



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®
Reaching children worldwide™

WESTERN EUROPE

Prayer Diary

August/Sept 2022

If you've been reading or listening on zoom to any of my devotionals in the past two years, you'll have noticed that most of them are coming from Acts. Last time we thought about Acts 6:7 and the increase of the word despite persecution. Why was there persecution? Take a step back into Acts 3, a man is healed, and Peter then takes the opportunity to preach a sermon to an amazed crowd (v12-26). The council are 'greatly annoyed' that his message is about Jesus and his resurrection (Acts 4:2), and so they arrest him and John and put them in custody.

What did Peter say to get such a negative response? Read 3:12-25. Peter proclaimed the Lord Jesus Christ. He gave all the glory for the miracle/sign to the risen Lord Jesus. He explained rather bravely that they had denied the Holy and Righteous one and they had killed the Author of life. But God had raised him from the dead. Now faith in his name had made this man well. Peter's sermon took the crowd's thoughts away from himself, away from the man and onto Jesus. He then challenges the crowd to repent and believe (3:19- 26), so they can enjoy the blessings the prophets had spoken about for many centuries. You'll notice that this is a blessing for the children of Israel, but also is to spill over to all nations of the world – I find that thrilling.

As you continue in service among the children this summer, I'm sure it's not always easy, maybe not quite persecution, but opposition. I remember in one Club, an adult threatening the children, trying to make them go home because he followed a different religion. I witnessed intimidation where someone said they would hit us with a brush if we stayed around and taught about Jesus, another brandished a knife on one occasion. I'm sure you all have such examples to recall. Yet the reality is that as we proclaim Jesus, as we call for repentance and faith, we will face this opposition. The truth is, that despite that fact, this is what Jesus himself has commanded us to do. How else can the children of our nations know this eternal blessing that comes only through repentance from sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? Only he can give life, here by way of vindication to the crippled man, and spiritually to all who believe. Let us pray fervently for one another as this summer all too soon comes to an end.

Stephen Chambers

August 2022

1. Switzerland:

We are thankful that the Lord has brought different volunteer helpers to us (bookkeeping, shipping of materials and mass mailings etc.) Please continue to pray for the Lord to call workers into direct ministry among the children of Switzerland.

2. Greece:

Please pray for the building of the three new cabins in the CEF camp at Filyro, close to Thessaloniki. The plans are finalised and half of the needed funds are raised. Pray that God will guide in everything.

3. Germany:

We pray for the camps that are still going on and thank the Lord for every child having been reached through the summer ministries and pray that they can be followed up.

4. Lithuania:

Praise the Lord for day camps and a residential camp. Almost 100 children heard the Gospel during our summer outreaches. Pray for God's Spirit to work in their hearts.

5. Portugal:

Please pray for the children who will attend camp in the Azores and for those who have the joy of sharing God's Word with them. Pray that many lives will be changed because of the camps.

6. Italy:

Please pray for the work among the Ukrainian children in Pescara. Pray God will provide a venue to hold Lego clubs and that many children will attend the clubs.

7. Belgium:

We praise God for those who have attended TCE 1 training over the past year. Pray that God will continue to speak into the lives of the students and call many into His harvest field.

8. Sweden:

Thank God for all the churches who have been involved in preparing Gospel Bags for Ukraine. Pray that they will be willing to spread the Gospel also among the Ukrainian refugees in Sweden.

9. Hope for Ukraine project:

Thank the Lord that 1,633,000 Do You Wonder Why booklets have already been printed and many of them distributed. Over 80,000 Gospel Backpacks have been filled and taken into Ukraine. Pray for the salvation of children that received the booklets or the backpacks.

10. Iceland:

Pray for the team of volunteers who are running 5 weeks of camp throughout the summer. Please pray for wisdom, help and strength that is needed. Please pray for the next generation to be impacted and transformed by the gospel.

11. Austria:

Praise God for some children who are now being reached in a church related club. Pray for the leaders and children.

12. Finland:

Please pray for those who have started our video hybrid course. May God use the recordings combined with the individual guidance of our instructors in the children's ministry of the participants.

13. Latvia:

Today we celebrate 20 years of Camp "JOY". Over many years kids from poor families and orphanages have come to this Camp and found real joy in the Lord.

14. European IT Department:

Pray for Ruth Nelson, as she works on the corporate redesign of the CEF Europe website.

15. Stephen & Grace Chambers, Area Directors, NW Europe:

Thank you for your prayers – it's been so good to travel again recently to Germany (European conference), Norwegian Lapland (visit workers, board, direct ministries), Switzerland (visit the national office, office manager, board), and Romania (CMLC).

16. Denmark:

Praise God for the summer ministry. In particular thank God for LEGO events in partnership with new church contacts and also new clubs in some difficult areas.

17. Ireland:

Pray for the many camps which are being conducted throughout this month. We are delighted that our new Seaview Camp & Conference Centre is being utilised to capacity, and we trust the Lord will work in the hearts and lives of many boys and girls. Remember too the camp centre staff at this very busy time.

18. The Netherlands:

This is the day that the national office is relocating. Please pray that everything will go well and that we soon will have the office in order so that we can start with our 'normal' work. Thanks that we have a new location by a well know christian organisation – Compassion.

19. Norwegian Lapland:

We are planning to do a HBC in the Horseshoe Block in Hammerfest today and tomorrow in connection with a church service in the Methodist church on the 21st August when Sarah will speak. Please pray we will get contact with children in the Block and that a good number will come. Pray too that God will bless the church service on Sunday 21st.

20. European Multimedia Department:

We thank the Lord for Sarah Dias from Portugal who illustrated several CEF Europe projects this year. Please pray for her as she joins the Multimedia Department and starts full time ministry after completing the CMLC.

21. European Leadership Development Department:

We would ask you to pray that God will give us creative ideas and effective ways to identify and train a new generation of potential ministry leaders across Europe.

22. Andrew & Beulah McMullan, Assistants to the Area Director, SW Europe:

Please pray that we will know the Holy Spirit's help as we speak at our church Holiday Bible Club and at a Teen Challenge meeting each night this week. Pray that God will be pleased to speak into young lives and save their precious souls.

23. Estonia:

Please pray for 590 Ukrainian refugee children, who live in a ferry boat at Tallinn Harbour until October. We meet with three age-groups there regularly every Monday and Thursday. Pray that God will work in their hearts and comfort their mothers/grandmothers in Estonia and fathers in the war in Ukraine.

24. The Netherlands:

Anneke Breet and her team will have open air clubs in Antwerp, Belgium until the 26th. Pray for the children from different cultures, that they will come to the clubs and listen to the Gospel. Pray that there are no distractions around the tent.

25. France:

Please pray for the camps that have already taken place this summer and for the day camp which will take place during this last week of August.

26. European Multimedia Department:

We thank the Lord that already this summer the Survival Camp material has been used in several locations across Europe. Please pray for the work on the second series of camp materials in the cycle.

27. Lithuania:

Praise the Lord for being able to send about 70 backpacks to Ukraine with children's items and the Gospel leaflets "Meet the King" and "Do you wonder why?" One Lithuanian Christian writer published a children's book in Ukrainian. We were able to include it as well.

28. Great Britain:

Praise God for providing Priya & Corinna with approved visas and for enabling them to return to England in July.

29. Hope for Ukraine Project:

Thank the Lord for all the Ukrainian CEF workers and volunteers that in spite of danger, still prepare ministry programs and distribute the Gospel Backpacks in many locations. Pray for their protection.

30. Iulian Mangalagiu, European Regional Director:

After visiting various countries in Europe in recent months or talking with some workers on Zoom, we have noticed that some workers are still affected by the Covid pandemic and the war in Ukraine. Let us pray that the Lord will bring healing emotionally, physically and spiritually.

31. Estonia:

Please pray for the Teacher Training seminars at the end of August. Pray that many teachers will attend and be encouraged to start new Good News Clubs in the Sunday school year.

September 2022

1. Norwegian Lapland:

Pray for the new Good News Club in Karasjok which Sarah and Olaug will be responsible for. It will start today.

2. European Multimedia Department:

Please pray that the Christmas Together publications will be printed and delivered to National Offices on time for all the trainings and conference in the autumn. Pray for opportunities to partner with many churches to do Christmas programs.

3. Lithuania:

Pray for our Autumn training seminars from September 3-5 and 8-9 in five different cities (Klaipeda, Shiauliai, Kaunas, Panevezys and Vilnius). Pray for more churches to get to know our new curriculum and to use it effectively.

4. Latvia:

Pray for our teacher training program, that we would have wisdom to know how to better help our volunteers with training and materials for ministry among kids in Latvia.

5. European IT Department:

Pray for ideas and new people who will be involved in the Internet ministry. Many young people are on the internet, and for all the information they need they search on different social media platforms. We pray for wisdom to offer good quality materials and information so the young generation can hear the Gospel.

6. Belgium:

We praise God for those who have attended TCE 1 training over the past year. Pray that God will continue to speak into the lives of the students and call many into His harvest field.

7. Denmark:

Pray for stamina for Dorte and the team as they work together into the autumn.

8. France:

Please pray for our CEF France team meeting today on Zoom. Pray that God will guide us and help us to know His plans for this new school year.

9. Austria:

Please continue to pray for contacts to be made with a number of churches – pray for good and lasting relationships and partnerships to be made. And please pray for contacts who could help register CEF in Austria again.

10. Belgium:

We thank God for the leadership of Peter and Didi over the years in Belgium. Please pray for the special function which will be held tonight to acknowledge their retirement from the work of CEF and that God will be glorified in everything that is said and done.

11. Ireland:

Our workers staff conference will be held from today until the 15th. Pray that this will be a spiritually refreshing time for each one after a busy summer programme. Philip Annett is our Bible teacher.

12. Norwegian Lapland:

Pray that a good number of children will come to the week of Children's Mission in Mehamn from today until the 16th.

13. Sweden:

Pray for our Annual meeting with the Board, that we can make the right decisions and that we can find more people who are willing to go into the work.

14. Germany:

Please pray for a good preparation of Christmas Together in Germany, that again more children can be reached than the year before.

15. Italy:

Pray for the TCE1 and 2 courses which are planned to commence this Autumn/Winter. Pray that many students will attend, and that God will burden them to reach out to the children in their localities.

16. Hope for Ukraine Project:

At least 25 trips were made from neighboring countries to various destinations in Ukraine to bring Gospel Backpacks. The backpacks are then further transported within the country. Thank the Lord for His protection on the roads for all the drivers.

17. Latvia:

Pray for the new season of Good News Clubs starting in September. We would love to see kids from our camps joining GNC or a Sunday School and continue to grow knowing Christ.

18. Portugal:

We thank God for the opportunity to teach children in Good News Clubs. Please pray that more GNCs will commence in this new school year and that Clara will know God's wisdom as she teaches God's Word.

19. Ireland:

CMLC commences today in Ireland. Pray for each student who takes the course, and that as a result God may call some new workers into CEF.

Germany:

Today the German literature team will meet online. Please pray for the Lord's guidance, wisdom and help in the important task to produce biblical tools to help children find eternal salvation in today's world.

20. Greece:

Every weekend in September a Lego event is scheduled at a different church in Athens, with a powerful evangelistic lesson. Please pray that many children from the neighbourhoods will come to these events and hear about the Lord.

21. Great Britain:

Pray that God would direct our steps in the Great Britain workers' online Zoom meeting this afternoon, as we review the summer ministry and look ahead to prepare for future EQUIP training courses and make plans for Christmas Clubs.

22. Stephen & Grace Chambers, Area Directors, NW Europe:

We really need someone to help us in the role of assistant Area Director – it would be a real answer to prayer to have a co-worker who is familiar with some of the spiritual challenges that exist in the NW Europe area.

23. Andrew & Beulah McMullan, Assistants to the Area Director, SW Europe:

We thank God that we can travel and visit the countries in South West Europe. Please pray as we travel to England today to meet with the Great Britain board that God will give direction and wisdom in all discussions.

24. Ireland:

Continue to pray for our 6 target counties in Republic of Ireland that God will call new workers to Roscommon, Limerick., Waterford, Louth, Kildare and Kilkenny.

25. France:

Please pray that God will continue to help us with the production of a new Holiday Bible Club kit for the Olympic Games.

26. Estonia:

Please pray Luke 10:2 for Estonia. Pray that new teachers will register for TCE 1 and 2 courses. Please do pray for a big interest Pre-School and Junior Youth Challenge training.

27. Finland:

We ask that God would bring to us people and churches who need training. Our training resources are quite limited at the present, so we pray for wisdom to use them in the most fruitful way.

28. Germany:

We pray for a good start to the new Good News Club year and that the Lord may grant that many new Clubs will be started during the next weeks. We also ask the Lord for many opportunities to conduct LEGO® events, during this school year.

29. Great Britain:

Pray that God will raise up National Directors for Britain to lead the growing ministry in England, Scotland and Wales. Pray for wisdom as Andrew and David implement the strategy commended by a UK Christian search firm.

30. European Multimedia Department:

Thank the Lord that new CEF publications in Ukrainian “*A special promise*”, and “*Things you need to know*” are being put into ziplock bags together with a pen and something sweet and are being given mainly to refugee children in countries neighboring Ukraine. We thank the Lord that in some places follow up ministry is possible.