



# In Him, For Him & Through Him

## Reaching Europe for Christ Together

**States trip review** - Augusta: We were delighted to be back in Augusta and always enjoy seeing our friends while we're there. This year we had more personal visits than actually speaking in churches even though it was great when we could actually be in a service together. It always encourages us and refreshes us to go and see how the 'Church' is doing and to share what the Lord is doing in Europe - and He is doing a lot! This year we were definitely encouraged and strengthened by our time with each of you. Thank you. If we missed you this year, don't worry, we'll be back! *Philippians 3-11*

**North Carolina:** We also visited pastors and friends in and around a few cities in North Carolina. It was really good to re-connect with good friends in the ministry. Thank you for hosting us, loving and encouraging us. Even though we're all doing what the Lord has us doing in different parts of the world and in different settings, we know we're all part of the network and plan of God to touch the nations where He has us. *Proverbs 11:25*

**EMO Board:** The Board of EMO also meets each year to discuss the status of the missionaries and to pray together. Thank you Lynn, Donnie, Sally, Cindy and Linda! We are so grateful for your expertise, input and wisdom but most



EMO Board

importantly we're grateful for the friendship we've had over the years. This year we reported that there are 6 missionaries currently serving in different countries of Europe representing: Belgium, Netherlands, Ireland and Germany. **Jamie Chan** who has worked with us in Delft and then moved to Antwerp, Belgium to help the church plant has returned to California after 12 years on the mission field. Her supportive work in Delft, foundational work in Antwerp and her heart of discipleship and intercession for the nations was fruitful. We realized that out of the



Karry and the worship leaders

original team we started with we're the only ones still in Delft. The others are in different places but still faithfully serving where the Lord has led them. We look back and smile knowing the Lord has done (and is continuing to do) a good work in and through the team.

**Personal and family news:** We had a few days in Tampa to visit Dad and Mom Bouwhuizen and our sisters before going to be with Cam and Miesje for the birth of Coen.

On March 16th (3:16) we welcomed Coen (pronounced Cohen) David Carlsen! He is a handsome little

man! We were there and were so grateful to be there on time for his birth. A week later Paul, Heather and our other 4 grandchildren (Josh, Cameron, Ashlyn and Ava) arrived to visit and see Coen.

It was a very special day for us as 'Grandparents' and we were able to capture the moment with a picture - another small miracle. Herman returned to Delft before Betsy. She stayed to help Miesje as a new mother and to enjoy Coen a bit longer. It was such a gift to be there with them.

**Ministry news:** Karry Godwin was here and worked with the worship team and preached at the Good Friday service at the church while we were away. Everybody enjoyed his time here. He always builds and encourages and challenges the worship team to grow and this time he was able to help the team transition to new leadership.

Herman is preaching again which is

something he loves. We are meeting with several couples preparing for marriage and overseeing two other couples doing premarriage mentoring. Yeah, help has arrived!



Coen David Carlsen

One of the couples, Dirk and Sunny, are getting married April 30th in Italy. Sunny is Chinese and Dirk is Dutch so they chose a faraway place to experience their 'dream' wedding. We will take 2 days to drive there to perform the wedding and will stop along the way to visit with friends.

**Abigail:** Herman was home just a few days before Abigail Nagy, a student from Crown College in Minnesota arrived. Abigail is doing a worship internship with us for 5 months. She will be working with the worship team and the outreach team this summer. Betsy will be supervising her internship, a job she is familiar with from her days as a teacher.

**Tapiwa:** It is always hard to say good-bye to friends who return to their country after studying here. Tapiwa was part of the international woman's home group for two years.



Praying for Tapiwa

She finished her master's work in water management and returned to Zimbabwe. It was a special moment to pray for her and bless her before she

left. Her country is in dangerous times. *Please join us in praying for her safety and protection as she returns to Zimbabwe. Psalm 2:8*

**Corrie ten Boom celebration:** April 15th was the 20th Anniversary of the 'ten Boom Museum' in Haarlem about 45 minutes from Delft. It was a special day for all of the tour guides because the Mayor of Haarlem along with the Ambassador from Israel were there to honor the sister and father of Corrie, Casper and Betsie ten Boom, for their work during World War II in helping hide Jews in their home. Corrie's book and movie "The Hiding



The Worship Team

Place" are well known throughout the world. It has been such a privilege for Betsy to serve as a volunteer tour guide the past 2 years. The story of this wonderful Christian family still speaks loudly that the love of God is so powerful and that no matter how deep the pit we find ourselves in, the love of God is deeper still. The newest book, "A Visit to the Hiding Place" written in English is available now in Dutch and was introduced at the celebration. And a Christian television program just finished a special program to announce this to the Dutch. Betsy will continue to share the

Gospel as she volunteers as a tour guide (and she loves every minute of being there!).

**Building update:** Lots of work was finished by the time we returned to Delft. We were so amazed. The first Sunday back we had a 'make-shift' meeting in the new part of the building under construction because the floor was being done in the old building. It was wonderful, not exactly what we had in mind for our 1st service in the new building but there was something so exciting about being there all together. It was just special. As you can see, there is still much we have to do but the plan is to be in the new part of the building within the next month or so. Then it's on to re-construction of the old part to build the classrooms for the children and offices. And the good news is the church is also continuing to grow during this time.



Abigail, Joanna & Emily

**EQUIP:** David Koerts has been very busy organizing and leading the EQUIP training for the Dutch leaders for the past 3 years. He was recently honored by John Maxwell for his role and success as the national coordinator for Holland where about 3,000 leaders were trained over the past 3 years. Herman and David have enjoyed working together to get both visions accomplished: training leaders throughout Holland while building the local church, Levend Water in Delft. They are a great team.

**Betsy and I send our thanks and blessings to each one of you.**



Meeting in a construction zone

**Missionary news:** Our friends Tana and Andrea in Romania are doing well. They are getting ready to move to a new city to work with an established church, receive leadership input while serving and working with the Romanian Pastor. They are doing well. *Keep praying for them.*

**Africa:** Rob van den Bosch, a long-time friend, went to North Africa to help another missionary couple build a cheese factory as their 'tent making project'. How about the Dutch - they take cheese to the utermost parts of the earth! And what a creative and practical idea. *Psalm 2:8*



Kids and grandkids - what a blessing

**Special Visitors:** We were delighted when Emily Rider and her friend Joanna came for a visit. Abigail joined us as we spent a day in Haarlem and had a special time at the ten Boom house together. Then it was back to Delft where they joined in the Praise and Prayer Evening at the church. They traveled on their way but we were so glad they stopped in Delft where we could share time and let them have a small taste of what we do here.

**Prayer points:**

- Pray for God to 'wake up' Holland as the Christians gather to pray for our country on May 5th.
- Pray for a safe travel for us, for times of refreshing as we travel and minister along the way. We have several trips coming up in the next months.
- Pray for 'fruit' as the work on the university campus, in the church and in the home groups continues.

**Upcoming events:**

- **April 30:** Dirk and Sunny's wedding, Italy
- **May:** move into the new part of the building
- **May 5:** We will participate in the day of fasting and nationwide prayer for Holland through "the wake up call Holland" action. You can check this out on [www.thewakeupcallholland.com](http://www.thewakeupcallholland.com)
- **July 14-25:** Acts-of-kindness Outreach, teams coming from Augusta and North Carolina

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