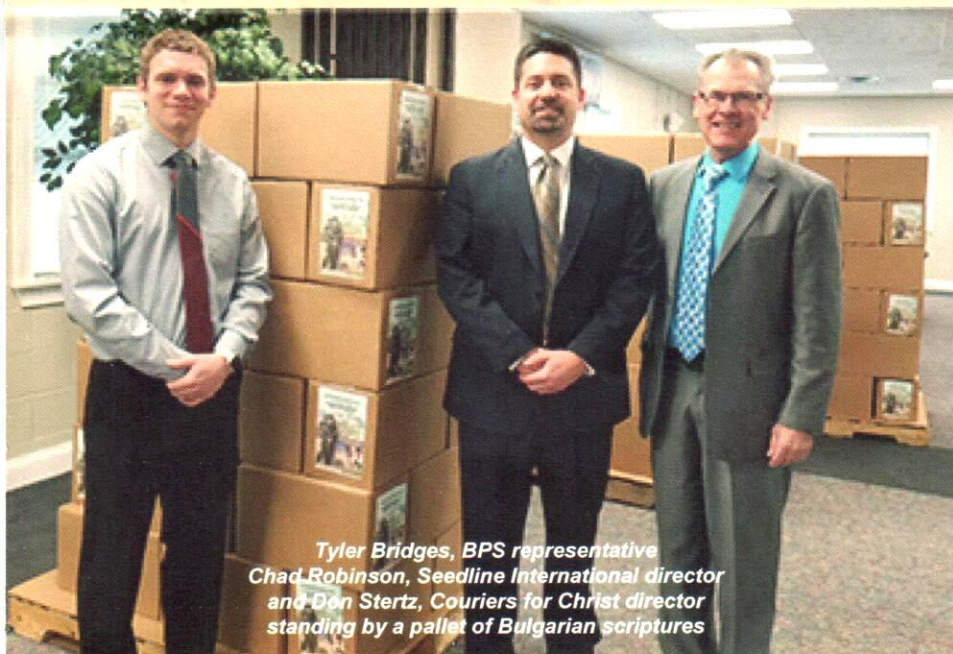


COURIERS FOR CHRIST

143,000 Bulgarian John and Romans Completed

by Don Stertz



*Tyler Bridges, BPS representative
Chad Robinson, Seedline International director
and Don Stertz, Couriers for Christ director
standing by a pallet of Bulgarian scriptures*



Precious word of God in Bulgarian

*First Baptist Church people
praying over the completed scriptures*

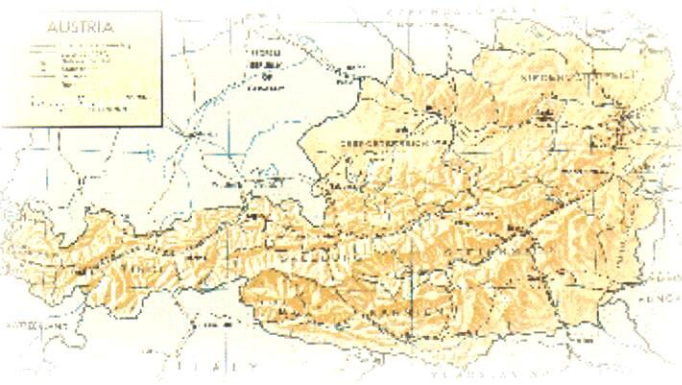
In February I had the privilege of speaking at the Seedline Conference held at First Baptist Church, Milford, Ohio. Their Bearing Precious Seed Ministry printed 350,000 Bulgarian John and Romans for Couriers and assembled and boxed 143,000 in just a few days (pictured above right)!

Shortly they will be printing 150,000 bi-lingual Croatian/English John and Romans and 5,000 Croatian Bibles. Presently the Bible is being formatted and should be ready within a couple of weeks. Please pray with us for its completion, because it takes time to publish, assemble, and box that many Bibles.

All of the above listed scriptures are being prepared for our September campaigns in Bulgaria and Croatia.

We want to express a hearty thank you to the Bearing Precious Seed and Seedline churches for freely providing all of the John and Romans. Note: Couriers for Christ will cover the cost of printing the Bibles and shipping all of these scriptures.





Focusing on Austria

by Nico Verhoef



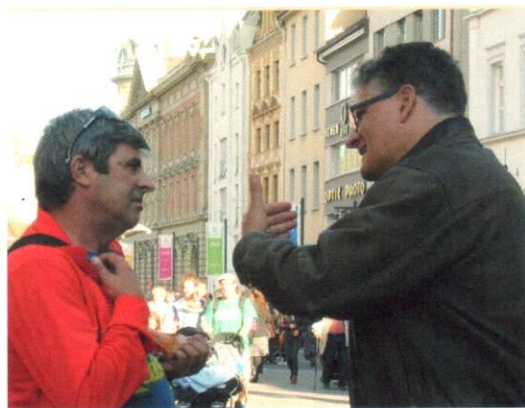
This is the final part of our report for the Baptist Couriers for Christ on their German Scripture campaign, the last part of which took place in Austria.

At the end of the 16th century Austria was over 90% Protestant due to the influence of the Luther Bible. However, the same year the Luther Bible was finished, in 1534, the Jesuit religious order was also founded, and the Jesuits started a counter-reformation. Austria became recatholized (paganized), and the Protestants and Baptists had to convert back to paganism, flee persecution, or face death. Many Protestant preachers who came to the west of Austria were imprisoned or fled back to Protestant Germany or Switzerland. For many years the main training center of the Jesuits was near Dornbirn, where many Roman Catholic nobility youth were trained in the service of the pope.

We lived six years in this western part of Austria when pastoring in Liechtenstein, and it is spiritually darker than any other place I have been in the German speaking countries. People in western Austria do not have the BOOK or knowledge of the book, due to the lack of Bible teachers.




The last city where the Couriers for Christ campaign was held was Dornbirn, in the west of Austria. We had been forbidden by the police to hold a campaign in the city of Bregenz, which was the original plan. After we had placed ads in the papers and posters on the streets and secured a place to hold the evangelistic meeting, we were denied the use of the building because we were accused of being anti-Semitic. We held a meeting and explained that we are NOT anti-Semitic, but that we LOVE the Jewish people even in their unsaved state. We were able to give Bibles to the owner of the building and to his secretary, even though we had to shift the campaign focus to the city of Dornbirn.



The night of the evangelistic meeting in Dornbirn the music and singing was GREAT, which is the best preparation in the hearts of those who need to hear the gospel. One man, Rudolf, who one of our church members met at the book table we had set up in the center of Dornbirn in the preceding days, came and got saved. A few more people showed interest and kept coming to the follow-up meetings over the last four weeks. Two young men from the south of Austria plan to move to the area, get jobs, and then attend the Bible studies. Please pray for Simon and Chris.

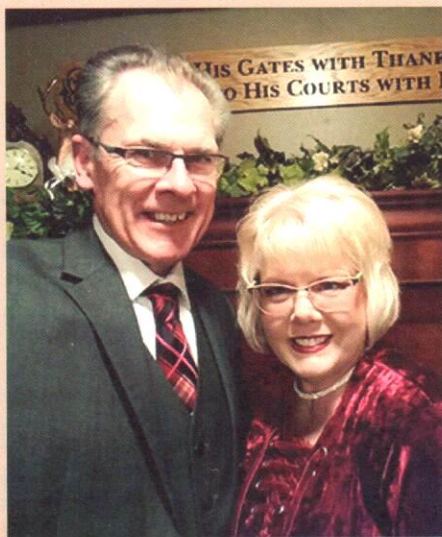
We located a place in the center of Dornbirn where we meet Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. Pray especially for Rudolf, Monday, Ludmilla, Armin and family, Rainer and family, and Joel and family.

The need for a Bible believing work in Roman Catholic Austria is enormous, and we appreciate your help in the good start and continued prayer for this endeavor.

 Nico Verhoef

Three of our ladies singing at meeting in Dornbirn

Nico witnessing to man



Don and Laura Stertz

Don Stertz Family Update

by Laura Stertz

Our delightful, exciting, and many times unpredictable journey in service for God this last year has taken us to 42 churches in 10 states, not to mention our campaigns in Europe. God blessed us with some new supporters, as well as allowing us to reconnect and update the faithful supporters, our “old timers!”

It’s always a joy to have our grandchildren gathered ’round, as you can see from this photo taken at Christmas. They range in age from 13 years down to 3 years. Our oldest is Caleb (aged 13). He had two great privileges this last year. The first was to go on the 100 Teens in 100 Days mission trip to Puerto Rico, where he was not only asked to bring devotions during the team meeting one morning, but also helped the team to pass out over 50,000 gospels of John and Romans during the time he was there. (Note: Caleb surrendered to be a missionary when he was 8 years old). The second opportunity was that our pastor at Wyldewood Baptist Church in Oshkosh,

Pastor Jason Brennstuhl, invited Caleb to preach at our Watch Night Service along with two other young men. God blessed his message on “Choosing The Right Friends.”

Our oldest son Josh, who is youth pastor at our home church, also had several great unexpected privileges. On top of overseeing our teen group for the 100 Teens in 100 Days mission trip with his wife Kelli, he was asked to preach for a church addition dedication that he labored on in construction. The church, Bible Baptist Church in Belvidere, Illinois, is pastored by Dudley Matties. The construction team was headed up by The Master’s Craftsmen under director Eric Joss. By the way, our older granddaughter, Claudia (aged 11) used her talent before her dad preached, in playing the piano as a special at that dedication.

Lastly, Josh traveled on a two-week mission trip in the Philippines (invited by our music minister at WBC, Joel Nelson—who sang wherever they went) in early March, where he had the opportunity to preach 10 times; in a pastors’ fellowship, a youth pastors’ meeting, a conference, and in Christian and public schools all over the country. He and Joel saw many souls saved as a result of their tremendous trip.

We are looking forward to putting our feet to pavement (or should I say “feet to cobblestones”) in September in the cities of Sofia, Bulgaria, and Zagreb, Croatia, along with our two teams from America—hopefully galvanizing our group to spread the John and Romans far and wide during the month we are in those two countries. We are asking the Lord for a great return from our investment of labor.

THANK YOU to you, our supporters! You’ve refreshed us along the way with your care, zeal, and sacrifice in both prayer and dollars, and we thank you with heartfelt gratitude!! Together we are making a difference, and it’s a joy to serve with you!!!



Josh (center in gray shirt) with teen youth in Philippines



Caleb preaching at Wyldewood's Watchnight Service



Don and Laura with their grandchildren: front left to right: Jonathan, Zachariah (on Grampie's knee), Don, Claudia, Julia (sitting on floor) back left to right: Tanner, Grammie Laura, and Caleb

Campaigns for 2018

--2018 Campaign-- Zagreb, Croatia

Filled. Accepting no more applications.

--2018 Campaign-- Sofia, Bulgaria September 17-29, 2018

There are only a few openings; therefore, if you would like to join us and distribute scriptures in Sofia, don't delay! In your web browser type cfewbc.org, click on the forms button, and choose Bulgaria Campaign Application 2018 to download your application.



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

FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

Rev. Donald Stertz

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

REPRESENTATIVES

Rev. Kenneth Stertz

Rev. Larry Ingalls

Rev. Jeremy Ingalls

A ministry of  Wyldeewood Baptist Church