



Herman & Betsy
Bouwhuizen

European Missions Outreach



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Repairing Old Ruins

Isaiah 61:4 - Restoring the Gospel of Christ to Europe

Baptism Celebration – A few Sunday's ago we had our church service outside at the local lake and park. The music team set up and with the help of a generator we broke the silence with songs proclaiming that Jesus is Lord in Delft. Many people stopped and watched and asked questions. Then we all walked down to the lake



Katharine's Baptism

(which was still very cold) for the baptism. Betsy and I had the privilege of baptizing Katharine Steddon who gave her testimony in our last newsletter. **A Muslim family turns to God** - As a result of one lady from Iraq reaching out to her Muslim friends and inviting them to visit the church, the Aziz family of four gave their lives to the Lord. Then they asked to be baptized and are part of the church. We see this as a door the Lord is opening and another reason why the new building is located in a predominately Muslim neighborhood. *Please pray for open doors to minister to more Muslim families.*

Horizon Family of Churches – In March we met with this great group in Paris. There were pastors and missionaries from Holland, France, Germany, Romania, England, Ireland and the USA. Together we will support



Get together In Paris

outreaches in Belgium, Hungary, and Holland this summer (and Ireland in October). We spent three days planning, encouraging, worshiping and praying together to see what the Lord is doing and how we can work and support each other. And there is much work to do.

Antwerp, Belgium – Here's a quick update on the work in Antwerp. Betsy has continued to be involved with the home group and will lead the meeting this week. We have been doing the pre-marriage counseling with a couple as a direct result of the outreach last summer. They will marry on May 18th. We've seen at least two people come to Christ in the past months in Antwerp as a result of people bringing their friends to the group.

Special project: The Delft team made a CD about Antwerp that gives a quick picture of the spiritual climate by interviewing people on the streets of Antwerp. We will be glad to share it with you – prepare to have your heart challenged! *Pray for the Lord to protect the work He is doing in Belgium.* (Pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored...2 Thessalonians 3:1)



An open-air service at the local park

Levend Water Update – Transition! That is the word for the local church we are working with here. I have been spending much time working with the team that is planning the big move from the Lutheran Church that we have been meeting in for the past 5 years to a building in another part of the city. It is a unique building and a strategic location right on a bike path that many of students use to get to the Technical University. The church finally has a permanent office and large rooms for the children. And the service will be on an inside tennis court. It's quite a change from the traditional church built in the 1600's to the modern office building but we see that it's just a confirmation that the Lord is doing a new thing! The first service in the new building will be May 5th - we're all looking forward to that day!

Our counseling, staff responsibilities and leading the cells in our care keep us focused on the work He has called us here to do with the Dutch and internationals. And we love it. Betsy is still coordinating the prayer groups, involved in helping in Antwerp, leading Bible studies with ladies, singing with the worship team and writing more songs.

Prayer for The Netherlands –

Once a month a small group gathers to pray for unity in the city of Delft. We have been encouraged to see Christians from different churches and generations come together to pray. This group has been meeting for 50 years! The man who had the initial vision began to pray for young people to come and join them and as we looked around the room we saw the answer to that prayer as the 20 people gathered ranged in age from 17 to 84 and represented at least 6 churches in the city. It is a blessing to see how the rich Christian heritage is beginning to take root again. *Read about how you can join a worldwide prayer initiative to pray for a spiritual change in The Netherlands from May 9-18 at: www.10dagenvoornederland.nl.*



Praying for the city of Delft

Finances – It's hard to believe that we are beginning our 5th year on the mission field! Many of you have supported us

Upcoming Plans – Even though Spring has just begun, we wanted you to know what we will be involved in this summer, our busy time. *We would appreciate your prayers for us as we prepare to travel and minister in these different places:*

- May 9-27** we will be in the states to attend the Evangel Fellowship International Conference. We will be in Virginia, Georgia and Florida and will try to touch base with as many of you as possible.
- July 1-14** "Antwerp and Delft Outreach" with a team from Connecticut.
- July 22-28** "SOZO" in Baja, Hungary. About 600 young adults from all over Eastern Europe will come to Hungary for this Christian Music Festival. The purpose is to strengthening musicianship and for them to take the message of reconciliation back to their countries. We will again work with our friends, Dave and Ev Lloyd and Randy Morgan.
- August 5-12** "Antwerp Outreach" with a team from North Carolina.

financially and we are grateful beyond words. You are the enabler that God is using to do His work here in Europe. Since January when the Euro became our new currency throughout Europe, we have seen the cost of living rise. *Please pray and seek God about how you can help.* The giving we receive is our sole source of income and we need an increase. (If you would like to have a disclosure of our ministry and personal budget we will be happy to supply that.)

Touching lives - a

short report: We have been meeting with two couples to prepare for marriage – a Dutch couple and the couple from Belgium.



Leon & Mylène preparing for marriage

And here are two statements from students to share with you: Raymond Chitwanga who just returned to Zimbabwe wrote, "I want to pass my sincere gratitude to Herman and his wife...I will not forget you two...you have been an inspiration to my life...To Herman's wife I enjoyed seeing you play that guitar...." Andries Hetteema - a Dutch student - "I have finished about eight Bible classes. What I like about the classes is that they offer practical teaching about Biblical



The girls from the cell

principles which I can (and do!) apply in my life. I gladly sacrifice to be able to take them as I've experienced deeper insight in the Word of God and real growth in my life with Jesus."

We have been "seizing the moment" and going for it and you have been a part of all that has been accomplished. "Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!" Ephesians 3:20-21

With our love and blessings,

Herman & Betsy

Newsletter mailing list – With the upcoming stamp cost increase we feel it is time to purge our mailing list. If you no longer want to receive this letter PLEASE send a quick response by e-mail or in the enclosed envelope and we will remove you from the list. Thank you for your help.

**Please feel free to e-mail us. We would love to hear from you — hermanb@europeanmissions.org
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