



Herman & Betsy
Bouwhuizen

European Missions Outreach



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Repairing Old Ruins

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

Belgium News - PERSECUTION WATCH:

BELGIUM The following was taken from the Charisma News Service Update on Wednesday, February 13, 2002. We wanted to share it with you because this is the country where we had the large outreach last summer. We were shocked with this report but realized we had incredible favor during the outreach. This shows the world



The Antwerp Group

what the true spiritual climate is in Europe. "The Christian Aid Mission (CAM) reported that four American short-term missionaries were deported after police raided a church ministry. The women were taken to police headquarters and held overnight before being put on flights out of the country the following morning without an opportunity to get their personal belongings.

Visiting the country on tourist visas, the four were accused of being "illegal workers," said the Assemblies of God (AG), which said it was "gravely concerned and deeply disappointed" by the action. The pastor of the church the Americans were visiting told CAM that police arrived in vans and demanded to see the visitors' credentials. "The amazing thing is that Belgium has rounded up alleged Al Qaeda terrorists but not deported any because there would be such an outcry from the international community and press," he added. CAM said police acted under a new law regulating volunteer work and called the church a cult. Evangelical Christian groups were among a list of 189 alleged cults identified in a report to the Belgian Parliament in 1997. The AG named the four women as Julia Ryser from Tulsa, Okla.; Bonnie Dyess from Garland, Texas; Trista Logering from Cape Coral, Fla.; and Kristi

Hoggard from Wichita, Kan. AG officials are meeting with government and church officials over the incident. You can check it out at charisma@strang.com

Antwerp, Belgium news – The work in Antwerp is growing. Betsy was there at the last cell meeting where 15 attended. A young Belgian named Michael gave his life to the Lord that meeting and a man was healed after the group prayed for him. The team from Delft goes down each week to build relationships, do Bible studies and meet as a group. Please continue to pray for doors to remain open – there

are many challenges to birthing a new work there.

Delft News – You have invested in the lives of so many young people from all over the world. Our cell group alone represents England, Holland, South Africa, Germany and the USA (that's us). And the 3 other cells that multiplied from the original group represent many other countries. Recently 29 of us from the cell cluster had a night of prayer together for the church.



5 countries represented in our cell

Ireland Trip – In February Betsy went with Anton and Marie, our friends here in Delft, to encourage the church in Ireland. She was able to spend time with

Janine Schotel, the missionary sent out from the Delft Church, to work on the University College of Dublin campus. She met with different people to encourage and pray with them and enjoyed learning the public transportation – the DART and buses. *Now what about that Outreach that was planned for March in Dublin?* Government officials postponed the national campaign called "Power to Change" due to a vote on legalizing abortion in Ireland. The officials stated they did not want the two issues competing for the public opinion or for one to influence the other. The idea of the

Katharine's Testimony – a British cello student studying in Den Haag: I was raised as a Christian but when my grandfather died and I discovered I am of Jewish descent I asked, "Can I be Jewish and a Christian?". I tumbled into Buddhism, Taoism - anything I could get my hands on to read. In August 2000, I felt the Lord speak to me to answer the question I had been avoiding. I began to read the Bible. I started in the Old Testament but after five chapters I turned to the New Testament and read it from beginning to end. At a certain point I felt the peace of God resting on me. Then I came to Holland to study cello and my relationship with God began to slowly develop and I committed myself to Him in my heart. In March of 2001 while singing "Open the Eyes of My Heart" in church I received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Then in the summer of 2001 a close friend of mine that I had known since I was 5 died in India. She was one of the most generous, giving and lovely persons but she was also a Buddhist. I became confused and once again plunged into a time of doubt asking myself "How can such a good person as my friend not go to heaven?" Nonetheless, I continued to go to church and voice my doubts. Just a few weeks ago I started a course called "Experiencing God" and got stuck at the beginning with the question that Betsy asked, "I assume you have already trusted Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior." It stung me because I knew I had made this decision but could no longer say that I acknowledged Jesus as Lord of my life. I felt God speak to me, "Trust Me. Believe that I am a just and fair God." I didn't have all the answers but decided to trust God. Satan had taken advantage of my weakness, intellect and my sorrow. I confessed these things as sin to God and He washed me clean. I'm grateful for the leadership and support of Herman and Betsy. Without them and our cell group I might have been lost for eternity. I just want to give God the glory for He is faithful to His children.



"Power to Change" campaign is to have the nation pray for unity. We look forward to seeing Ireland rally together to pray for their country later this year. Join us in praying for that nation to return to their Christian 'roots' and pray for unity.

We will keep you posted as we get details. The team here plans to go to Dublin often to encourage and strengthen the local work there.



Paul "on duty" & Heather loving on Cameron

The Delft Church – 'time of transition' – the Levend Water Church in Delft is growing and moving to a new building May 5th. It is right on a main bike road leading to the university and is very visible and accessible for the university students. It is in the neighborhood where we have had outreach picnics for the past 3 summers, Poptahof, a predominately Muslim community. Herman has concentrated a lot of effort on the transition team to prepare for the big move. The church will finally have permanent office space, lots of room for the children and a flexible classroom space for the Bible classes. The main meeting hall will be on an inside tennis court! Pictures will follow in the next edition.

Colossians 1:6

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Upcoming events

- Baja, Hungary – We are beginning to make plans to work on staff again at the SOZO Festival in July. We are praying about the timing of this.
- Horizon Meeting – The pastors and teams from the sister-churches in Germany, Ireland and France will meet in Paris later in March. We are looking forward to being together with everybody again since we missed the last meeting while we were in the states. The group is growing in number. This just shows the need for networking, encouragement and support for one another. Pray for this group to have a clear vision in how to build together to accomplish all that God has for us to do here in Europe.

Prayer Points

- Pray for the spiritual climate in Europe.
- Pray for us to have wisdom and discernment for those we are counseling. One couple is preparing for marriage, another is having severe marital difficulties
- Pray for Betsy as she teaches a small group of women and assists leading another group doing "Experiencing God".
- Pray for Herman to have wisdom as he leads the cells and in the counseling with couples and individuals.
- Pray for every need we have to be met – we will be traveling to Hungary in just a few months and we would like to sponsor several young people to attend the SOZO Festival from East Europe.

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