

# onmission

NEWS FROM CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® IN EUROPE



What a wide-open door we have at Christmas time! Many schools are interested in the true meaning of Christmas. A Christmas Club attracts children from all backgrounds. How can we make use of this opportunity and teach hundreds of thousands of children all over Europe? *Together*

we can multiply our efforts. *Together* we can bring the gospel of the newborn King to those who have never heard. All the 600 CEF workers and hundreds of local churches in Europe together for one goal! This is our vision!

And this is how it works: CEF offers a special training and all

the material needed to conduct an attractive Christmas Club for the children in your neighbourhood, in your church, in a school, at a Christmas market and all other suitable places.

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**And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child**  
LUKE 2:17 (ESV)

Dear friends,

I once asked a group of teenagers: "What is a miracle?" The answer of one of them particularly struck me: "A miracle is something that only God can do". Indeed, a miracle is that divine intervention that makes someone's life no longer the same. Going to see the child in the manger, as the angel had told them, the shepherds realized the miracle that had

taken place in Bethlehem and wanted to spread the news about it to everyone.

The miracle of the incarnation is one of the deepest mysteries of the Christian faith. Emmanuel—God is with us. God, in the person of His Son, came to dwell among us so that those who believe in Him might experience another miracle—*to become children of God, born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of men, but of God* (John 1:12-13).

A WORD FROM IULIAN MANGALAGIU ASSISTANT EUROPEAN DIRECTOR

Because we have experienced this miracle, we have a responsibility, as "shepherds", to let others know who was born in the manger. Everyone needs to hear: adults and children. May many children in Europe experience the miracle of being born again during the Christmas season!

Sincerely  
Yours





**Pray** for the training and for the clubs that take place across Europe during the coming weeks!

**Teach** a Christmas Club yourself! Contact your national or local CEF office for training and material.

**Let us know** what the Lord did in your neighbourhood! We are looking forward to rejoicing with you together!



Do you already know about our **Christmas Together Video**?  
[www.vimeo.com/637154064](http://www.vimeo.com/637154064)

Do you need help to locate your **national office**? The map on our homepage has most of them:  
[www.cefeurope.com](http://www.cefeurope.com).

Do you want to get more information on one of our **Christmas Together projects** or to support them?  
[www.everychildineurope.com](http://www.everychildineurope.com).

## SUMMER MINISTRY IMPRESSIONS FROM IRELAND

### What about the other half of the verse?

On the first night of the 5-day club in our own housing estate we had 15 children standing waiting for us. It quickly became clear that most of these children had little to no Bible knowledge. What a privilege it was to share the good news of the gospel with the boys and girls, many of these children for the very first time.

On the last night of club, I gave out a little pack to each child which contained some literature and prizes. I pointed to the pack and showed the children that they would each receive a copy of the memory verse (John 3:16) which we had been learning all week. I saw the face of one child light up and they were so pleased to receive their own copy of the verse. This child then went on to ask, 'but what about the other half of the verse?' which they didn't know was printed on the back. Praise God for the hunger to continue to want to learn God's word. We pray that God will continue to work in the hearts of these children and that the seed which has been sown will bear fruit in their little lives.

We pray for opportunities to continue to minister to these children on a more regular basis. Yet being encouraged in the promise from 1 Corinthians 3:6:

*"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."*

*-Louise Davidson, based in N Ireland*

### This time the camp centre would house only the leaders!

The Republic of Ireland, although quick in accelerating its program of vaccinations, was quite slow and cautious this summer in removing restrictions. It was an opportune time to renew friendship with the Surf Project, and partner once again for summer camps at the CEF Oceanview Camp Centre, Rosstown, County Donegal. Only this time the camp centre would house only the leaders, and the children's day camps would centre around

two two-hour outdoor sessions on the beach, using three pods of eight children. This provided a Covid-safe means of spending time with up to 48 children each day, sharing the good news of the gospel. The first week was for children aged 6-11 years, and the Bible lesson series *The Big Picture* was a great means to see God's great design for His creation. In the second week the teenage campers were challenged to see a life lived according to God's plan using teaching from the life of Nehemiah. As leaders we were blessed to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in the Lord's work as we served together from different mission organisations—CEF, OM Ireland, WorldVenture, and the Surf Project.

*-Brian Donaghy, based in the Republic of Ireland*





# RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION

The children of the missionaries in CEF Ukraine love to visit their National Office. They come from different parts of the country and are happy to carry out the assignments of an office worker, e.g., stamping the office address on booklets. They also love to participate in the training of the instructors and listen to their teaching. Those who are older tell their classmates Bible stories about the Lord.

Vera began her ministry at the age of 5 by decorating visuals for Good News Clubs. She was very excited when she got draft copies for coloring and was very happy when her mother used these pictures for teaching at the GNC. Now Vera is 28 and a team member of CEF Ukraine. She translates the GNC Resource Packs and Teachers' Guides of the new curriculum and prepares them for publication.

Preparing future missionaries is an important part of our ministry

**Viktor together  
with three of his  
'Boys Club'.**



in CEF. Victor Gavrin, one of the CEF full-time missionaries in the Ukraine shares: "In 2019 after camp we invited everyone to our home for teenage meetings. Most of the time only four of them gathered, Sasha, Nazar, Semyon and Philip. We called them our 'Boys' club'. During the CMLC I had learned how to involve children as volunteers. When the quarantine began in the fall of 2020, I invited all four teens to take an online Missionary Course, where they learned how to teach the Wordless Book. The boys also helped us with their friendly singing during the online camps. Today four trained teenagers actively serve in our camps. And the Lord also gave us an excellent opportunity in six different cities and villages to hold one-day evangelistic events

together with local churches. And already now the four boys and I have received an invitation to hold a Christmas Club for local children in Ternopil in December. How can we not rejoice looking at how the Almighty inspires a new generation of volunteers? I pray for dedication to Christ for those in the 'Boys' Club'. They are already 15-16 years old. And likewise, I want to see others growing into the ministry of sharing the Gospel of our Lord."

Igor Dragunov, the leader of the CEF ministry in the Ukraine says: "When we train volunteers in CEF courses, we pass on the vision that every child in every country needs the Lord Jesus Christ. And together with the vision we give the invitation of the Lord of the harvest to come into His field (Luke 10:2)."

## CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE 2021

Psalms 133:1 says "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." This was the sentiment of our hearts as we met together with our brethren for the CEF Western European Connections Conference in Salou, Spain from 4 - 9 October 2021. We had a week of excellent Bible teaching by Gerd-Walter Buskies from Judges. We were personally challenged

daily by lessons from the life of a different judge. We looked briefly at the life of Samson and were reminded that even when we fail, we have a merciful God who hears our prayer and can bring restoration in our life.

We also learned many different approaches we can use when teaching children who have Additional Educational Needs. These informative seminars were

taught by Dr Joanne Atkinson, principal of a special needs school in Northern Ireland.

We enjoyed many times of prayer, and we praise God for answered prayer for conference. The attendees from 14 different countries all arrived COVID free and left COVID free. What a faithful God we serve!

—Beulah McMullan



# THE BEST EVENT OF THE WHOLE SUMMER

"Life in the Village" was the theme of this year's summer camp in Latvia. "We taught children God's principles for relationships with God and people," says Indra Baumanė, the CEF National Director. She adds, "it was very relevant, because after this long time of remote learning and having to spend most of their time at home children had difficulties cooperating with each other."

Before the camp, the group leaders felt unsure of how to talk about family relationships with children from disadvantaged families. How should they teach them about God's principles for the family? The CEF material *God Says* was very helpful in achieving



this goal. The program put the right emphasis on explaining love and respect in the family to children who do not receive them and do not respect their parents themselves. At the end of the camp, children who had said they would never be able to love their parents, prayed for their families and wanted to make a difference in their relationships.

As a highlight during their "Live in the Village" week, Indra and her team really wanted to give the children an opportunity to ride on a horse. Unfortunately, due to a lack in finances the horses could only be brought to camp one day and not all the children would have a turn. But on that day, there was a guest present. When he was told that it was not possible for all the children to have an opportunity to ride a horse, he gave money for the horses to be at camp the next day also and every child's dream of riding on a horse at least once, came true. "I can still see the joy and excitement of the children when they had the opportunity to ride horses," says Indra. "God arranged everything in such a way that this camp became the best event in the whole summer for those children."



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**onmission**

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#### **Our Address:**

CEF European Office,  
Lischmatt 2, 4616 Kappel, Switzerland  
Tel.: + 41 62 387 30 10  
Email: [info@cefeurope.org](mailto:info@cefeurope.org)  
Website: [www.cefeurope.com](http://www.cefeurope.com)

**USA:** CEF, PO Box 348, Warrenton, Missouri 63383

**Canada:** CEF, PO Box 165, Winnipeg,  
Manitoba R3C 2G9

**Ireland:** CEF, 199 Templemore Avenue,  
Belfast BT5 4FR

**Britain:** CEF, PO Box 9281, Poole, Dorset. BH14 4FS

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

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## SHORTFALL

**Shortfall support helps new workers to answer God's call.**

The Lord continues to enable us to support about 300 workers in Europe each month. This is not just a joy for the one who receives the help, but also a great encouragement for the National Director. We constantly receive messages like this: "As a National Director, I praise God for Shortfall support. As a team, we often pray for new workers. However, for a new worker starting in the ministry, raising support can be a challenge and takes time. Shortfall support has enabled us to help new workers to answer God's call and begin serving Him. It has given them time to raise support. And has encouraged them that they are not alone as they take this step of faith to serve God and evangelise children."

May God continue to raise up new workers to serve Him and the support teams to stand with them in this vital ministry! Thank you so much for your part in this!