LADAGE NEWS

Church Planting Catalysts for Central & Eastern Europe

Merry Christmas

We praise God for you and thank him for your partnership with us in the gospel this past year! We pray you have a wonderful Christmas as you focus on the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Your gratitude for what he did for you overflows to blessings for us and those we minister to in Europe.

It's been amazing to see how God has worked in the cities of Europe even though it is the most secularized continent in the world. Five of the cities we travel to either have planted a new church or will plant in early 2018.

We thank God for the opportunity in December to travel to New York City to celebrate what he has done this year through City to City, to celebrate Bobby's mother's 92 birthday in PA, with his family, and to celebrate Christmas with our children and 9 grandchildren. It is such a blessing to be home for the holidays!



All Roads Lead to Rome

Last month 70 network leaders from 27 European cities gathered in Rome for our City to City meetings. We discussed how to start gospel movements so more people would hear the gospel, more churches would be planted and more social and justice ministries would touch the lives of people in our cities. Strategic plans and next steps were made, but more importantly was the emphasis on praying for our cities.

Highlights from our church planters

Evgeny, our Network Leader and friend from Moscow, received death threats while we were in Rome from those who oppose his ministry. His church is growing (over 600 in 6 years) and a new church is starting in January in "New Moscow," a region in the southern part of the city. We praise God for the boldness and courage of Evgeny and his church planter, Vlad, who continue to preach the gospel despite opposition.



Prayer Requests

Please pray

- God will continue to grow the new churches in Helsinki, Stockholm, Kiev, Warsaw, Moscow and Krakow.
- more men and women will commit to planting churches in the cities of Europe in 2018.
- the existing churches and church plants will commit to praying for Europe to be filled with God's glory.
- believers in these churches will grow in their faith and be bold in sharing the gospel.
- believers will be alert to the schemes of the devil and daily put on the armor of God.
- us to have wisdom and direction for the future as we continue to meet with the European Network leaders.
- us to continue to stay in the word, listen to God and apply the gospel to our lives daily.

Please contact us at <u>bladage@eamail.org</u> or on Teresa's Facebook page. Donate at <u>UWM.org</u> under missionaries. Please pray they will continue to preach the gospel despite opposition.

Our friends and church planters in Helsinki, Martti and Soili, in the picture on the left with Bobby, have had 70 Iraqi men receive Christ in their new church this year. Martti and Soili are part of an Evangelical Lutheran denomination. They are growing and influencing other Lutheran churches in the city as they faithfully preach the gospel.

Please pray for them to find and develop new leaders to help them with the various ministries in their church. And for the refugees to clearly understand the gospel and grow in their faith.

In the picture below, I'm talking to Lotta and Madeline from Stockholm, who are planting churches along with their husbands. They were interested in my prayer book and asked if I would come next year and encourage the women in their church plants to pray and share the Good News with others.

Please pray for their churches to grow in numbers and in faith and for women in these churches to commit to praying for their city.

