

## How Youth Conferences help to reach children



For several years CEF Armenia has been organising Youth Conferences. Teenagers learn how to live for the Lord and start serving Him. Even though they look like grown-ups, deep inside they are still children and understand children more effectively than we adults do.



During these conferences many teenagers renew their walk with the Lord and start living for Him and serving Him. If summer camps are the means by which many teenagers find salvation, then Youth Conferences are the way in which many Christian teenagers are led to dedication and service. By serving, they become much closer to»



A word from  
**Gerd-Walter Buskies**  
CEF European Director

*From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim 3:15 (ESV)*

Why do we teach children the Bible? The answer is as simple as this: It's the book that makes children *wise for salvation through faith in Christ!* It's the book that clearly and truly outlines the way of salvation. But it's not only dependable information, the Bible is the living Word of God, a seed, which the Holy Spirit uses to bring about the new birth (1 Peter 1:23). This is what we want to see!

But in order for this to happen, Paul describes an important first step. *You have been acquainted with the sacred writings.* Someone must have done this. Probably grandmother Lois and mother Eunice made Timothy familiar with the stories of Abraham and Joseph and Moses. They explained to him how the law and the prophets all pointed to the awaited Messiah and that Jesus is the fulfilment of the promises in the Old Testament.

This first step is so important! However, it takes time and energy and needs resources, but it also produces fruit! That's why we teach children the Bible.

*Gerd-Walter Buskies*



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the Lord and are filled with the joy of serving. This makes them feel good about themselves and drives them to do even more.

We will certainly not be mistaken if we regard this as an answer to our prayers. This is actually what the Lord Himself asked us to pray: “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.” (Matt. 9.37-28 ESV). We may be looking for five or ten adult teachers to help us in our ministry, while God is showing us tens and hundreds of “ready-to-go” young teenagers.

Let us invest in them and challenge them to live and serve the Lord. The outcome will be surprisingly great.

Vartan Sarkissian, CEF  
Armenia

## Where did he **get it**?

At a children’s event Dorte Jensen, the leader of the work in Denmark, was asked how God can answer prayer. Before she could even begin to reply, a Muslim child already started to share a story from Dorte’s life, which perfectly answered the question. Where did he get the story? CEF of Denmark has uploaded on YouTube all parts of

their former GPS TV series for children and a number

of training videos. This Muslim boy and his brothers have watched them all! The story he shared was actually from a training video for adults!

This boy regularly visits the monthly *Good News Club*\*,

participates very actively and often prays. At Easter he and his big brother kept interrupting Dorte while she taught the gospel message. They knew it so well from YouTube that they wanted to share it. Of course they were allowed to.



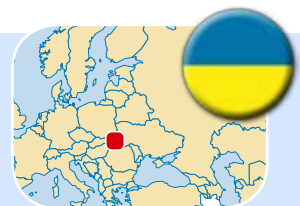
## Bereg Camp—good progress on **the reconstruction project**

In 2016, early on the morning, of October 1st, a fire broke out in the CEF camp center in Western Ukraine. It destroyed the upper floor and roof of the main building.

Since then many friends have sent special expressions of love. We thank the Lord for them and express our deep gratitude to you, our dear friends, who stand with us in this time of need.

The reconstruction of the building is well under way, though not as fast as we had hoped. Winter arrived much earlier as usual and it became impossible to deliver the concrete panels for the ceiling. We still trust and pray that the roof can be completed in March and the work inside can start right afterwards.

Most of the needed material for the reconstruction has been purchased or at least ordered. The new beds are in production. We trust that the Lord will provide the remaining €30,000 to €40,000 to complete everything, so that the children can use the building when camp season begins in June.



A woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a pink and white plaid shirt, stands behind a podium. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

“Launch out,  
**into the  
deep!**”

Linda Corry – the new European Education Director – shares her vision

God used this verse from Luke 5:4 in my life as I was praying about taking up the responsibility of CEF’s education department in Europe. The 48 countries within the region were (and still are) my deep waters! However I am sure that the One who gave the command to, “launch out” will also be the One who will navigate me through those waters every moment of every day. Pray that I will trust in Him and acknowledge Him in all my ways.

I am very happy that as I launch out I am not alone. Praise God for Iris Brunotte (education coordinator for Eastern Europe), Hanna Hiller (education coordinator for Central Europe) and Sue Shirey (education department administrator) who have many years of experience working in their areas of service. It would be impossible to develop the education ministry in Europe further without such people. Pray with us for an education coordinator for the Western European countries. Pray that we will not be tempted to rush ahead of God’s choice and timing but wait for Him. Pray that we will know God’s wisdom in putting a little Western European advisory

group together, made up of fulltime CEF workers in the area, to help with coordinating the educational ministries.

Advances in technology, especially during the last twenty years, have led to incredible advances in missions. The Gospel is reaching corners of the world in ways and by means that were never thought possible. This is one area we want to tap into in a greater way as an education department. Making greater use of the technology tools available today to help train and equip more children’s workers in Europe as well as invest further in our current workers and instructors, is one of our main goals. Pray with us as we seek to build a European technology team to help in developing these tools in the best and most efficient way. Pray that God will call these kind of labourers into His harvest field so that many more teachers can be trained to take the Gospel to Europe’s children.

Praise God that as we launch out into these deep waters and put down our nets, He is the One who has promised a great catch of fish!



## Showing **results!**

Five years ago, Tatiana came to CEF Romania and said, “I want to remind you about your strategy! TRAINING—you have trained me, I took the CMLC. EQUIPPING—you equip me with materials and I have the books and flashcards necessary to teach children and to reach them with the Gospel. But there is still one more part—SUPPORTING—I need SPAN support. I want to serve God full time, taking the Gospel to children in my county, but I can’t do it without support.”

Tatiana started to serve full-time because of SPAN and today she (and now her husband, too) is serving full time. SPAN meant that CEF Romania could respond to Tatiana’s request and over the last 5 years thousands of children have heard the Gospel as a result!

At present we give SPAN to 275 workers in Europe! Your gift helps us to support people like Tatiana and as a result hundreds of thousands of children across our region hear about Jesus! Thank you!







## TANK ROOM RENOVATION

The years have left their mark on the concrete room that houses the oil tank. The top of the room where the laundry lines for hanging the washing are located, has leaks. Rainwater seeps through and during the cold winter temperatures freezes causing the concrete inside the room to crumble. The top is desperately in need of repair to stop the leaks and keep the 40,000 liter steel tank from rusting. The top with the steal reinforcements must first be removed and replaced with new steel flooring. A protective layer of durable waterproof flooring will also be rebuild to the top so it can continue to be used for hanging the washing. We are thankful to have strong co-workers and volunteers ready to help with this large project.

Would you like to help to ensure the safety of Kilchzimmer? Please mark your donation for this project with "oil tank room".



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### CEF

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Reaching children worldwide™

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## SUPPORT SEMINAR

A Support Seminar, training workers on support raising, was held in Kilchzimmer the 24th – 28th January 2017. The participants were taught biblical principles and helpful tips for building a support group. This is a great help as many missionaries find this area of ministry difficult. The participants came from nine countries: Germany (3 participants), Estonia (1), United Kingdom (4), Italy (2), Latvia (1), Slovakia (2), Sweden (1) And the USA (1). We also had a

team of teachers and translators. We were delighted to receive the following feedback from one of the participants: "In this seminar, concrete steps for building a circle of friends were demonstrated and practiced. This helped me a lot and motivated me again to make new contacts and to introduce my ministry. Super is also the management program (TntConnect), which was presented to us. I will work in the future."

