



May, 2017
Volume: 6 Issue: 2

From Seed to Trees
Newsletter

REPORT UPDATE Mervyn V Dunkin

The past twelve months has seen God at work in several ways. The Board has been praying for over two years for new Board members. Well, God has provided three potential men. They are thrilled to have these men who will bring new ideas and direction. However, we do need some ladies for the Board. We have been looking, so please pray that the right ladies will come and join us.

The ministry is active in three countries at this stage, and many opportunities are opening up. On Frits's last trip to Eastern Europe he went into Transnistria. This country has a border with Moldova. In fact, it was once part of Moldova. God has opened the doors for "From Seed to Trees" to move into that country. Just recently the pastor whom Frits met, lost his house in a fire. "From Seed to Trees" was able to donate \$500 Australian dollars to help him rebuild.

Moldova is still very much in our ministry prayers. God is on the move in that country. They decided that their focus should be on small groups and find that God is using this method. There is an awareness amongst the students that there is a God who loves them. We were blessed to have Zina the leader, and Aidan from the student movement in Baltse, come to Australia. Those who met them were blessed and several Romanian churches were blessed by Aiden's preaching.

Vietnam is an important part of providing exposure to Asian culture. This team is led by the Nichols. It is party that educates and challenges those who go. The last trip gave opportunity of 'hands on' experience. This included the teaching of English and speaking about Australia.

Wherever Australians go, they are always welcomed to these countries. Another important contact with the peoples that we visit is English. It is that key which gives us access into High schools and Universities.

Last year the GREEN COLLECTION BOXES were a blessing from God as over \$1200 was raised. This money was directed to programs in Vietnam, Moldova and Belarus. It is such a delight to be able to give away these dollars to areas in which we minister. A big "thankyou" for your contribution and may you be blessed in your giving.

One of the highlights of the year was the Hymn singing afternoon. It was such a great time. Another is to be held on the 20th May at Stafford Heights Baptist Church. (see below). We felt that Malyon College was too far away from the core of surrounding churches. It would be great if you could come. Maybe you could get a team of five to come. It will be a great time. Entry will be by DONATION and there will be an afternoon tea.

During the year there were several bus trips and these were lovely outings. The trip to the Carnival of Flowers at Toowoomba is always a delight. Good food, good company and the flowers are sooo beautiful! This was a mission money-raiser.

BELARUS

Belarus is an amazing country. It is the cleanest I have ever seen. There are night brigades which clean the cities. It is a communist country and has a population of 9.5 million people. The main religion is Orthodox, with a scattering of Islam and protestant churches. Religion is carefully controlled. There are no outside Christian meetings. However, at this stage, Christians are not obeying this. It is dangerous to do this, but at this very moment there are seven missions taking place.

The time in Belarus was a real blessing. There were opportunities to encourage, teach, share the Gospel and speak into the lives of a number of people. The feedback from the students was very positive and it seems that God used me during my stay in this country. One of the blessings that "From Seed to Trees" had was to give financial help to the leaders in Belarus. This was such a privilege to pass the blessing on. This was possible because of a gracious donor. Some live on just \$US1000 per year.

Hymns of Praise and Worship

Come and join WROK* and From Seed to Trees as we sing many of the old favourites

When: **Saturday, 20th May 2017**
at Stafford Heights Baptist Church
68 Appleby Road, Stafford Heights

Time: **1.45 for 2pm**
Includes Afternoon Tea
A donation will be received

Guest Singers from the Romanian Community will be in National Dress
singing in their own language

*For further information, contact: Carol on 0417 610 861
or Merv on 3863 2454 or 0407 397 013*

***WROK** is a group within the Bridgeman Downs Baptist Community Church,
standing for "Without Responsibility Of Kids"

From Seed To Trees vision is to take the love of God and His Word to the people of Moldova, Romania, Belarus and Vietnam. Our purpose is "Sowing and Growing" which we do through the Word of God, discipling, mentoring and practical involvement.

Vietnam Report

Owen Nichols

In a poor country like Vietnam, there are many opportunities to show Jesus' Gospel of love.

On our last visit to Vietnam, From Seed To Trees members and supporters were taken by YWAM Mercy Vietnam to visit the home of Mrs Huyen. Her husband was in a serious motor-bike accident and cannot work. She looks after him, as well as Hieu and his sister and two grandmothers, but she has just been diagnosed with cancer. The roof of their house leaks and



they have to sleep where it drips, because the rice they depend on for food must not get wet.

They have saved up most of the bricks needed to build a new house, but needed a little more money to start building. We were able to help provide the remaining money, and other sponsors ensure the children remain at school. This is a blessing to people like Mrs Huyen and her family, and enables them to understand our message of love and hope.



Grodno & Baranovichi Report

Merv Dunkin

In **Grodno**, the team were very worried about preparations for the event. Two weeks before, the MW leaders even thought of cancelling everything, because the team in the city is small and there was no large support there. But God sent help from different cities and even countries - and the event took place! God worked miraculously and brought seeking students to the meetings! The majority of new people came thanks to the distributed flyers.

One such student was Marta (*pictured above on the left*) was randomly handed a flyer when the team had extra free time. A month and a half ago, her mother died, and she had been dealing with anger toward God. Marta wanted to jump off a bridge because of the difficulties in her life. At the meeting on the topic of suffering, she repented. At the third event of the week, her friend repented too, Praise the Lord! Please pray for the spiritual growth of Marta, her friend, and other young people who came to God in Grodno. About 160-180 young people took part in the meetings, **4 came to Christ** and 26 wanted to learn more about Christianity - for them 'Uncover Bible Studies' were started.



In **Baranovichi**, the MW project was called "**1517. Science and the Bible**". Lunch talks took place in a cafe in the city centre, which was a great miracle for the team.

Some people came to buy coffee, stayed for the discussion, and then came back the next day. On the last day, the cafe could not accommodate all the people, and more than 100 students heard the saving message of the Gospel. Also, lectures were held at the city University. After the meetings were concluded, a total of 17 people had come to know God. **Glory to Him for the work in Baranovichy!**



In 2017/2018 there are cultural and training opportunities in Moldova, Romania, Belarus, Transnistria and Vietnam. These opportunities are life-changing, and God continues the transformation when they return back to Australia.

As you have read this, may you be blessed and encouraged that God is on the move. And last but not least, I want to thank all the prayerful and financial supporters, as well as the dedication of each of the Board members and their contribution. Be blessed.

Mervyn V. Dunkin

Chairman

Prayer Points:

Kristina in Belarus and her work in the university,
Dina as the General Secretary for all IFES work in Belarus,
Zina of Moldova and her work as the group prepares for summer camps,
Pray for the new converts in Belarus as they grow in Jesus,
Remember the November Vietnam Team in their preparation,
Pray that the Board will be attentive to the voice of God in its decision making in regards to other opportunities in Eastern Europe.

Please charge my:

VISA AMEX

Card No:

Exp Date: Amount \$

Card Name

Signature

*Thank
you*

or Transfer Funds to: Commonwealth Bank Australia

Albany Creek Road, Albany Creek, Qld 4035

Banking Details: BSB: 064180

Account Number: 10260824

Name: From Seed to Trees Ltd

PO Box 495, Albany Creek, Qld 4035

Phone: (07) 3863 2454

Please NOTE: All details are kept CONFIDENTIAL

From SEED to TREES

Sowing and Growing

PO Box 495, Albany Creek, Qld 4035

Phone: (07) 3863 2454

Thank you for your prayerful and financial support of this ministry