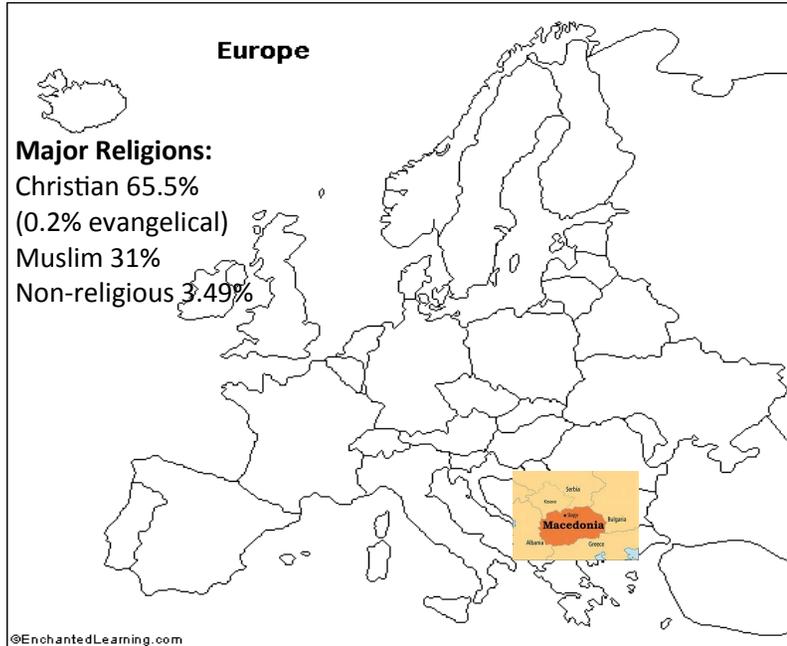


Pray for Macedonia

Population: 2,043,360

Spiritual Climate: freedom of religion, but some discrimination remains against non-traditional (non-Orthodox) groups.



PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that the people in Macedonia who have not yet heard the Gospel would be given that opportunity and be open to accepting the truth of Christ.
- Pray for Bible training for church leaders. Leadership training is probably the primary church need in the Macedonia.
- Pray for God to break through the veil of religion to reach the hearts of people to see their need for Christ as Savior.
- Pray for Macedonian Christians to be light to those around them.

Interesting Facts:

- There are at least 10 languages spoken in the small country of Macedonia. It is somewhat of a “melting pot” of Europe.

Macedonia

How is God working here?



This month we have the opportunity to pray for the nation of Macedonia.

Although Macedonia is listed as 65.5% Christian, this can be deceiving; only 0.2% are evangelical Christians. Most Macedonians claim to be part of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, which does not emphasize the need for a personal relationship with Christ as Savior. This church claims to represent almost two-thirds of the population, but more than 1,000 churches remain largely empty, and most Macedonians are secular and unreligious in practice. The Orthodox Church sometimes opposes new religious expressions such as evangelicalism, but dialogue is increasing. Pray for new life to touch this church and all those who belong to it. **Pray that their hearts would be softened to the truth of Jesus.**

The evangelical church in Macedonia is one of the fastest growing in Europe and displays growing unity across its theological breadth. Churches are ambitious in their outreach and church planting goals, and they minister across ethnic and national boundaries to share the gospel with their neighbors, a remarkable feat given the Balkanization of the region. Pray for unity among Macedonian peoples and small but growing evangelical churches. Many Macedonian Christians have a greatly outward-focused ministry, and so deliberately move into cities and neighborhoods previously unevangelized. House churches are a great part of this focus. Pray for a grassroots movement that sees the numbers of Macedonian believers multiply rapidly. Pray for training and discipleship for church leaders. There is only one non-Orthodox theological school in the country.

The ethnic minorities are also numerous and all are in need of ministry. It is a place of great immigration, along with many refugees seeking help there now. Pray for those that are using these opportunities to reach out to those in need.

There is a team from LBC going there this month, led by Ethan Prouse. They asked for prayer in the following areas: faithfulness in refugee ministry, opportunities for gospel conversations with Macedonians and that God would use them to encourage and strengthen the ministries of the church plants there. Pray for missionaries and church plants in Muslim-dominated city of T'vo.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. (Revelation 7:9)