

WINTER 2023

# onmission

NEWS FROM CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® IN EUROPE



**“ASK GOD  
AND TELL  
HIS  
PEOPLE”**

**PLUS:**  
SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS  
LEADERSHIP COURSE  
REMEMBERING ROY HARRISON



In a world filled with uncertainty and challenges to our Christian values, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and lost. We may often find ourselves asking, "What should we do?" It's in these moments of doubt and confusion that we turn to the Word of God for guidance and reassurance. *"If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man."* (Psalm 11:3-4 ESV)

At first glance, these verses are posing a question without an immediate answer to our dilemmas. However, when we look closer, we find an answer far more powerful than any human wisdom can offer.

The psalmist begins by acknowledging the challenging times we live in, where the very foundations of righteousness appear to be crumbling. But the psalmist doesn't leave us in despair. Instead, he directs our eyes to the one place of unshakable certainty—the throne of God. Verse 4 assures us that the Lord is not absent or indifferent to the turmoil around us. He is firmly established in His holy temple, reigning from His heavenly throne.

Let's remember that our faith is not based on the shifting sands of this world but on the unchanging, eternal truth that God is on the throne. When we anchor our souls in this hope, we can face the many challenges of this changing world with unwavering faith and confidence. Our actions, guided by this truth, can make a profound difference in the lives of others and bring glory to God.



## ▲ SPAIN

This summer we saw seeds that were sown for the past two years in the Good News Club® of Badajoz begin to germinate. We had a watermelon festival, and the GNC® children shared their faith through games with other children who came to the square. These same children are very motivated to learn about God and especially want their parents to share that desire with them.

Federico's father approached the pastor saying: "Last night Federico came home happy. He showed his mother and I the crafts and sweets from the afternoon club. He has told us that he is very happy because God has plans for him, just as he had plans with John the Baptist".

He said to us "If God has plans for me, then He also has plans for you and mom!"

Federico's father asked the pastor, "Can you tell me what plans he was referring to?"

## UKRAINIAN TEAMS IN ESTONIA







## ▼ ALBANIA

One Muslim boy who caused problems every day at camp invited his friend Ani to come. Ani heard about Jesus for the first time—his favourite part of the camp was the Bible study. On the last day, he came before the group and prayed for salvation. God works in wonderful ways so children can hear His message.

One girl had asked a relative about God, and he said God would bring someone to answer questions he could not. That day in camp, she received answers that others were unable to give. The girl believes in Jesus, and with a group of children from camp, she

completed the correspondence course “God Cares” and received the certificate.

A 7-year-old girl listened carefully to every lesson and asked many questions. One day she said: “I have Jesus in my heart and at home I sing and talk to him because I know he hears me.” The lessons we taught, she went home and showed to her family.

# SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



Ukrainian refugees have been our dear guests in Estonia since the war started in 2022.

Thousands of children had to leave their homeland and homes. Their first homes have been hotels and all free spaces around the country. After hotels were closed to refugees, about 2,000 refugees found their temporary home on the ferry boat ISABELLE at Tallinn Harbour. Regular meetings with children in the 10<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Hall were held every Monday and Thursday. We had over 40 volunteers taking part in teaching and helping.

During this time a Ukrainian school was opened in Tallinn. In many schools, children were integrated into local school

classes. Several teams were formed from Ukrainian believers, who founded Baptist Bible Church in Tallinn. Several young people had taken the *Teaching Children Effectively* 1 course in Ukraine before the war, and now we were equipping them with the necessary tools to teach children. Their main focus was teenagers at the ferry boat. Hundreds of children took part at Christmas and Easter Clubs. Young teens started to visit the church.

With the team we were able to visit other towns and met Ukrainian children in Culture houses, schools and churches.

During summer the Ukrainian Bible church team organized

Holiday Bible Camp in the central park and invited Ukrainian children via social media to participate. Over 40 children responded to the invitation and took part.

The Ukrainian team used their experience gained in Ukraine and on the ferry boat in Tallinn. Ukrainian young people, the community leader at the Ukrainian school and trained teachers did an exemplary job. We gave out a wide variety of different CEF booklets and tracts to the children and other interested people. Children enjoyed sunny days in the park and responded to the Gospel.



# “ASK GOD AND TELL HIS PEOPLE”

**Child Evangelism Fellowship®** was birthed in the heart of a man called Jesse Irvin Overholtzer. It is said of him that he dreamed of an army of evangelists which circled the globe reaching children in the Name of Jesus. CEF of Europe is working diligently to see this coming to fruition across Europe.

## CEF EUROPE MINISTRY 10 YEAR VISION



To increase the number of Children hearing the glorious Gospel, trusting that many come to Christ—all to the glory of God.



By God's grace CEF Europe hope to increase the number of children reached from **1,426,811** in 2022 to **5,000,000** by 2032



By God's grace CEF Europe hope to increase the number of CEF National Workers from **601** in 2022 to **1,000** by 2032.



## THE CEF EUROPEAN SHORTFALL MINISTRY VISION

Currently CEF of Europe have over 40,000 faithful Ministry Support Partners, praying for and supporting 601 CEF National Workers in 46 countries across Europe. These partners are faithfully and generously bringing in 90 percent of what CEF Europe needs to Train, Equip and Support all 601 workers. The remaining 10 percent of the worker's need is the **SHORTFALL**. In some countries there is no need, as all the support is coming in, and in others, where it is very difficult to do ministry, the need is much higher. Our prayer is that God will use us to encourage, even 1 percent, of the current CEF Ministry Partners in each of the 46 countries in Europe to support the CEF European Shortfall Ministry.



## SHORTFALL PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT GROUPS

God is raising up partnership support groups which are helping see this vision realized. Join with them by becoming part of the Partnership Support Group for the Shortfall Ministry in your country.

For more information on ministry progress and a financial update, please visit [partners.cefeurope.com](https://partners.cefeurope.com)



## CURRENT PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT GROUP PICTURE

YEAR	SHORTFALL	PSG IRELAND			CEF OFFICES			PSG EUROPE			INCOME	%
		PSG	INCOME	%	HQ	INCOME	%	PSG	INCOME	%		
2022	1,400,000	1	396,716	29.36	8	933,009	69.05	5	21,400	1.58	1,352,125	90.77
2023	1,500,000	1	404,955	27.00	5	668,532	44.57	3	23,595	1.57	1,097,082	73.14

Updated for end September 2023

## CURRENT NEED

There is a great need for shortfall ministry support for the CEF workers across Europe between now and the end of the year. Gifts given will be allocated to exactly where the need is, so that ministry can continue in every country.

A Christian trust has kindly offered that for every €10,000 given to Shortfall by new friends across Europe, they will add a further €5,000 to the Shortfall account. We praise God for this opportunity and ask that you pray if the Lord would have you to give a gift for the present need.

### Gifts for shortfall ministry can be sent to:

UBS AG, 8098 Zurich, Switzerland  
 € Account: CEF Europe (European Shortfall)  
 IBAN: CH55 0024 5245 9257 2162 Q  
 BIC: UBSWCHZH80A

Got Questions? Please email  
[harry.robinson@cefeurope.com](mailto:harry.robinson@cefeurope.com)



## PRAY!

Pray with us for new ministry partners for SHORTFALL in 2024. We are praying for a new generation of partners with a vision to see children evangelised across Europe.





# STAND FIRM



## Leadership Development CONFERENCE

Stand firm was the theme of our Leadership Development Conference held with CEF leaders and regional staff from around Europe at the end of September in Istanbul, Turkey. We are thankful to God for the Bible studies from the book of Jude by Gerd-Walter Buskies and motivational sessions from our CEF president, Jeremiah Cho. Our visiting speaker, Gary Cousins, from Acts 29, challenged us about the times we are living in and Iulian Mangalagiu, our regional director inspired us to have a greater vision for the children around us.

All our speakers reminded us of the importance of Standing Firm in difficult, challenging and changing times. We are thankful to God for His protection on this event and the opportunity to meet with co-workers from across the region.

We would have loved to be able to spend more time together but are thankful for the positive impact the LDC had on those who attended.

May God enable each of us to live according to these words, *"Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith; be courageous, be strong."* (1 Cor. 16:13)



“My vision in ministry has been updated. I plan to share this vision with others and set more specific goals in the ministry. I will use the ideas I have received in shaping the ministry strategy.”



“What I would like to change as I go home from this conference is to have a greater burden to pray for the children of Europe so that they will have the opportunity to hear the Gospel.”

“Stand firm is a very important theme in these challenging times. In general, I really enjoyed the time together in this special country with other leaders and the fellowship we did have with each other. The team who organised this all put a LOT of energy into this conference. Thank you very much!”

“What impacted me the most was to see the leaders' passion in evangelising children. I was inspired and encouraged by CEF President Jeremiah Cho's examples, when he shared about persecutions in the Middle East and his own experience in this.”







# Roy Harrison

1942 – 2023

Roy Robert Harrison, born 19 July 1942 in Northern Ireland, heard the Good News of Jesus while studying at Queen's University in Belfast. He was struck by the beauty of the forgiveness Jesus offered him. His life was changed and he wanted to share it. He also came into contact with CEF and began running Good News Clubs alongside his studies. Teaching boys and girls became a priority: he taught groups of children almost every evening.

Jesus' words in John 10:16 convinced him that God was calling him to this ministry and from then on, he was devoted to proclaiming the Gospel, especially to children who did not have the opportunity to hear it at home.

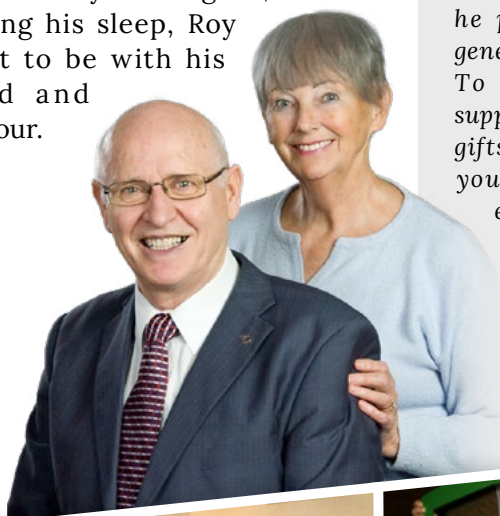
Roy went on to attend the European Bible Institute in 1963 where he met his future wife, Ruth Crawford. Ruth also wanted to serve the Lord by teaching the Bible to children. Later they were married and had four children: Joanne, Christine, Lynda and Paul.

In 1974, an invitation came from the CEF European Director, Sam Doherty, to join the regional staff and come to Switzerland. In 1993, Roy became the European Director of CEF.

Roy's passion for proclaiming the Gospel to children remained: they held a Good News Club every week in their home and clubs were started in Moutier, Perrefitte and Corcelles—this one still exists.

Roy helped train many people over the years. One person remembers him coming into class with loads of sheets of paper and books under his arms, attesting to all he wanted to communicate. Many of them were called to reach boys and girls with the Gospel.

Roy retired in 2010 but continued for eight years as Area Director for Northwest Europe and Interim Director in Sweden. November 2022, he was diagnosed with myasthenia gravis. Despite his courage and that of Ruth at his side, his strength diminished. On Monday 21 August, during his sleep, Roy went to be with his Lord and Saviour.



Roy had many gifts, but I will always remember this one. He flew into Sibiu, the city in Romania where I live. We got in the car and began the eight-hour drive to Iași. As per usual when Roy and I got together: we started to dream, to plan and to strategise. He had his briefcase on his knee, a notepad and we talked. At one moment it got very quiet on the right side. I looked over and Roy was sitting, pen in hand, and his head was down fast asleep. I didn't know what I should do so I decided to wait. About ten minutes later, Roy woke up, and just kept writing and talking exactly where he left off. He had many wonderful gifts, but I praise God for every journey and adventure we had together.

LINDA CORRY

Roy showed me the Lord Jesus. Roy was a shepherd, he cared, he understood, he helped and he protected. He was kind and generous, gracious, and sacrificial. To us he was tremendously supportive. And one of his strongest gifts was encouragement. How do you know when you were being encouraged by Roy? You just looked at his face. When he came to you, you just looked at his face and saw his smile.

HENRY BERRY





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

onmission

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THE CEF LOGO IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP INC.

"It was great to be in an environment where people have the same passion and vision as I do in relation to evangelising children. I believe this is just the beginning of a beautiful story that God wants to write in the lives of each one of us as we serve Him. My desire is that many children hear the gospel and be saved, and that God fills us with boldness and courage to put into practice everything we learn here, without fear. I will certainly miss all the good times I had here."

Dina Oliveira (student attending the CMLC in Portugal)

This summer 38 students were trained at Children's Ministry Leadership Courses held in Europe. One course took place in Sibiu, Romania. Students came from 14 countries, along with interpreters and babysitters for the start of the course on 11 June. A total of 27 students attended, some only taking the first half and others returning to complete their training. The course ended on 1 September with 21 students graduating.

The second CMLC (first six weeks only) took place in Portugal, starting 23 July and finishing 1 September. Eleven students attended, eight coming from Portugal and three from Spain. The second half of this training is planned for summer 2024.

## REGIONAL NEWS

Andrew and Beulah McMullan were serving as assistant Area directors for Southwest Europe. They were recently appointed as Area directors for Southwest Europe. We are grateful for their ministry and ask prayer for them as they coordinate the work in the Southwest area and for Beulah as she leads the monthly Hope for Europe prayer meeting.

