



Editorial by Gerrit Wiersema, Trustee EEO UK

O what a glorious day

When I am writing this editorial it is right in the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles. During this feast the Jews were, and still are living in huts with leafy roofs. Remembering how God had taken them through the wilderness into the promised land. Jews traditionally expect the Messiah to arrive at Sukkot. It is very likely that Jesus was actually born during Sukkot rather than Christmas. A fact is that Jesus' first public appearance in Jerusalem was during this feast (see John 7). It is also the harvest feast and the people of Israel were commanded to be joyful.

Nowadays we are bombarded by bad news, Covid spreading, people dying, war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The world is now on a macro scale experiencing what the people of Israel were experiencing during the 40 years in the desert. Diseases, plagues, hunger and thirst, enemies attacking etc. May you be encouraged that the Lamb of God sacrificed His life about 2000 years ago. Just like the blood of the Pesach lamb at the start of the exodus was a substitute for all the first born, so Christ's blood paid for our lives. And while we are currently walking around on an earth suffering with labour pains, we know that one day we **will** enter the Promised Land. One day at the final Sukkot, the final harvest the Lord will gather His people and He will live among us. O what a glorious day!

Ready steady go!

by Lacramioara Voinescu

Like a tidal wave the corona virus hit our village of Slobozia. Many became ill and even more were infected but without any symptoms. Two persons died, among them a 26 year old, and former student of the school. The time of quarantine was extraordinarily hard. The army and police had locked the village and were patrolling with helicopters.

The children have not been able to go to school since the beginning of March. I have visited all the children at home and have given them homework and instructions. Online school is impossible in the village. The children really miss school and often ask me when they can come back.

During the summer months I have organised a play week. In small groups the children were allowed to come to the school. A little girl, Alesia, was so emotional that she cried when she entered the class room. The children loved the games and crafts. They also played with the toys. Many of them do not have toys and it was so nice to see them playing.

The children also had a meal at the school. During the graduation ceremony for children who would leave the pre-school to go to primary school in the village of Alesia, Alberto and Ioanatan told me they would much rather be at the pre-school. On 14th of September the school reopened. Many materials had to be purchased in order to meet the government Covid19 guidelines. This has been very expensive. For example we are only allowed to purchase certain government approved disinfectants and only made by approved brands.

We have had many inspections over the years and the inspectors have always been very impressed by our hygiene and cleanliness. This school year is going to be very challenging as we have to divide children over 2 classrooms as there are only 10 children allowed per class. This means that we need to hire an extra teacher. I have prayed hard for a solution. My cousin Daniela is going to help this school year. She is a teacher and also a qualified psychologist, she knows the children and it is a great blessing she is willing to help. We are looking for financial support for Daniela as well, would you be able to help?

Outreach in Janosi by Viki Antal

Summer camp

During the summer we were able to finally organise a children's programme in Janosi Roma gypsy camp. It was such a great joy to meet up with the children again. The lockdown has turned their lives upside down. The Roma camp is a completely different world, the poverty very striking and the mentality of the people is also very different from that of the Ukrainians and Hungarians living in the area. The children told me that they are not afraid of the virus because the virus does not like gypsies. However after every programme they pray for the sick and ask God to make an end to the pandemic. Children notice that things are different from the time before. One little girl told me, 'It is good that God always stays the same, He does not change and He even has power over viruses'. We are often so distracted that we forget this simple but powerful truth. It was a real encouragement for me personally!

Boarding school

I recently received a request for help from the principal of the Boarding School, where I work on Saturdays. The school does not receive any government support to keep up with the mandatory hygiene measures to prevent the spread of Covid. Would you please be able to help us with this matter?



Pakistan by Pastor Nadeem Din

As a pastor I am confronted by practical problems all the time. One of the main issues at the moment is famine caused by the Coronavirus. At the moment many of our Brothers and Sisters go through the day without any food. Local government and aid organisations hand out food to the people, however, Christians are being excluded. They are taken out of the queues in front of the foodbanks and forced to renounce their faith and become a Muslim. If they will not do this, they do not receive any food. You may think this cannot be true but it is the harsh reality.

Many people are day labourers and are paid on the same day. Because of the lockdown they have been unable to work, which means they have no income at all. Our Brothers and Sisters knock at the doors of the churches for help as they will not get any help elsewhere.

With the help of Asian Care we have been able to help 130 families with food parcels. Together with other local pastors we want to prevent people dying of hunger. We want to continue giving out food parcels until the crisis is over. Every little helps. Please remember these families in your prayers.



Website

Over the past months we have been preparing a whole new website. In the next few weeks we hope to have this live on the same place as our current website.

www.eeouk.org

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EASTERN EUROPEAN OUTREACH is a Faith Ministry. All our activities are dependent solely on the financial gifts we receive. We work on an interdenominational basis, and our goal is the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every way open to us. Our Newsletter is published regularly and sent free of charge on application. However, a freewill gift of £10 a year would help to cover postage and production costs. EEO UK works with Eastern European Outreach International, a group of missions and ministries. The main partner is Stg. OosteropaZending, Netherlands, on behalf of Child Sponsor Programme, Christian Care East and West, Children's Relief, Medical Relief, Israel Support and Vision Latina.

