

# [ on mission ]

NEWS FROM CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® IN EUROPE



**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®  
Since 1937 Reaching children worldwide™



## GOD BREAKS CHAINS AND BAD TRADITIONS

Fatima comes from a special Roma family in which, according to tradition, the first-born child was determined to become the magician for the Roma society in the area. Fatima was the firstborn! One day she was to follow her father. But God had other plans for

her. At first her life was marked by sad traditions and strokes of fate. Already at the age of 14 she was married. Hardly a mother, her husband left her because he no longer liked her. Her father married her again. But the second husband was killed in the Kosovo War.

She also had a child with him. After the war, Christians came to the country and invited locals to meetings. Fatima was among them. Gradually the Lord began to speak to her. She came to faith and—what a miracle!—her father

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### STRENGTHEN YOUR BRETHREN!

LUKE 22:32

Dear Friends,

All of us need to be strengthened in our faith and in our walk with the Lord. This is especially true with regard to believing children. They are our little brothers and sisters. Jesus' request therefore applies not only to Peter, but also to us in CEF.

In the last decade CEF has already made significant efforts to help children to grow by publishing devotional books for different age groups. But we want to do more. We have decided to put an even

greater emphasis on the last part of our vision: *every child, every nation, every day*. All over the world, in every region and in every country, we want to help believing children to spend time with God *every day*!

Not only the children, also their teachers need to be strengthened for their ministry. Please pray for those who reach the children in your church! Include our CEF missionaries, too. There is hardly a more challenging ministry than children's ministry. Prayer is one of the best means to *strengthen the brethren*.

In many more ways we make every effort to strengthen teachers and children

alike. For example, we are working at present on new very flexible training modules to meet the training needs of today's busy teachers. Our literature, too, is continually being improved. We are renewing our complete GNC curriculum to equip teachers and to ensure that children hear the best message in the world in the best possible way.

With the Lord's and your help, we move on to evangelise boys and girls and to strengthen our brethren.

Yours,

*Gerhard-Walter Buskies*



[ A WORD FROM **GERD-WALTER BUSKIES** CEF EUROPEAN DIRECTOR ]

## FATIMA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

agreed that she should break the family tradition and be baptized.

Though life continued to be difficult for her, her faith remained strong. At the age of about 20 Fatima learned to read and began to serve the Lord. In 2009 she attended a TCE-1 course in her city and first taught the children in her church. Then she felt God's call to also evangelize children outside the church. The Roma children

are especially dear to her heart. Fatima goes where she finds them and teaches them right on the street (photo). Often until late autumn or even winter, the children's meetings take place in the open air because there are no heated rooms available for them. For years Fatima has been a great support for Metush and Nora, our full-time missionaries in Kosovo,

and accompanies them on various outreaches.

A woman dedicated to sorcery has become a faithful servant of the highest God! Today it is Fatima's greatest fulfilment when Roma children begin a life with the Lord Jesus and follow Him. Through your prayer you strengthen Fatima, our full-time missionaries and our volunteers in Kosovo!

## HOW GOD'S WORD STRENGTHENED CHILDREN IN A LIFE CRISIS

A GNC teacher in Denmark puts great emphasis on learning memory verses. One day she saw how God used one of the verses in the lives of two of the children in her club. The father of the two children committed suicide. When the local pastor came to visit the grieving family, the oldest GNC girl turned to him and said: "But don't forget that: 'God himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you, Hebrews 13:5!'"

Though this child had just been left and forsaken by her father, she knew about her heavenly father who would never leave her! Her testimony really spoke to the pastor and he chose this verse for his funeral sermon. After the funeral, he went to the GNC teacher and told her what a great work she was doing and how important he thought the memory verse teaching was.



## 52 YEARS IN THE MINISTRY OF CEF EUROPE

After 52 years of faithful ministry Roy and Ruth Harrison plan to retire by the end of 2018. Roy and Ruth served for

seven years in France before moving to Switzerland to serve as Assistants to Sam and Sadie Doherty, the European Directors at that time. In 1993 they became the CEF Regional Directors themselves. The Lord used them in a mighty way. Under their leadership CEF ministry was established in twenty countries of Central and Eastern Europe. When they handed

over the leadership for Europe in 2010, they continued as Area Directors for Northwest Europe for another 8 years and re-opened and strengthened the ministry in Sweden. In all their years of service they were heavily involved in training future workers and leaders. They influenced the lives of many of our present group of missionaries all over Europe.

*Roy and Ruth, we praise the Lord for the example of your lives and your faithful ministry among and for the children in Europe! May the Lord continue to bless you!*

Gerd-Walter Buskies,  
European Director

## SPAN STRENGTHENS CEF MISSIONARIES

One way to strengthen our CEF missionaries in many countries in Europe is through SPAN.

One of our workers in Central Europe wrote to us: "This year we helped a group of Sunday School teachers to be better trained for the ministry. We were so glad when one of the young teachers said, 'The things that we have learned will make it a thousand times easier for us to teach.' And a young lady said, 'I was so scared to stand in front of the children, but now everything is so clear and from now on I want to serve Him better.'"

Because of SPAN this year we were able to train 12 teachers and during the summer we were able to take the Gospel to 900 children."

Thank you so much for your gifts for SPAN. You enable present workers to continue and new workers to be added to the ministry among children.





# WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP FOR THE EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS?

Many thanks for your prayers regarding the CEF European Headquarters. We are happy to report that there is now a seriously interested party who would like to buy Kilchzimmer. But there are still a number of legal requirements to be clarified before the house can be used for their desired purpose. Even if it is not yet clear when Kilchzimmer can be transferred to new hands, the way is becoming clearer for most of our staff.

## WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE KILCHZIMMER STAFF?

**Felix und Diane Dürrenberger**, our house leaders, are looking towards retirement beginning the end of January 2019. They have found a lovely flat in the nearby town of Bubendorf and have already moved in. At Kilchzimmer they continue their active role in working through all the formalities and helping to prepare the buildings for the next owners as well as organizing volunteer help.

**Sonja Ballou** has the possibility of moving back to the US and is looking into options related to this move. Following the Kilchzimmer Thanksgiving Service in September, Sonja was able to schedule a much-needed surgery on her hands. She will take time to recover from the surgery and continue with her transition.

**Tim and Sue Shirey** will continue working for the Regional Office, Tim in the Multimedia Department and Sue in the Education Department, but from a new location. Through the Lord's direction they will be moving to Romania the end of March and working from the CEF Romania National Office. They continue to see

the Lord working out every detail for their move and look forward to serving the Lord from Romania.

**Viv Stringer** continues to manage the finances. Both he and the European Director **Gerd-Walter Buskies** will remain in Switzerland for the near future.

At the least when Kilchzimmer is sold, we are looking for a small office from which the financial administration and other administrative activities for Europe can continue, where the European Director can receive visitors and hold smaller meetings, and where we can also store our archives, advertising material, etc. One or two beds for overnight guests would also be an advantage.

## IS THE EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS STILL DEPENDENT ON DONATIONS?

The European Headquarters was in the good position of being able to form a reserve due to the sale of the print shop about 15 years ago. This

made it possible to compensate for the deficit that existed almost every year. These reserves will last until almost exactly the end of this year. If the general donations for the European headquarters remain at the current level, the less cost-intensive ministry of the future European Headquarters can be covered without a deficit. Very few people know that the European Headquarters often helps out when emergencies have arisen or urgent purchases have to be financed, sometimes with a loan, sometimes with a gift. We are therefore grateful for donations which will not only be used for the day to day operations of the European Headquarters but also for the general ministry of CEF in Europe.

## HOW WILL THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF KILCHZIMMER BE USED?

Due to the remote location (with very low internet speed and no mobile phone signal) as well as the relatively small plot of land, it is unfortunately not possible to achieve a high selling price. The money should not be touched for the time being, until we recognize in which country we can remain long-term and buy our new European Headquarters.

Please continue to pray with us as we seek the Lord's guidance and will for resolving the major and minor legal issues involved in this process.



Support and prayer for the European Headquarters enables CEF to continue reaching Europe's children.



# BLESSINGS AND TEARS

▼ There were over 150 guests in attendance at the Kilchzimmer Thanksgiving Service on 22 September 2018, representing 21 countries.



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[ onmission ]

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Please designate your gifts "European Headquarters", quoting any specific project for which you wish your gifts to be used. Your gifts may be sent to any of the addresses mentioned. Thank you!

**Bank transfer information:**

UBS AG, 8098 Zurich, Switzerland  
Account: **CEF Europe (Kilchzimmer)** **new!**  
IBAN: CH97 0024 5245 9257 2141 C  
BIC Nr. UBSWCHZH80A  
or Post Office Account: 46-4843-2

Excess funds given for projects will be applied to those still lacking, unless the donor wishes otherwise.

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**Editorial/layout:** Gerd-Walter Buskies, Brent Hautle, Tim & Sue Shirey.

Gerd-Walter Buskies and Linda Corry lead the Thanksgiving Service along with several guest speakers sharing in person and through video. ►



It was a blessing and encouragement to hear testimonies of the Lord's faithfulness over the years along with a time of singing and a challenge from God's Word. ►



There were many opportunities for fellowship throughout the day, including a light meal provided by Kilchzimmer after the service. ►



Friends and co-workers gathered in the Fellowship Room for a time of prayer. ►



Guests came from across Europe and from around the world. Roy and Ruth Harrison are greeting Raisa and Alexander, country leaders for Russia. ►

