

Baptist

January 2018

COURIERS FOR CHRIST

FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

Rev. Donald Stertz

REPRESENTATIVES

Rev. Kenneth Stertz • Rev. Larry Ingalls • Rev. Jeremy Ingalls

We trust that the following report will be a blessing and encouragement as you see how the Lord brought us together with Nico to hold the German Scripture Campaign.

by Nico Verhoef, Missionary to Switzerland

Last year when I was in an airplane travelling to Oshkosh, I met a former fellow student Nathan Gipp. He happened also to be going to Oshkosh to preach a youth meeting at Wyldeewood Baptist Church and we talked about what the Lord has been doing in our lives. During the conversation he mentioned having gone on a trip to Eastern Europe with the Baptist Couriers for Christ, and what a blessing that had been in sowing the seed, personal witnessing, and seeing a Bible-believing work started. That ministry just happened to be out of Oshkosh... after praying about this I contacted the Baptist Couriers for Christ. We later met, and I explained the need for such a scripture campaign in the German-speaking area of Switzerland. In one campaign we could cover three cities in three different German-speaking countries, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. We prayed about this, and in June 2016 the Couriers, brothers Don and Ken Stertz, and Larry Ingalls, came over to check out the place, the possibilities of holding a campaign, and all logistics connected with a campaign in three different countries, two in the EU in Germany and Austria, and one outside the EU in Switzerland.

They decided to go ahead, which would be the first time since 1979 to hold the campaign outside a former "iron curtain" country. The timing would be great, since 2017 would be the year when 500 years ago God broke the yoke of the Babylonian mystery religion, the Roman Catholic Church, over NW Europe and started the new era with all liberties embedded in the constitutions and the start of the Bible translating and missionary movements from NW Europe.

Besides taking care of the regular preparations for a group of more than 30 guests, plus invitations, posters, adds, hotels, meeting places, etc., the main thing was to prepare the content of the German Reformation Bible, the unrevised Luther Bible. We redid the John and Romans ourselves and got the PDF file of the unrevised Luther Bible from Germany with help of the Couriers. We included in the text a new introduction to the OT and to the NT. The printing was done excellently by BPS and shipped per container by Couriers to Switzerland, where we unloaded the whole thing with four men about a week before the campaign started. The men in the church helped well in unloading and later storing all for future campaign work.

When the Couriers came they went straight to the work in spite of their jet lag, and got going in Konstanz, Germany, the place where the pope betrayed and burned at the stake John Huss of Prague and his successor Jerome of Prague in the fifteenth century. Over 30,000 John and Romans were distributed as the teams worked very efficiently together to cover the whole city and beyond with John and Romans. Many had good conversations. I talked with one man who used to be a professional soccer player in Austria, and he allowed me to explain the gospel to him and pray with him.

The meeting for giving out Bibles was in the building where the only pope above the Alps was chosen in the fifteenth century, and after the meeting, I met the Austrian gentleman again and led him to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We followed up all the contacts per phone, personal visitation, and e-mail, and two are worth mentioning. Christine finally understood the importance of eternal security and the proper Bible: she needed comfort after her husband, as a drunk, left her for another woman. Uwe who had lost a ton of money as a businessman, came faithfully to the follow-up meetings. He received Jesus Christ at the first follow-up meeting, and we took him with us to Switzerland to live close

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Happy New Year

Campaign Report

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to us: he has been coming to church and Bible study ever since. He has a hotel in Namibia, a former colony of Germany northwest of South Africa, and he offered to use this for a Bible institute and church. Pray he gets well grounded before he leaves for business abroad.

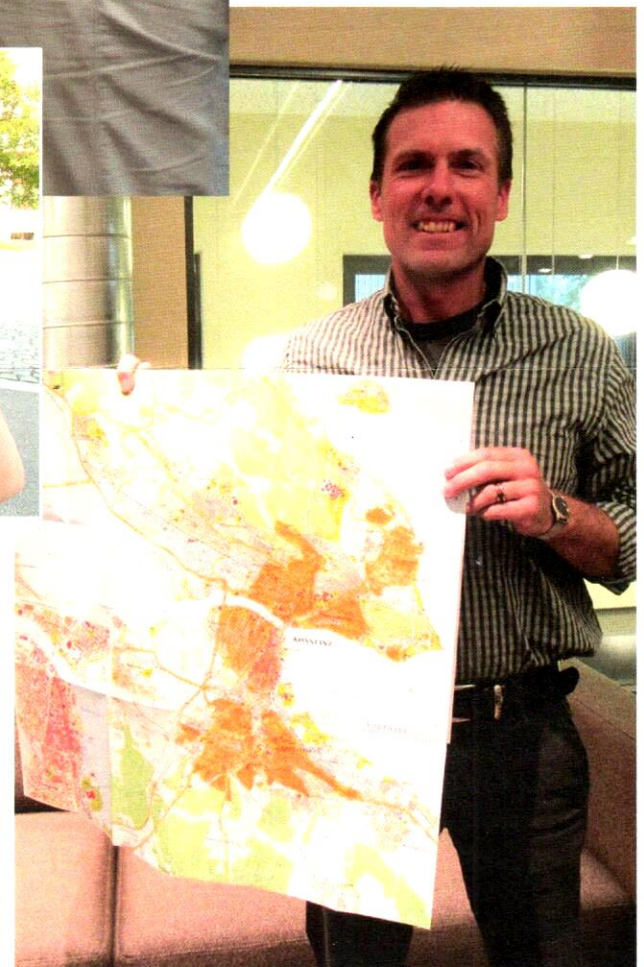
The next report will discuss the meetings in St. Gallen, Switzerland, and Dornbirn, Austria.

Thanks again for your coming and prayers; you were GREAT support to me, my family, church, and the unsaved who found salvation by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.



Above: Nico witnessing to a man in downtown Konstanz

Right: Stefani Longo and Laura Stertz with arms full of John and Romans ready to be inserted into apartment mailboxes



Left: Robert Rierson handing out John and Romans on the streets in Konstanz

Right: Josh Stertz holding a map of Konstanz showing all of the city (colored- in area) that was covered with scriptures





An excellent variety of sizes and colors of the Polish Bible to choose from

Audio Polish New Testament Completed

Last summer we were afforded an opportunity to cover the expense of having the Polish Bible placed into audio format. We decided to move forward with the project and have received word that the New Testament has been completed. Brother Riggs said that this audio New Testament has received rave reviews. Lord willing, the Old Testament will be finished early in 2018. Pray for many souls to be reached through this audio Polish Bible.

10,500 Polish Bibles Arrive Safely

Couriers for Christ paid for the shipping and customs tax to have these Bibles delivered to Poland. The amazing thing is that they were printed in Belarus. Belarus is now closed to the spreading of the gospel. Missionaries can be there only if they are under a business or the educational system, yet we are able to print the Word of God for the Polish people there. We thank the Lord for this opportunity.

We received the following information from Missionary Brent Riggs:

Dear Brother Don and Saints of God at Couriers for Christ,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. He alone is worthy of glory, honor, and power. Oh, that all nations would praise his wonderful name!

The Bibles have arrived! And they are going like hotcakes! I'm continually amazed at God's provision, your kindness, and the generosity of God's people. I'm wonderfully amazed at the reception of our completed Polish Bible project. Here is one of many comments that we have received: ***"I'm writing to you, Brother, to thank you. I would like to thank you and all those who worked with you and contributed to the updating of the Gdansk Bible. I have many translations of the Bible at home, and I don't see a better Polish translation than the UBG--and I have been studying the subject of translation for a long time. It is amazing that God brought brothers from far away to do something so reliable in Poland that the Christians here could not initiate. God has used you in an amazing way for His glory. Thank you... Thank you very much for this translation--it is wonderful and I can rely on it. Thank you with all my heart."***

The positive comments keep pouring in. Praise the Lord!

We are so thankful for the prayers of God's people over the years. We have had a long battle here in Poland, but I believe that we are seeing answered prayer right before our eyes. Too many things are happening to pass this off as normal--this move can be nothing more than the moving of God in answer to prayer. I'm sure the attacks of the devil are right around the corner, so don't let up on those prayers!

We appreciate you all and thank the Lord for you. May God continue to bless your ministry.

Couriers also had the privilege of shipping 334,800 John and Romans into Poland last October. These scriptures were provided by the Bearing Precious Seed ministry of Milford, Ohio. In 2018 BPS will be printing 50,000 Polish New Testaments and we will have the privilege of shipping them along with another 35,000 John and Romans.

Thank you for praying for and supporting us so that we can continue to deliver the Word of God throughout Eastern Europe.



10,500 Polish Bibles ready for distribution throughout Poland

2018 Campaigns

Zagreb, Croatia

September 4-15, 2018

Cost \$2,800

If you desire to come on one of these exciting campaigns, don't delay! Already Sofia is half filled and Zagreb is two-thirds filled. Go online to www.wyldewood.org to click on the Couriers link or e-mail dstertz@wyldewood.org for your application.

Bible Need

Couriers will need to purchase 3,500 Bibles for these two campaigns. Cost is \$10 each; \$50 will purchase five Bibles. Please pray about this need and help as the Lord leads.

Sofia, Bulgaria

September 17-29, 2018

Cost: \$2,800

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Opposed to all forms of compromise and deviation from God's word.



Thank you for your sacrificial gift of \$ 100.⁰⁰ received in December.

A ministry of  Wyldeewood Baptist Church