

# where WORLDS meet

the monthly newsletter for the church of the nazarene in eurasia

YEAR 10, ISSUE 8 • OCTOBER 2013

## Armenia summer camp changes kids

By CIS Field

Over a hundred children and teens took part this year in Armenia's teen and children camps near Lake Sevan this summer.

Amidst fun games, team building activities, meals, swimming and friendships developed, God's presence was felt camp-wide. Reports state that large percentages of both kids and teens responded to both the altar calls and changed attitudes in general. Nine people were baptized.

"Their parents testify to a spiritual change in the lives of many of the kids," says Anna Artsrunyan-Gonzales, director of the Children's Camp. In one specific case, "There was a boy who was very nasty with his parents and the parents didn't know what to do; they even wanted to take the child to a special school, as they couldn't deal with him anymore. However, his parents were in crisis in their own relationship as well and almost divorced. This child came to the camp, the pastors did their best to spend time with him. Several days after the camp the parents came to our pastor in Akhuryan and were very thankful, noticing a big change in the child and they are surprised with the miracle. The child was able even to bring the parents together to become a happy family. Now this child is attending the Kids Club in Akhuryan.

"The parents came to our

see "ARMENIA" page 2

## BRITISH ISLES SOUTH YOUTH GO TO AFRICA



The British Isles South District youth mission team held an evangelistic campaign in Mwanza, Tanzania, in July, followed by a leadership conference and workshops on AIDS prevention and understanding.

By Matt Lee  
Eurasia Region Communications

The British Isles South District sent a youth Work & Witness team to Africa from July 24 to August 6. The team consisted of 12 people, most of whom were between the ages of 16 and 22.

They had two specific assignments. The first was to hold an evangelistic campaign from July 27 to 30 in Mwanza, Tanzania, and the second was to hold a leadership conference for the district, which included workshops, youth training and AIDS education.

On the Saturday before the campaign began, they trained leaders in the church on how to follow up with those who would attend the services during the week. This took place at the Kiseke Church of the Nazarene with the pastor of the church, Erick Oguta.

The team of 12 was split into three smaller teams of four who were led by adults, to be able to minister to the different age groups more effectively. There was a team for adults, led by Chris Lewis, a team for youth, led by Sarah St. Clair-Whicker, and a team for children, led by Karen Lewis.

After the first day they also began holding discipleship seminars for new Christians. They kicked off the evangelistic campaign on Sunday by holding Sunday school classes and leading the morning church service.

During the week, they saw many miraculous things, including the local witch doctor's daughter coming to Christ, one of the respected elders of the village surrendering his life to the Lord, several people being freed from bondage to the enemy and seeing 76 people making decisions to follow Christ.

see "AFRICA" • page 2

# ARMENIA: Kids becoming leaders in ministry

from page 1

pastor...noticing a big change in the child."

But it was not just changing attitudes in the camp. God even made plans beyond their expectations.

"There was a girl from Yerevan (capital city) that we barely knew, and she told us that she wanted to come the night before we left. There was a misunderstanding. We tried to call and tell her not to come, but we couldn't contact her. The next morning she showed up packed and ready for camp. During camp, she came to know Jesus. She now attends our youth group and helped a lot during the VBS as a volunteer," says Lusine Melkonyan, the Armenian NYI director.

Kids are becoming leaders in these ministries, and many are planning to attend future camps. The effects of camp are even allowing an openness of parents to send their children to Kids Clubs, which occur throughout the year, allowing for more ministry and discipleship exposure.



Nine people were baptized at the Armenia teen and children's camps where many youth experienced significant change in their lives and attitudes.

# AFRICA: Team conducted HIV/AIDS workshops

from page 1

But for Chris, the trip's organizer, there was one experience that stood far and above all others.

"It was the experience of baptizing 20 people in Lake Victoria."

He and St. Clair-Whicker shared the duties of baptizing the people at the end of their time in Mwanza. They also baptized two people from their team: Jojo White and Jenny Rae.

"Both of these young ladies wanted to express their faith through the waters of baptism side by side with their African brothers and sisters," said Chris, "I am sure that that day will be one that neither they, nor I, will ever forget."

St. Clair-Whicker said her favorite part of the trip was, "Every time we had a time of worship, the [teenagers] just gave it everything and praised God so much and all of us came away really changed by that."

On the Friday after the campaign, they took a 12-hour bus trip to Nairobi, Kenya, for the second part of their assignment. On Saturday morning they hosted a district leadership conference at the Nairobi Central Church of the Nazarene.

Chris and his team led the training of the different leaders during the day and St. Clair-Whicker, along with Danny Watson, headed seminars that were directed toward women in ministry, youth in ministry and AIDS education.

St. Clair-Whicker said, "Quite often there is a stigma attached to kids



with AIDS and HIV, as if they've done something horribly wrong ... they don't always know how it spreads or that many [children] are born with it, so we wanted to get that information across to them."

The following Sunday the four teams were sent to different churches to experience worship in various ways including Central Nazarene Church, a

village church and churches that were located in two different slums.

Karen said, "Africa was an encouragement and a blessing but there are also a lot of needs and so many times I'd like to be able to help more."

Joanna Tamburello, 22, said, "The most powerful part of the trip was in the church in the slums. They had nothing but were praising God for their life. It makes you realize the gift of life God has given us."

There were many powerful moments that happened on the trip. People being delivered from evil spirits, people coming to Christ, the hospitality shown to the Work & Witness team; the way God moved not only in the hearts and lives of the Africans, but in the hearts and lives of each of the members of the team as well.

Chris summed up the trip by reminding the team, "While in Africa we were able to see God's power, and the God who lives in Africa lives in your country, too."



# Chaltyr church example of missional orientation

By Zee Kleshchar  
and Gina Grate Pottenger  
Eurasia Region Communications

It is often said that missions should be at the heart of every local church. That can certainly be said of Grace Church of the Nazarene, in Chaltyr, Russia.

Although this congregation of about 100 is situated in a small town of only 16,000, it is touching people not only in nearby villages and cities, but people in and from many other nations.

Situated near the Sea of Azov, the town of Chaltyr's history goes back to 1779 when the town was founded by Armenians who lived in the area. Grace Church of the Nazarene was established in October of 1992. It consists mainly of Armenians as well as people of other nationalities, professions, and ages who are united in their love for Christ and each other.

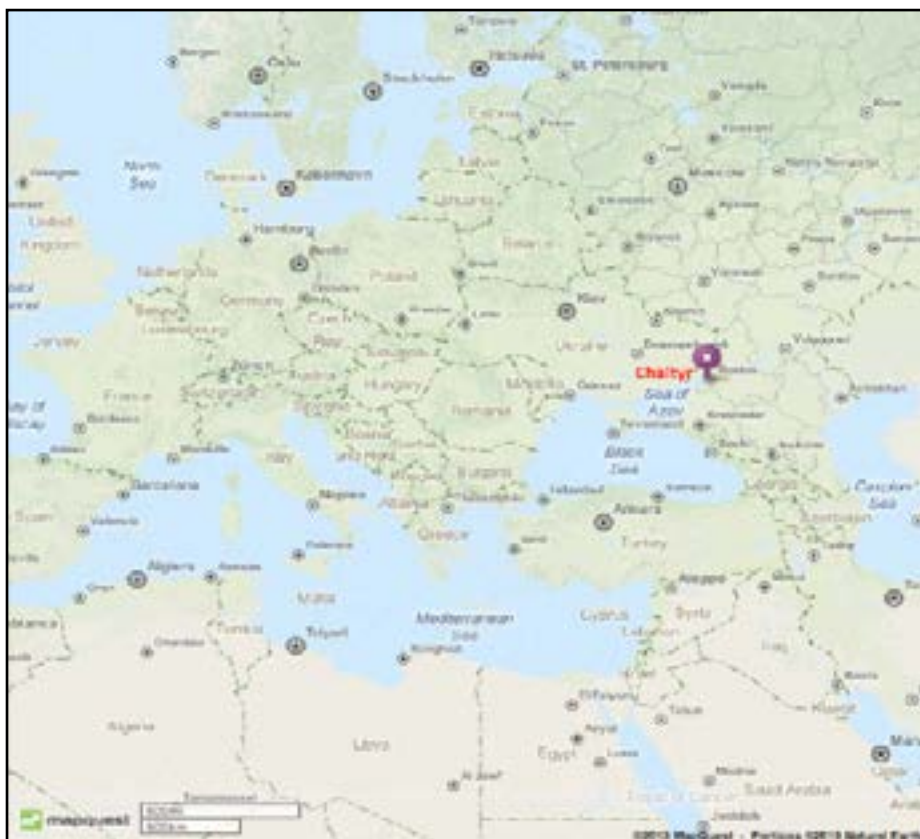
Vasiliy Mamchitz, the pastor, and his wife Svetlana, were the founders of Grace Church. The congregation, which started with four to five people, has gone on to plant Bible study ministries in six surrounding villages and towns, including Bataisk, Morskoy Chulek, Hapry, Crimea. There is also a service meeting in the nearby town of Rostov-on-Don, and one in a village called Chkalovo.

"We all have different education levels, ages, tastes and experiences. However, there is something that unites us. It is God's love and faith in Him. Possibly, this is what makes us different from other people on the street and makes us somewhat special," said Pastor Vasiliy.

## To the ends of the earth

The church sent a missionary, Brother Hacheres, to Israel to start a drug rehab ministry there as well as to serve people on the street. Hacheres has been conducting a Bible study group, in addition to a Saturday meeting in Sderot. Besides that, he also ministered to the drug addicts in Tel Aviv and helped out at a rehab center in Ashkelon.

In 2012, the Chaltyr church started evangelistic work among immigrants from nearby countries, distributing Christian books and *JESUS* film DVDs among them in their native languages. The church held an outreach event and



invited a group of believers from the immigrants' home country. They sang folk songs as well as Christian ones, then testified about their lives and how God has saved and worked in them. The evening ended with a prayer for the Christians in their home countries.

"We feel the call to spread the Good News to another nearby region called Myasnikovsky and we believe that God is preparing a glorious revival for people there," Vasiliy said.

## To Judea

On a more local level, the church organizes events at some of the public schools to promote preventive measures against drug abuse and trafficking. Those who have gone through addiction rehab programs share what drug abuse is like in real life, to counteract how it is glamorized in TV shows and movies.

The Sunday school began at the same time as the church, and today sees about 20 children every week. The current Sunday school teachers are young adults who grew up in the Chaltyr church's Sunday school.

"It is incredible to observe how these young people are on fire for the kids, praying and sharing the Gospel with them, setting a good Christian example for the little ones."

## To Samaria

"The 'Ark' Church in Rostov-on-Don, a plant of Chaltyr, recently celebrated its third anniversary. Thirty to 45 people (adults and children) attend every Sunday. During the week, there are two Bible study groups. They are praying for God to provide them a building soon.

In March 2012, Chaltyr planted another church in Chkalovo. The ministry is led by Pastor Arsen and there are 12 to 15 people who come every Sunday (out of the total population of 254). The ladies from the church in Chaltyr are helping with children's ministry. Chkalovo Church also has a prayer group.

Sixteen to 25 youth meet once a week, and host a separate weekly prayer meeting. They have worked in child centers, evangelizing and witnessing to people who work there, as well as to the kids, even cleaning the orphanage. The young people are also engaged in drama ministry, worship, ministry to children in an orphanage and at the children's club, cleaning the church hall, and evangelizing.

"Our God is an amazing God who is performing miracles even in our day and age, using His faithful people as witnesses of His incredible love for the humankind," Vasiliy said.

# Meet your communications team



Gina Grate Pottenger joined Eurasia Communications in February 2010, coming from Nazarene Global Mission where she worked in communications since February 2007.

Gina manages the written publications for the Eurasia Region, in addition to serving as the managing editor of Engage magazine ([www.engagemagazine.com](http://www.engagemagazine.com)), the global mission online publication for the denomination.

Gina has a bachelor's degree in English literature from Northwest Nazarene University and is married to Andrew Pottenger.

Matt Lee joined the team in April 2013 as a writer, designer and videographer.

He attended Olivet Nazarene University and, after his first semester, realized that God was calling him into pastoral ministry. He graduated in 1994 with a B.A. in religion and was a youth pastor for 16 years.

He was a delegate for General NYI Convention in Orlando, Florida, in 2009, and it was there that he accepted the call to get involved in missions. Prior to Eurasia, he was a missionary in New Zealand.

He will serve in Eurasia until April 2014.

Zarah Miller joined the Eurasia Communications team in September to be our new videographer.

A country girl at heart, she was raised in Warrington, Indiana, but attended Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois. Zarah graduated in 2011 from Olivet with a B.S. in mass communications with a concentration in TV & video production and a minor in theatre. After graduation, she continued to work with her alma mater in media, as well as doing wedding videography.

Her passion for storytelling, travel, and meeting people is what brought her here today.

# MISSION VIDEOS

For a number of years, English speaking churches in the Eurasia Region have been receiving copies of Global Mission DVD, a collection of video mission stories from Nazarenes around the world. The collection is distributed three times per year. Churches often show the videos in mission-themed services or in small groups or mission meetings.

The format of the package is changing from a plastic DVD case to a paper envelope. While the DVD will continue to be shipped to the Eurasia Region and distributed to English-speaking churches once or twice a year, all churches can access these videos immediately through the Internet. As soon as they are released, the videos are posted for download or to watch at the Nazarene Media Library, [www.medialibrary.nazarene.org](http://www.medialibrary.nazarene.org).

NMI presidents may want to download the videos to share in a

mission-themed service or Sunday school class. Individuals with a passion for global missions may also have an interest in online streaming these compelling stories of God at work in the people and communities through the Church of the Nazarene.

To look up the stories from each DVD volume, visit [http://web.nazarene.org/site/PageNavigator/Stories\\_Archive](http://web.nazarene.org/site/PageNavigator/Stories_Archive) and click on the latest volume. It will display the mission story videos from that DVD.



# LIVING MISSION

Several years ago, Nazarene Missions International – the public relations heart of Global Mission in every local church – developed an English-language mission curriculum called Living Mission.

This video-based, multi-media kit is designed to provoke thoughtful discussion about the challenges, hard questions and reality of missions around the world today.

Each kit contains six lessons with videos, discussion questions, audio media, hands-on projects called CAUSES, and other resources.

Your church family, NYI groups, NMI, Sunday school classes, or other small groups can use these resources to disciple, involve and mentor future mission leaders for God's mission in the nations.

Living Mission is especially appealing to youth, young adults and emerging generations who are taking on leadership in NMI and missions in



the local church.

Living Mission is a resource available for purchase through Nazarene Publishing House, and once purchased, can be downloaded online for use in the local church.

There is also a section called “freebies” on the Living Mission

website where pieces of the curriculum and extras are available to the general public.

Learn more and view video trailers at [www.livingmission.com](http://www.livingmission.com).



*"The LORD is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?" (NIV)  
Psalm 27:1*

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## Goodbye, Dennis Mohn



Dennis Mohn has served as the Eurasia Region Communications coordinator since November 2009. He recently accepted a full-time pastorate position at the Vlaardingen Church of the Nazarene in the Netherlands, and has resigned as communications coordinator to focus his attention on being a pastor. Thank you for your leadership, Dennis!

### Prayer Requests

- Please pray for God's continued blessing on the growth and discipleship occurring at the Nazarene churches in Chaltyr and Rostov, Russia. Ask God to pour out His Holy Spirit on the people, and bring many new people to faith.
- Please pray for the youth of the British Isles. Ask God to raise up leaders, and develop their faith in passion and maturity. Pray for those whom God is calling to missions and ministry to answer that call.
- Please pray for the youth and children in Armenia who attended summer camp. Ask God to continue blessing those who accepted Christ or are growing into leadership positions. Ask God to turn them into passionate disciples of Christ.
- Please pray for the person whom God is raising up to become the Eurasia Region's new director. Pray that those in the selection process will recognize God's choice, and that God will empower and equip the new director for leadership.
- Christ commands us to pray for more workers for the harvest in Luke 10:2: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (NIV). Pray that God would raise up and equip new workers across the region.

*Where Worlds Meet* is the monthly newsletter for the Eurasia Region of the Church of the Nazarene. To subscribe, e-mail [communications@eurasiaregion.org](mailto:communications@eurasiaregion.org) or visit [www.eurasiaregion.org](http://www.eurasiaregion.org).

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