanie Griffiths at melanie.griffiths@ten-uk.org or call our office on 0117 961 5161

to get yours.

#### SUPPORTER **CONFERENCE 2025** Celebrating 60 Years: The Story Continues

Join us on Saturday 29th March 2025 to celebrate sixty years of Eurovangelism (TEN) and look forward to what our wonderful partners will achieve for God's kingdom in the future, with your help. Amongst our speakers will be Tedi and Didi Oprenovi from Sofia, Bulgaria.

The venue is St Michael's Centre, Stoke Gifford, Bristol. We will hold a thanksgiving service the next day at Christ Church Downend, so if you can join us for the whole weekend that would be fantastic! We can provide information about places to stay.

Tickets will be available from 1st October at the Early Bird price of £20 until 31st December inclusive (full price tickets cost £25) Lunch is included. You can purchase tickets on Eventbrite (look out for the link on our website) or call us on 0117 961 5161. The deadline to purchase your ticket is 1st March. We hope to see you there!

## Bringing Hope Through SEAM

By Katerina Koleva, National Director of Student Evangelical Association of Macedonia, North Macedonia

Bringing hope is one of the main pillars of our faith. Our faith in Christ drives us to do everything we are doing and to share our hope for new and renewed life.

At Student Evangelical Association of Macedonia (SEAM), I, the staff and the students are devoted to bringing this hope for new life to every student we get the chance to talk to and share life with. We are on fire to reach the student generation in Macedonia and we want to see our students share their faith boldly with their colleagues.

SEAM has a very exciting year ahead. At the start of the new academic year, we launched two new books. One book We want to share Christ who is the first and the last hope for this life and eternity.

CAM

is *Making Sense of Life* by Michael Ots, and the other is Sam Alberry's *Is God Anti-Gay?* Both books address questions of hope, where to look for it and whether it is limited and restrained. The students need every bit of hope to hold onto and we want to offer

> it, whether that is through public events, personal conversations, online meetings or shared books.

We want to share Christ who is the first and the last hope for this life and eternity. So, we have started this new academic year excited and full of expectations.

God has never disappointed us. He is faithful to keep us and our faith to the end. Soli Deo Gloria!

Katerina with the SEAM team (left); Studying with SEAM (top)



## TENteach Gets Ready for January

In September 2022 TENteach enrolled its first students for online English courses. The teachers produced original lessons which covered a full English syllabus, were suitable for online teaching, and linked each lesson to a Bible comprehension. Students improved their English and their knowledge and understanding of the gospel.

#### Mary Cottrell, TENteach Teacher

Being a TENteach teacher combines my love of teaching with my enjoyment of the English language. It is fascinating to interact with students in multiple countries and it's a great way to help them.

Preparing the lessons from original materials is interesting and stimulating. We chat and have interesting discussions. The students benefit from practicing their listening, reading and speaking in English, and studying the Bible together. I learn about the culture, customs and the local church in the countries where they live. Students hope that doing the lessons will improve their ability to communicate with Englishspeaking visitors.

Seeing the participants grow in confidence is encouraging and fulfilling for all of us and meeting regularly online allows friendships to be built.

#### Nick Clarke, TENteach Co-ordinator and Teacher

One of our future hopes is that the teaching material we've already tested online can be made more widely available, so TEN's partners can run classes in person in their own villages and use the material as an evangelistic tool.

There has been very positive feedback about the potential for this from many pastors, particularly those working amongst Roma communities, and in isolated villages with poor internet access.

More opportunities have arisen for new online classes to start in January 2025, but we need more teachers to run these classes, especially in early afternoons and also between 5–7pm.

If you are interested in joining the TENteach team and wonder what may be involved, please email Nick to arrange a chat: nick.clarke@ten-uk.org.



Mary (top-right) teaches English to Zoran and TEN partners Biljana and Dragan Manev

## Hope on The Road

By Dragan Manev, Pastor of Resen Evangelical Church, North Macedonia

"You are the light of the world. A town build on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

North Macedonia has almost lost all hope. People here say that there is no hope for the healthcare in our country. There is no hope for better salaries for the workers. There is no hope for the government. Most of the young are leaving North Macedonia; they set out with the hope that they will find a better life in other countries.

There are 0.1% of evangelical believers in North Macedonia, so churches hope for more believers. hope issues, we equipped a van to function like a library and coffee bar. We share New Testaments, Christian books, free coffee and God's love to the people in North Macedonia. Praise God for our churches, but we cannot just sit inside our church buildings and wait for people to come for salvation. The Bible says that we as Christians are the salt and light to this hopeless world and we should be among the people that are living in spiritual darkness.

Because

of all these

With the van outreach ministry, we are bringing the greatest hope to the greatest need of the people on the streets. That is our Lord Jesus Christ. Our purpose with this ministry is also to encourage young people and adults from our churches to use this great tool and be light and salt on the streets in North Macedonia.

> Biljana and Dragan (top); sharing the Good News (left); Dragan and a team with the gospel van.

### Good News with Youth Missionary Academy

#### By Roumen Ivanov, Mission Possible Bulgaria

For the past four years, Mission Possible has run Youth Ministry Academy which involves training in several key biblical areas.

#### Our call is to young people who excel at Christian camps, show good character and a desire for ministry.

Our goal is to support these young people in their personal walk with God and encourage their growth into committed disciples of Jesus Christ, while providing a place for them to disciple and serve. The youth who have had training prove essential volunteers at our summer camps.

This year and last, the Youth Academy organised evangelism events in the villages where Mission Possible has a social ministry. The Bulgarian volunteers were joined by two small groups from Sweden and the USA, selected and trained at Mission Possible offices in those countries and approved by the churches they work with.

The group train together for three days in Dobromirka, to form two mixed evangelistic teams that prepare worship, drama and games. Over the following three days, the two teams visit three villages each and minister to the young people with Bible lessons, craft activities for the children, and games. In the evening, there is street evangelism with the local churches. The pastors, music teams and believers from the local churches invite those who show interest to come to their church.

At the end of the summer programme, the evangelism teams reunite for a service of thanksgiving and farewell.

At this year's summer camp, we had eighty young people (mostly 15–16 years-old) and twelve volunteers from the Youth Academy. These young men and women are intelligent, smart, dedicated and taller than me! A new generation of faithful people. We pray for and bless them to become the next church leaders and we try to challenge and prepare them for such a future.



# Gifts/with a Value, not just a price

Our Essential Gifts are items specifically chosen by our partners which enables them to bless those in their communities. We have three gift categories to choose from: Compassion, Sustainability or Education.

Each gift you buy helps us send funds to support our partners run local projects and meet urgent needs. Essential Gifts are truly 'Gifts with a value, not just a price'.

#### **HOW IT WORKS**

- 1. Choose your gift or gifts.
- 2. Place your order online, by post or phone.
- 3. Receive a Gift Card to pass on to your family member or friend.

