

CONNECT



TRANSFORM
EUROPE
NETWORK

October – December 2025

Magazine

HOUSE OF *Hope*



Srcokret Fest: The Balkans' Biggest Christian Youth Festival
From Despair to Hope: Arton's Story
Creative Outreach in Ohrid
Dignity & Hope Through Essential Gifts

House of Hope

By Josipa Mršić, Good News Church Split, Croatia

Dear family in Christ, I hope you have had a blessed summer. I am writing to you from our church family camp, surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. My heart is full of gratitude and hope because of Him moving among us.

Among many camps and ministries during the summer there was one gathering that was special for me. It was Srcokret Fest, which was the first Christian summer festival in the Balkans. It was held on the Croatian coast. There were more than 1,000 young people from this part of Europe. It was a joy to serve as a volunteer, and see many young people filled with hope of the gospel. As a mum of three kids, I was encouraged seeing young people worship and seek God. I have found hope in parenting my kids in a society that is far from being Christlike.

Christ is our firm foundation and whether it is life, marriage, family, ministry or business, whatever we build is held securely on Him. In Christ, we have hope that is everlasting. He does not change

but is the same yesterday, today and forever. Because of whom Christ is, we do not lose hope. In the Bible, 'hope' means expectation with confidence. As you are moving into a new season of life, I want to encourage you to find your hope in Christ. Love and blessings.



Josipa and Vjeko Mršić at Srcokret Fest this summer

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Welcome



'I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.' Psalm 116:9

I have been meditating on this verse over the last few months. It's been a challenging year for TEN at times. There have been lots of encouragements in partner ministries, our Supporter Conference, visits to partners and so on. However, amidst that have been difficulties to overcome for our partners and for TEN.

'The land of the living', as the psalmist puts it, is the actual place where life goes on. It is our reality. At home, work, in ministry, community and church, with friends, colleagues and family. It is in these places that we experience life's ups and downs, as the psalmist did (Psalm 116:1-8).

'I will walk before the Lord.' We are reminded that the call is to walk with God in the joys and the mess. God meets us in the challenges and accompanies us as we walk through them. It is in these places that we grow.

In verses 12-18, the psalmist, having walked with the Lord in the land of the living, can move from a focus on the ups and downs to deeper commitment to serve God and his purpose. And so can we.

I wish life was a little easier sometimes. I also see that as TEN and our partners go through 'the land of the living', we can grow. God is with us. Please pray for TEN and our partners as you read this edition. Pray that we would grow, as we walk with God in our present realities, and that His will is done.

James Vaughton, CEO, TEN

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Turning the Hearts of the Next Generation: Srcokret Fest 2025



In June, Srcokret, a youth-led Christian organisation hosted a massive festival in Primošten, Croatia. TEN was privileged to financially support some of our partners who wanted to be part of it. We sent funds to the Evangelical Church of Macedonia, so they could provide transportation.

Srcokret means ‘turning the heart’ and the festival focused on looking to Jesus, despite the storms. Here are some testimonies about the event.

Ivan Petrov

Pastor of Štip Evangelical Church, North Macedonia

Srcokret Fest 2025 was unforgettable! I had the honour of serving as one of the ten MCs. I led four sessions—one morning and one evening session and two after-parties. Representing

Macedonia were 145 people. It took two buses and several cars to get us there and it was powerful to see so many from our nation join with other young people from across the former Yugoslavia. Over 1,300 people worshipped, celebrated, and fellowshiped together. The atmosphere was electric—like a true House of Hope. Being part of this gathering was a deep encouragement and a reminder of unity, faith, and purpose.

Katerina Koleva

General Secretary of Student
Evangelical Association of Macedonia
(SEAM), North Macedonia

If our hope is to see how the Balkans is being changed for God and through God, then Srcokret Fest gave us all a glimpse of that. Srcokret gathered more than 1,000 young people from six Balkan countries. The festival tried to challenge the young people about different areas of their lives, through workshops and candid morning and evening talks; how to live sacred lives in a secular world, how to remain unshaken in a world that is fast-changing, and how to 'step out of the boat' when full of fears and doubts.

David Velkovski

Student & member of SEAM,
North Macedonia

Srcokret was a whole new experience, having to camp for the first time. The quiet time by the sea and the chance to worship God helped me settle into it easier. The biggest outcome for me were the three workshops I went to and the main message of the festival—the storms are not going to drown us if Jesus is in the boat. I loved the worship nights; they were blessed, and I learned new praise songs to listen to afterwards.

*David's quiet time;
David (bottom-centre)
with friends; the crowd at
Srcokret Fest*

Celebrating my birthday among the Macedonian delegation made me feel special too.

Zoltan Vogel

Pastor of Protestant Christian
Fellowship of Sombor, Serbia

When I heard about Srcokret Fest, a youth festival aiming to gather 1,000 young people, I doubted it was possible. In the Balkans, it is so easy to become pessimistic. I was invited to lead a workshop on the subject, 'The Church Encountering LGBT'. I found myself not among 1,000, but among 1,300 young Christians from across the former Yugoslavia! Witnessing those numbers, the dedication of volunteers, the excitement in worship, and praying with young people there deeply moved me. I repent! God can do wonders even in the Balkans!

This generation has incredible potential for God's work here and I am truly encouraged and full of hope!



Spring Appeal Update: Supporting New Leaders in The Balkans

We want to keep you in the loop on progress. During his May visit to Albania and Kosovo, James Vaughton was looking out for potential new leaders TEN could support in the coming years. In September, Ken Millwood was in Bosnia and Herzegovina, doing likewise. Please pray continually that God would guide us to work with those He is calling into leadership at this time.

The fundraising for our Spring Appeal campaign to support new leaders continues. Our fund is getting closer to £25,000. We are so grateful to have a good number of people supporting this as well as some trust funds. We still have some way to go so if you would like to help us hit our £60k target, you can give to this appeal through our website at tenspringappeal.org, or by sending in a cheque using the donation form in the magazine. If you have any questions you would like to ask, you can contact James at james.vaughton@ten-uk.org.



tenspringappeal.org

TENteach Goes Further

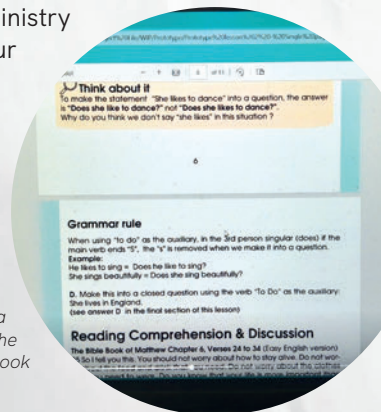
By Nick Clarke, TENteach Co-ordinator
& Teacher

For the past three years, our UK-based TENteach teachers have delivered online English lessons to students in Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

These lessons include Bible Comprehension. Several partners have asked if our material can be made into an e-book, so that teachers from their churches can use it in their own villages. Partners have also asked if the lessons can be made available as videos, because not everyone can commit to weekly online lessons for a full year.

The TENteach teachers are currently in the process of editing and compiling their lessons into e-books for wider use. We also hope to produce recorded lessons which students can access from TEN's YouTube channel and use for self-study.

Please pray for the TENteach teachers as they prepare and record suitable material. We hope this growing ministry will support our partners as they spread the gospel throughout their villages.



*Developing a
tutorial for the
TENteach e-book*

New Life Comes To Romania

By Rachel Ross Russell, New Life Romania Partnership Team Leader, New Life Baptist Church, UK



In July, a team of us from New Life Baptist Church went out to Romania to support our partners, Beni and Ancuta Micle for our Youth Mission weekend. We had the privilege of working with some amazing young people and adults.

The sixteen young people, aged 14-18, were from poor families from the villages, many with difficult family situations. Beni and Ancuta work with some of them as part of their outreach and church planting ministry. For all of them a trip to the mountains was a huge treat.

Rob brought in visual aids, engaging with the ages and faith of the young people, all the time working through a translator as they couldn't speak English at all. Debora provided prayer stations and all the journal resources. The journals really helped facilitate the discussion groups at the end of each talk. Debs and Ancuta provided prayer ministry for several of the young people over the weekend.

Greg brought joy and games! It seems the young people don't get much opportunity to play, and it was such fun to see them opening up to each other and to the team as we did so. Dan led our worship which was anointed and uplifting.

On the Saturday night we had a taste of heaven, worshipping in both languages. The young people praised God with all they had.

We had prayed that each of the young people would encounter God over the weekend, and their testimonies showed that our prayers had been answered. We continue to pray that God would seal in all He has done, and that their faith would stay strong through the challenges they face.

Partnerships can bring mutual blessing to your church and the church or organisation TEN connects you with. To find out more, contact Lucy at lucy.reid@ten-uk.org

Rob, Rachel, Dan, Greg and Debora outside the Palace of Parliament, Bucharest; Dan leads worship; a journal for one of the young people



Creativity For the Soul and His Glory

By Anita Dimitrievska, Pastor of Ohrid Evangelical Church, North Macedonia

Our first season of creative meetings began through my visits to the bank and having conversations with the staff. I made a simple suggestion—let's gather and paint. It will be a time of rest for the soul and a chance for fellowship.

The group was small, but the hearts were big. Everyone was welcome. Mothers came with their children, and even the husband of one participant joined us a few times. Interested in our faith, he would sit, open a Bible and read. Then he would share with his wife what he had discovered. Everyone received a New Testament, and some even started borrowing books from our library.

The friendships have grown, and we've encouraged each other by sharing ideas. One mother has enrolled her daughter onto an additional art course after

they discovered the daughter's talent. That's fruit!

Some of the women also began to help in practical ways, donating clothes for children from families in need. Thanks to two special education professionals, we received teddy bears to give to children affected by domestic violence. God connects hearts.

Our final exhibition was a testimony of artistic talent, but also of God's quiet work behind the scenes. I pray that the seeds planted in these hearts will bear fruit in His perfect timing.

From September, we hope to start crafting alongside the painting. I look forward to it with joy and hope the current participants invite their friends. As the group grows, so do the opportunities to share the gospel. Art touches the soul and God transforms it.

Pray that the participants may come to salvation and a deeper understanding of who God is. Pray that new people will join us in September, that more hearts will be touched, and more people will become part of God's family.

Some finished pieces at the exhibition; children painting while a man reads the Bible



Prayer Diary

Prayer requests from Eastern Europe and the Balkans

October – December 2025

ten-uk.org/daily-prayer

October

Ami Oprenova-Stavrou,
Bulgaria



1 Please pray for us as a family as our oldest son Theo is starting a new pre-school this autumn. We are also waiting for a space to be available for Dimi to start nursery too. The public kindergarten and schools in Bulgaria have very long waiting lists.

2 The handbell ministry is going strong but as we are in a new season, we will be reorganising each ensemble. Pray God will give me wisdom. Pray also for our Christmas concert and all outside performances where the choir will possibly reach many unbelievers.

3 I believe we need to have more interactive and creative Sunday activities for our younger teenagers, but I find it hard to split my time between my various responsibilities. Pray for enough volunteers in each team so we can develop and start this ministry.

SEAM, North Macedonia

4 Pray for the start of a new academic year and fresh beginnings for everyone including staff and students.



5 We start this academic year with one staff member less than before. We need prayers for our current staff team to be courageous and bold in their work and ministry.

6 Please pray for financial provision for David. He has great potential and a calling for ministry. I, Katerina, want to provide him with a good working opportunity at SEAM.

Slavko Hadžić, Bosnia and Herzegovina



7 Ask God to guide us and provide for us as we prepare for our Christmas outreach event. Pray that many of the students will listen to the gospel of Christ and trust in Him.

8 This weekend we are in Sarajevo, organising a regional conference on evangelism. The theme of the conference is *The Harvest is Plentiful*. Pray that God will work in the hearts of the participants and that He will ignite fresh passion for evangelism.

9 Pray for the FEUER conference which will take start at the end of this month. FEUER is the Fellowship of Evangelists at Universities of Europe and is an organisation I am part of.

10 Pray for the training on personal evangelism, which will be held in Serbia next month.

11 Pray for the evangelistic activities which we are planning for the Christmas period.

Vasile & Maria Grigorita,
Moldova



12 Pray with us for the mission team from Upton Vale Church who are visiting us this month. Please pray for all the activities we have planned to run together.

13 Let us pray together for our evangelistic ministries. Pray for our home groups and those people who will hear the gospel through the work our church.

14 Pray with us as we prepare for the different events we will host during the Christmas period.

Mission Possible Albania,
Albania



15 We held our women's conference last month. May the women who participated experience the life-changing and hope-giving power of God.

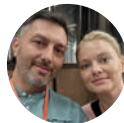
16 Please pray for our youth ministry. Pray for leaders who are called, willing, and ready to pour themselves into serving young people for the glory of God. Pray for clear vision, unity, and for the hearts of the young people to be ready for God to transform them.

17 Our children's ministry now has a small group of children who gather to pray, read the Bible, and worship together. Pray with us that God will raise these children to be salt and light to their families, in Bathore, Albania, and beyond.

18 Pray for our women's ministry. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide each conversation and Bible study, revealing to each woman the beauty of a life in Christ. We pray for unity and fruitful collaboration with local churches in Bathore.

19 We continue to believe that Mission Possible will have a building of our own in Albania. Pray with us that we can have our building for the glory of God.

Boris & Urša Curčić,
Montenegro



20 One of our church members is a maths teacher, and he has offered to teach primary school-aged children. I, Urša, can assist him. We can also help the children with other subjects. Pray that parents will allow their children to come to our church—which is Protestant and that can be a problem—and for finances for the school materials.

21 Please continue to pray that we will get the radio frequency we hope to use as a Christian radio station. We are relying on God for this completely as getting the frequency is competitive and almost impossible.

22 We're praying for new people in our church. Pray with us that God will send people who are hungry and thirsty for truth. May God bring those people to us.

23 Pray with us for complete families to be saved in Montenegro.

Anatoli & Desi Yankovi,
Bulgaria



24 Pray for our church and its future. Having had to move out of our previous building last month, we trust this month we are in a new place. May God guide us and provide everything we need—the remaining finances, a comfortable space and His blessings.

25 This month, we are starting new home groups in Svištov and two nearby villages; Bulgarsko Slivovo and Karamanovo. Pray for God's blessings on our home groups.

26 We need a bus for our sports ministry. The new season starts this month. We have collected some money already, but we ask you to pray that God will provide all that we need.

27 Ask God to bless and guide us this term as we begin our families' and women's ministries.

Ruslan & Larisa
Telpiz, Moldova



28 Pray for the teachers and children at the Day Care Centre. Ask that the teachers have lots of love and that the children get to know the Lord personally. Pray for new children to come and that God provides everything that is needed.

29 We have started our ministries through taekwondo and football. Ask God to encourage new children to join these sessions.

30 We have also restarted our ministry with teenagers. Pray for a clear vision of how to reach their hearts.

31 Please pray for our FRANK outreach mission, which will take place next month.

November

Dragan & Biljana Manevi,
North Macedonia



1 We thank God that Lence, who is the mother of a church member has been recovering well from surgery. She was very ill and now she is doing great. We are grateful that people from all over the world prayed for Lence.

2 Today, we have our second national conference in Skopje. This is a great witness of unity of the churches in our country. Please pray for this conference.

3 Give thanks with us for our new Bible Bike, which is a great evangelism tool.

4 Please pray for ANA National Women's Conference, which will take place in Struga this weekend and will host over 400 women. The conference is a great tool for bringing new souls to Christ. Pray for our sister, Vesna Puzderlieva, who will be one of the speakers.

5 Pray for our Maranatha puppet team. The team will perform all over the country, sharing the gospel, especially around Christmas time.

Dušan & Mira Beredi, Serbia



6 There are 25 students going through the programme at our Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre, struggling with heroin and alcohol addiction. We need every bit of wisdom to help them. Pray for their salvation and spiritual growth.

7 Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre is developing several small businesses, with the goal of becoming financially self-sustainable by the end of the year. Please pray for wisdom, guidance, opportunities, and for this goal to be achieved.

8 Pray for *Hand for A Friend*, which is our ministry to homeless people. Winter is a time of great trials and danger for homeless people. Please ask God to preserve and protect them from illness and the freezing temperatures. Pray for wisdom in how we help them.

9 Next month we have our annual youth winter conference. We are expecting young people from Croatia, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia. Pray for wisdom as we organise the conference, and for a deep spiritual impact on the lives of the young people.

Ivan Petrov,
North Macedonia



10 Give thanks for the national conference which was held in Skopje last week. Pray for the Spirit's guidance and unity, and for God to be glorified, following the event. May this gathering be a powerful witness and a catalyst for revival in North Macedonia.

11 Praise God for Randy Fair's street evangelism with painting events. Pray that the seeds planted in people's hearts at these

events will grow into lasting faith. Ask the Lord to continue drawing people to Himself, and to open doors for follow-up and discipleship.

12 Give thanks for the time of bonding, teaching, and spiritual growth at the Fathers & Sons Camp in Gevgelija. Pray that God would strengthen these relationships and that the fathers are able to lead their families faithfully. Ask that the sons carry lasting impressions of God's love into their future.

13 Pray for boldness, creativity, and perseverance among believers as they share the gospel. Ask God to open hearts in every town and village, and to raise up new workers for the harvest. May the Good News continue to go forth in power throughout the nation and beyond.

14 Give thanks for the coffee ministry in Štip. Pray that God would continue to build genuine relationships and open hearts to the gospel. Ask for wisdom, love, and spiritual insight for those serving, and that many would come to know Christ through this outreach.

Evangelism in Action, Spain

15 Please pray for finances to cover the unexpected costs of urgent repairs, after damage from torrential rainfall meant we had to close our Pinos Reales retreat and camp centre for three months.

16 Praise God for the faithful follow-up work with almost 200 children and teenagers who attended our summer camps. The young people had been experiencing doubts and conflicts in their lives.

17 We pray for the five teenagers who survived a serious car accident at the end of our evangelistic event. We are grateful to God that each person made a decision for Christ.

18 Pray for us as we prepare for our gospel concerts in Veles-Málaga during the Christmas season.



Ico Matulić, Croatia



19 We have a small church plant in Orebić, with a group of about ten believers. Pray for the evangelistic campaign we had in the town last month. Pray that through the handing out of flyers, people have been encouraged to come to church and hear the gospel.

20 Ask God to bless our recent outreach on the streets of Split. We gave out New Testaments and had an information desk set up for Teen Challenge Croatia.

21 Our church on the island of Korčula hopes to buy a property we found which is suitable as our church building and a reasonable price. We have collected a substantial proportion of the funds needed. Please pray for God to provide the rest.

22 Pray for our mission trips to the surrounding islands throughout autumn. This ministry is part of the Isaiah 24 Project.

23 Next month, in collaboration with Samaritan's Purse, we will distribute Christmas shoeboxes at an evangelism event in Solin. The programme includes a gospel story, songs and drama. Pray we will be granted permission to host the event, and for children to come.

Evangelical Church of Macedonia, North Macedonia



24 Please pray for our new students who have enrolled at our theological schools in Kumanovo and Skopje.

25 We praise God for answered prayers through the people who accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour and were recently baptised.

26 Next month, our churches will run Christmas evangelistic programmes. Please pray for God to bless these outreaches by bringing many people, young and old, to hear about Jesus.

Srdjan & Ruth Vorotovic,
Montenegro



27 God miraculously connected us with a lady who has a car to sell. As it is registered in Poland, we need to go through the importation process. Please pray that God will enable us to obtain all the paperwork we need, and for the car to be accepted through Customs.

28 Please pray for God to work in the lives of Stefania and Vasilisa, who TEN sponsored to attend a summer camp.

29 Earlier this year, we attended a training seminar, run by Child Evangelism Fellowship, to work effectively with teenagers. Pray that God works in our lives so that we can apply this training in our work with teenagers.

30 Pray for God to provide us with a church building.

December

Valeriu & Angela
Munteanu, Moldova



1 Ask God to guide us as we seek to share the gospel with teenagers.

2 Pray that we can have a suitable place to run Bible studies for teenagers.

3 Ask God to provide us with a youth leader.

4 Pray that our church will be filled with love and unity.

5 Ask God to encourage us all to share the Good News of Jesus in our homes and churches.

Vance & Tanja
Golomeovi, Serbia



6 Pray for our children, Ana, Stefan and Andrej. Ana

and Stefan are both in secondary education—Stefan has recently started his major in electrical engineering. Andrej is in primary school. Ask God to guide and protect them.

7 Pray with us that our brothers and sisters will witness more in the power of the Holy Spirit, according to the gifts He has given them.

8 Pray that God will provide all that we need to complete the reconstruction and renovation of our church building. We need to raise the necessary funds, obtain the required permits and find the right people for the project.

9 Ask God to bless our work with mothers and their children. We want to see mothers bring their children to church regularly.

10 Please ask God to provide us with a youth worker who will bless and grow our ministry with children and young people.

Albano & Genta Manxhari,
Albania



11 Please pray for our church to hear God's voice and respond to what He wants us to do and where He wants us to go.

12 Ask God to provide us with a new space for our church meetings and the projects we run.

13 Pray that the Lord provides and encourages workers in our church that have a heart to serve Him.

14 Please ask God to bless us with a worship team.

Tedi & Didi Oprenovi,
Bulgaria



15 Praise God for the summer camps we've had. God has really blessed us this year with His amazing care and grace. Pray especially for non-Christians who have attended the camps, that God will work in their lives and bring them close to Him.

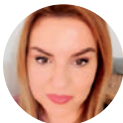
16 We have lots of events happening this month. Pray for enough volunteers to support the work. Pray for our teams to work well together, to do things with freshness and strength. Pray that we reach and bless people as we share the love of Jesus.

17 Pray for our handbells concerts to go really well. We will share a word about Christmas and extend the invitation for people to come to our church and explore faith in Jesus.

18 Ask God to bless our ladies' party. Pray that many women accept the invitation to come and that they hear the gospel.

19 This month, we have a children's gingerbread housebuilding contest where we will share the Christmas story. There is an event for people aged 18-35 and we will share a word and invitation. Finally, the children will lead a service, and we pray that their friends and families will come along. Please pray with us for changed hearts and lives through the gospel.

Anita Dimitrievska,
North Macedonia



20 This term, we have developed our art evenings so that we teach various handicrafts along with painting. We have been praying for new people to join the existing group. Let us pray together for the salvation of all who come now and in the future.

21 During the Christmas season, we typically distribute humanitarian packages to those in need. Through this, God touches those families, and we have the opportunity to share the gospel with them. Please pray with us that people will accept Christ's gift of salvation.

22 We will distribute children's gift packages from Samaritan's Purse during our events. May all those children's hearts be touched by God. Pray with us that we can start children's ministries in the church, including Sunday School classes.

Mircea & Ronela
Cristian, Romania



23 Pray for the funds for wood, food, warm clothes and heating provision to support families in need throughout the winter.

24 Ask God to work in the hearts of all the people who will hear the gospel during the holidays to get saved!

25 We are now working in nineteen prisons! Please pray for the Christmas meetings we will have in all these prisons.

26 Please ask God to provide financial support for all our projects.

27 Our son, Timothy Cristian will join the ministry—praise God! Please ask God to provide the finances to support him.

Dario Kapin, Bosnia
and Herzegovina



28 Please pray for us as family to have strength, and for God to provide all that we need, including our finances.

29 Pray with us for our church in Zenica, especially for people to surrender their lives to Jesus.

30 Ask God to bless and multiply the work of our apirary.

31 As we look forward to a new year, ask God to make our vision to plant churches in Derventa and Sarajevo a reality.



Hope Overcomes Crisis

By Dušan Beredi, Pastor of Protestant Christian Fellowship Novi Sad, Serbia

The Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre is a ministry deeply close to our hearts. Seeing people who've been enslaved by addiction for years set free by God — that's something worth living for. We're building 'Center Duga' to be self-sustaining, financed by the work of our own hands.

But that's not easy. To be honest, it's been exhausting. At one point, we truly thought we might have to shut our doors by the end of the summer. And right then, God answered.

Through faithful people, through prayer, and through tangible support I can share some joyful news: June, which began in the shadow of crisis, ended with a surplus—our income exceeded our expenses by 1,500 euros.

To us, that's more than just a number.

It's a sign that God is going before us, confirming the calling He gave us. So, we keep going. Together, in faith, in hope, and in love.

Men from Rainbow Rehabilitation Centre remove items for a customer



Dragan and Biljana Manevi get ready to bring hope

Bringing Hope By Bike

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

Because we live in a very hopeless society, the main purpose of our church is to bring hope and to be a 'light on the hill' that everyone can see. Also, to communicate the gospel to this new generation we need to stay relevant and think how we can reach younger people with the Good News.

By the grace of God, we now have a new tool for bringing hope, which is our Bible bike and trailer. With this great evangelism tool, we can enter the pedestrianised areas of the town centres in North Macedonia, speaking to people and sharing literature.

Thank God for His provision of the new bike for this ministry, which was funded by TEN and blessed by your prayers. We want to develop this ministry more and more and encourage the younger generation to come and hear the Good News from us for the glory of God.

Hope and a Future

By Arton Veliu, House of Hope and Fellowship of the Lord's People, Kosovo

I come from Pristina, Kosovo, from a Muslim family. I was a good boy and everyone loved me. After the war, I joined a gang and did many bad things.

I started selling drugs and smoking marijuana. Then, I started to sell and use cocaine. I felt like I was a king. When I started using heroin, I realised I was a loser, but I could not stop. I was addicted for 16 years.

I headed for Sweden. I thought if I got away from my friends, I could change my life. But I started again, doing worse things than in Kosovo. I was arrested, then returned to prison in Pristina. I wanted to stop but the devil was more powerful. When I left prison, people wanted nothing to do with me, even my family. There was no mercy for me.

One day I was thinking and crying, 'How can this be my life? No one loves or wants me now. No one wants to help me.' Then I thought about God. I realised the creator of this world and me is higher than

'How can this be my life? No one loves or wants me now. No one wants to help me.'



anyone. I prayed, "God, if you really exist, please help me because I cannot live like this anymore."

I went to a rehabilitation centre in North Macedonia, not realising it was Christian. Withdrawal was so painful. I could barely sleep or eat. You cannot imagine how I was tempted. But gradually, I got a little better each day.

I watched the people working there. From where were they getting their energy? I would wake up early and see them at 6am, reading the Bible, praying for us, and helping us. I thought, 'How can these people love me? I want to be like them'.

I started to read the Bible. I realised that when I had prayed before, God's response was to send me to a Christian centre. So, I started to pray to Jesus, asking Him to come into my life. After four months of praying each morning and evening, Jesus spoke to me. I heard His voice within my soul. Jesus said I don't need to be scared because I will never be addicted again. All I

needed to do was to follow Him.

I start to work at the centre. People there called me 'rocket' because I was flying. After three years, I returned from North Macedonia, and we opened a centre here in Pristina.

People started to love me again. Then my family gave us a place to open the centre. I felt so welcome in my country. I found the local church—Fellowship of the Lord's People. Pastor Artur invited me to share my testimony one Sunday, and after that, God started to bless me. There, I met my wife, Monica. She is from Romania. God has blessed us with a little girl, Ruthie. She is almost three years old now.

Pastor Artur asked me to consider a few places to go and serve in. I prayed for one place: Kacanik. People kept asking, "Why have you chosen this city? It is very dark, because Islam is very strong there."

I put all my trust in my God because He saved me, He loved me, and He blessed me. I will serve Jesus with all my family, until the end of this world.

I kept responding, "I don't know why, but God put it on my heart to pray for that place. Even Jesus, when He was on the earth, didn't look for the easy way. So, I will go there."

Now, we have the House of Hope in Kacanik, with our Mercy Ministry. Children come to the centre. A girl there gave her life to Jesus. We have about four families who come to all the prayer meetings.

For three years we have driven to and from Kacanik each day. Now we have found an apartment there, and I am so happy. I love the things that God loves, and I know He will take care of us. I know that He's going to be happy to start a church in Kacanik, so I put all my trust in my God because He saved me, He loved me, and He blessed me.

I will serve Jesus with all my family, until the end of this world.



Arton with Ruthie and Monica; Arton speaks at the House of Hope; Prayer time in Kacanik; Pastor Artur Krasniqi and Arton baptise a young believer



Dignity and Hope Through Essential Gifts

By Ken Millwood, TEN Partners Manager

For many people... hygiene items are a luxury they cannot afford. A hygiene parcel containing simple items... can make such a difference to a family. These words taken from our very first Essential Gifts catalogue are still very true.

A grant using funds from Essential Gifts was sent to Fellowship of the Lord's People in Pristina, Kosovo last autumn. We received the following response from the church.

'We are writing to thank you sincerely for the generous grant that enabled us to provide hygiene packages to all the families we serve. Your support has filled a unique and often overlooked need in the lives of many families who are struggling deeply. Many of the families we work with live in very poor and difficult conditions... often hygiene is simply not something they can afford to consider.

'While some families receive food aid from different sources, hygiene products like soap, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine hygiene items, and cleaning supplies are often viewed as luxuries. That's what made this project so meaningful. Through your support, these families not only received what they needed to stay clean and healthy—but they were reminded that they are seen, valued, and loved.

'One Roma family we work with is doing everything they can to help their children attend school... Despite daily challenges, they are slowly integrating more and more into society. They have expressed deep appreciation for the care and support the church has provided, including hygiene packages—a major need for them.'

Thank you for your ongoing support for Essential Gifts.

Your donations make a genuine difference to the local people our partners work with. Have a look through our latest catalogue, make your choice and know each gift has a value, not just a price.

Hygiene packs ready to be distributed from Fellowship of the Lord's People



The Sweetness of God's Goodness



By Dario Kapin, Pastor of Biblical Protestant Church Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina

My wife, Silvija, was healed from illness by eating honey and one of our daughters, Debora—her name means ‘bee’.

In 2014 we started a family bee ministry and during that year, the Holy Spirit inspired me to involve church members so they could learn how to work with bees, get some honey and earn some money too.

Our first apiary was in Prijedor; four and a half hours drive from Zenica. The work experienced considerable trials, due to weather conditions and some bee illness. But believing in God's call, we never gave up and with Him, we managed everything. Near the end of the fourth year, I started to dream and talk about our own land.

If you saw our budget at the time—the church's and our own—you would tell

me at that I was the craziest guy on this planet since we didn't have any money for such project. But when God gives you dreams you better be ready to see Him move. In 2018, after the president of Foursquare Church from the US talked with our eldest daughter Rut, the denomination decided to give us money for land in Derventa—just under two hours from Zenica.

The bee ministry helps our church people gain some income, and it is providing funds to plant a brand new church in Derventa. The church members are tithing their income from honey sales which helps our church pay some of our costs. We want to build accommodation and a church on the land we have near the apiary. It's a great start in a country with less than 300 newborn believers.

Thanks to purchases of 'Bee-keeping' from our Essential Gifts, we have been able to directly support this ministry.



The apiary at Derventa

Take a look at our **catalogue** or visit **essentialgifts.org**.

GIVE TO TRANSFORM EUROPE NETWORK

1. SINGLE DONATION

I would like to give £ (total amount). Please acknowledge my donation: ☐

I enclose a cheque made payable to TEN ☐ | Please charge my: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ CAF Charity Card ☐

Card number:

Security code: (Last three digits on back of card) Expiry date: /

Signature:

Name on card:

2. REGULAR DONATION

Instruction to your bank or building society to make standing order payments to TEN.

Name and address of your Bank or Building Society:

Bank/Building Society:

Branch address:

Postcode:

Account number: Sort code:

Please pay to: **Lloyds, Regent Street, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 2HT** to the credit of **Eurovangelism**,
account number: **38611760**, sort code: **30-94-80**, the sum of:

£ First payment date: / /

and on the same day of each successive (month/quarter/year) until otherwise advised.

Signature:

Full name:

Date:

3. I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE TO:

☐ Spring Appeal ☐ 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!

If you are a UK taxpayer please complete this Gift Aid declaration which will enable us to claim tax back on your gift, making it worth 25% more.

I am a UK taxpayer and want TEN (registered name Eurovangelism) to reclaim tax on **all my donations until further notice**. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay the difference.

Please notify us if you: want to cancel this declaration; change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Title:

Full name:

Address:

Postcode:

Date:

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

* The strategic fund forms part of our general funds and enables us to meet whatever need arises.

** At least 85p in every £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**

With God This is Possible

By Gjergji Çomo, Mission Possible Albania

At one time, the “Promised Land” for Albanians was America. Then, Germany. Today, it is England. In the last twelve years, more than 40% of Albanians have left the country, with 19% doing so regularly. This massive depopulation reveals an open wound.

After democracy, we believed that education would bring success. Later, when we needed to work, a friend to help us find a job. Today, hope lies in going abroad to ‘fix’ your life. Now, young children write wishes such as, ‘I hope to meet my brother who hasn’t come home for two years.’

I remember a light-hearted young man we were friendly with who left without telling anyone. He hid under a truck, then crossed in a dinghy. His voice trembled as he told us he didn’t know if all those who were with him made it.

However, there are two sides to this story. You’ve just read the first. The other is this: in Isaiah 52:15a, it says: *“Thus He (the Lord) will sprinkle many nations...”* And yes, we believe that Albania will be called by the name of the LORD! For this, we pray, we fast, we share our stories—that you, brothers and sisters will join us and sprinkle this land with the blood of Christ. How will things change? I do not know the details, except that it will

be in a wondrous way, because we believe that ‘with God, this is possible’.

James Vaughton adds: ‘When I was with Mission Possible Albania in spring of this year, I saw some of the ‘details’ that Gjergji refers to. The women’s meetings where ladies come together to worship God and hear His word. The children who grow through hearing the gospel. Hope is there as MPA and others in Albania serve God faithfully and like a mustard seed, the Kingdom of God grows.’



The Hope Centre Team: Natasha, Marinela, Gjergji, Moza and Kleada

Sharing Hope and Joy in Serbia



Woodlands Church in Bristol sent out a team to Serbia in July, to support the work of Novi Sad Christian Fellowship.

The team included four leaders—Katie and Poppi from Woodlands, James, Lucy Reid from TEN and seven young people from Woodlands' Post-16 Devotion Youth group.

The team led a jungle-themed kids' club that included activities, crafts, and Bible talks with the children. They also ministered through street evangelism, where they took opportunities to talk about Jesus, pray and share their testimonies with people.

Here are reflections from Grace and Toby of Devotion Youth:

Grace Howlett

I spent a week and a day in Serbia, spending time with God and the community. We served alongside a church doing amazing work across the city of Novi Sad. Running a kids camp was particularly inspiring. Despite the language barrier, I could see the children connect with and worship God.

We also spent time in the city centre talking to people about Jesus, which was a new and exciting challenge due to the firmly Orthodox culture and my lack of experience evangelising. I discovered how much passion I had for sharing my faith and I am so excited to explore this passion back home!

Toby Marsh

The mission trip to Novi Sad was amazing. It was so great to meet and get to know Pastor Bera, the young people and the rest of the great team at Novi Sad Christian Fellowship. I saw how boldly and proudly the Christians there live out their faith, despite how difficult being part of Protestant faith is in that culture. We spent three days running a kids' camp, which I found quite challenging, but it was so great to see the kids engaging well with the Bible stories and worship times.

The Woodlands team get ready for their flight; activities at Novi Sad Christian Fellowship; Toby and Grace worship in a doorway in Novi Sad

If you would like to find out more about sending or being part of a team trip, contact Lucy Reid at lucy.reid@ten-uk.org or call 0117 961 5161.



Lucy's Roundup

By Lucy Reid, Mission Engagement Officer at TEN

Bera at Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention

Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention is a wonderful event with opportunities to hear about God's work across the globe and to discover ways to get involved.

This year, our partners Dušan (Bera) and Mira Beredi joined James Vaughton and TEN Ambassador, Jeff Stevenson there. Bera spoke at the convention and other churches in Northern Ireland about the transformative ministries of Novi Sad Christian Fellowship.

Reflecting on his time, Bera said, "For us, it's a huge blessing to share something about Serbia, about the Balkans and what God is using there, and to receive so many prayers from people. You are so much blessed for your care and your love. Thank you."

Mira added, "I'm very thankful that we have an opportunity to be part of that and to see what God is doing around the world, not just in Europe, but in other continents. I will definitely pray for many missions and people around the world."

Putting the Fun in Fundraising

Having recently visited Bera at his church in Serbia, it was encouraging to have seen how funds from kind-hearted supporters are used and the impact they make on the local community, such as the newly fitted café area for the youth to use and hang out in. Fundraising is a great way to get your community involved in sowing financially into what God is doing through projects such as this. If you would like to fundraise for the work of TEN, here are a couple of fun ideas to get you started:

Bake Sale

It's a classic and always a winner! The team from Woodlands Church, Bristol, who I joined on their trip to Serbia, used bake sales to raise support for their trip.

Balkans Dinner

Why not discover and make Balkan-inspired dishes such as ćevapi and invite your friends, family and people from your community to try the food for a donation.

For more ideas, check out our fundraising page: ten-uk.org/fundraise

Bera and Mira at BWW's Global Village; worship at Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention (photo credit Bangor Worldwide)



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.**

Purchasing Essential Gifts makes a genuine difference to the people our partners serve. 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.

EDUCATION



Seasonal Outreach C

Your gift will provide a small present to away as a sign of God's love at Easter, C or another outreach event.

SUSTAINABILITY



Bee-Keeping

Here's your chance to create a bu Your gift will support a honey-mak project that generates income to su the work of the church.

COMPASSION



Children's Bundle

Your generous gift of a Children's Bundle provides socks and shoes or Wellington boots, a winter coat, a woolly hat, scarf and gloves.

www.essentialgifts.org

0117 961 5161