

*Baptist*

*November 2018*

# COURIERS FOR CHRIST

## 2019 Bible Need

1000 Lithuanian Bibles  
2500 Russian Bibles

Lord willing we are planning on holding two campaigns in 2019, the first in the city of Siauliai, Lithuania, with a population of 125,000, and the second in the city of Kiev, Ukraine, with a population of 3,000,000. Lithuanian Bibles are printed in a much smaller quantity and thus cost more than the Russian.

*Lithuanian Bible cost: \$10 each*  
*Russian Bible cost: \$5 each*

Will you help provide Bibles for Lithuanian or Russian-speaking Ukrainian families?

## 2019 Campaigns

Please look over the following information regarding the 2019 scripture campaigns. Then pray about which one you would like to be a part of, fill out an application, and send it in along with your \$200 deposit.

*Dates: June 11-21, 2019*

*Country: Lithuania*

*Cities: Siauliai and Kursenai*

*Missionaries: Chase and Vaida Smith*

*Cost: \$2,300*

*Goal: To help start a church in Kursenai and to encourage and strengthen a Baptist church in Siauliai.*

*Dates: September 9-22, 2019*

*Country: Ukraine*

*City: Kiev*

*Missionary: Perry Demopoulos*

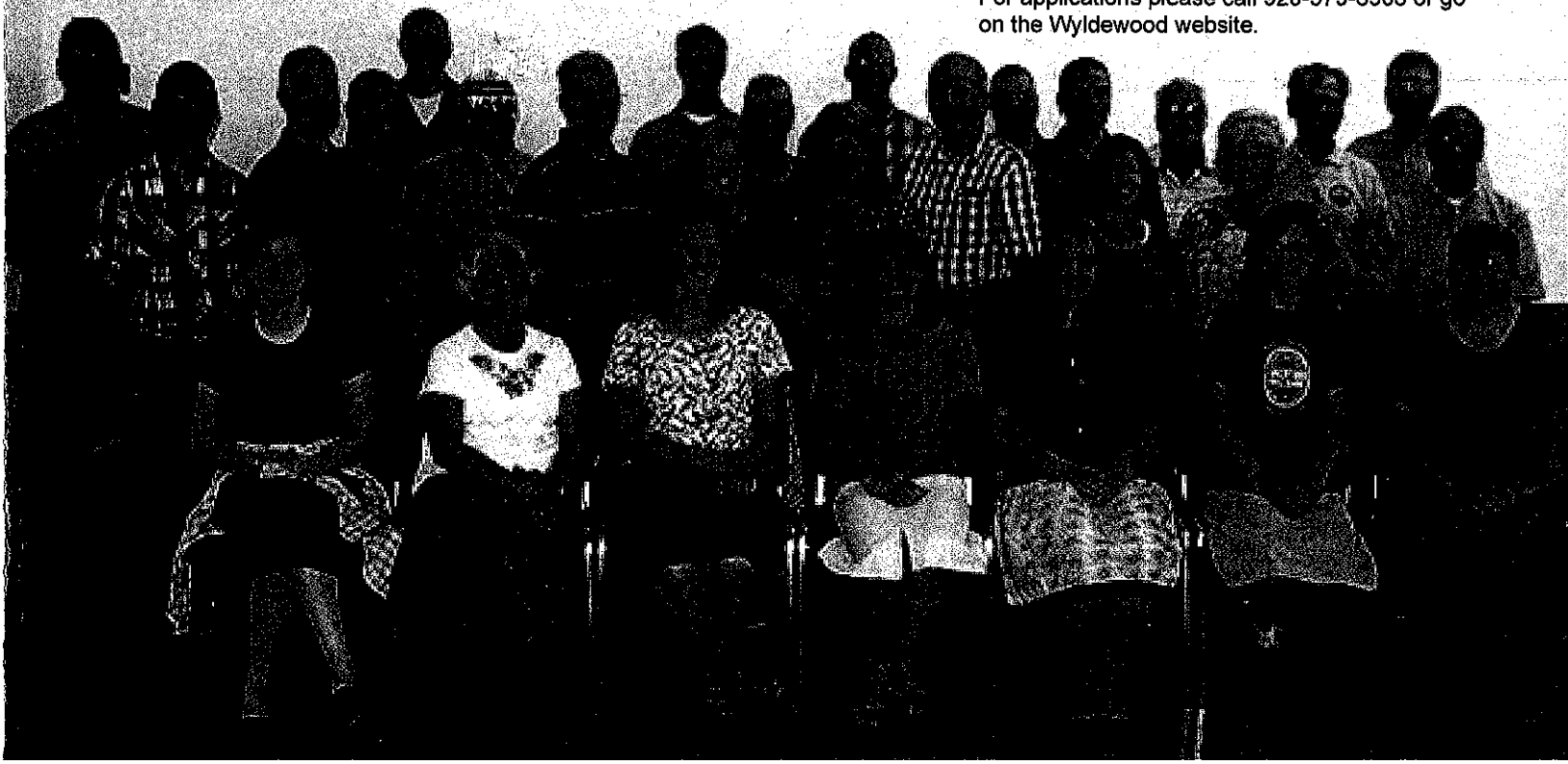
*Cost: \$2,800*

*Goal: To help Brother Perry's church and to reach Kiev with John and Romans!*

For applications please call 920-379-8306 or go on the Wyldewood website.

## Sofia Campaign Team

Over 146,000 scripture portions were distributed,  
300 attended the evangelistic service,  
262 visitors' cards were received, and  
12 attended the first Bible study.



# WHERE HAD THEY BEEN?



Shoes of many sizes and styles

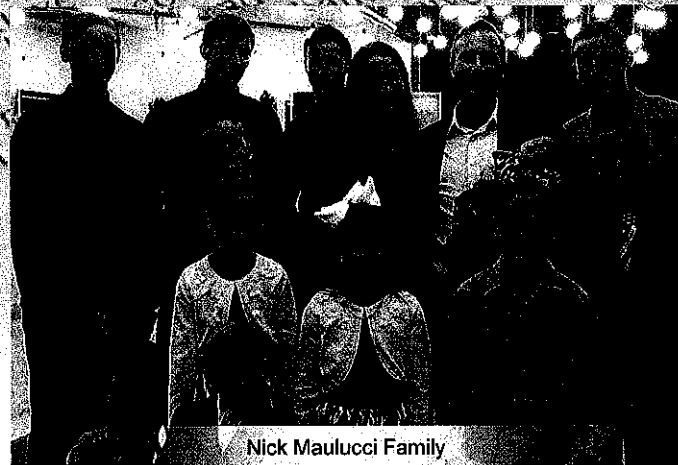
These ladies' shoes brought them to the meeting to receive Bibles.

Jeff and Grace Shergalis

Laura and Bulgarian woman with her new Bible



Jonathan Owens Family



Nick Maulucci Family

In September of this year God blessed us by bringing together a great team to evangelize Sofia, Bulgaria. We sowed the Word of God and held a service in the Endica Hall, where the gospel was preached and each attendee was given a Bible in his native tongue.

As I entered the hall on the night of the meeting, I was struck instantly by a very unusual sight--the ceiling was decorated by myriads of hanging footwear!! I'm talking, men's shoes and ladies shoes, as well as boots for both genders, fashionable and serviceable in every color and style imaginable. Some were gently worn, but many had been used considerably. This 'art form' was truly an arresting and thought-provoking spectacle!

As our team got settled into the hall foyer to set up the Bible table, I could not shake the thoughts that came to my mind as I thought about all the people who had, at one time, owned all the footwear displayed. Where were they now? Where had their feet taken them encased in all those shoes and boots?

In turn, it led to my musings about all the shoes that had brought us to this VERY night. It began with shoes on a man and his wife who had surrendered to set foot in the country of Bulgaria as missionaries--Jeff and Grace Shergalis. Then I thought about the shoes of the Bearing

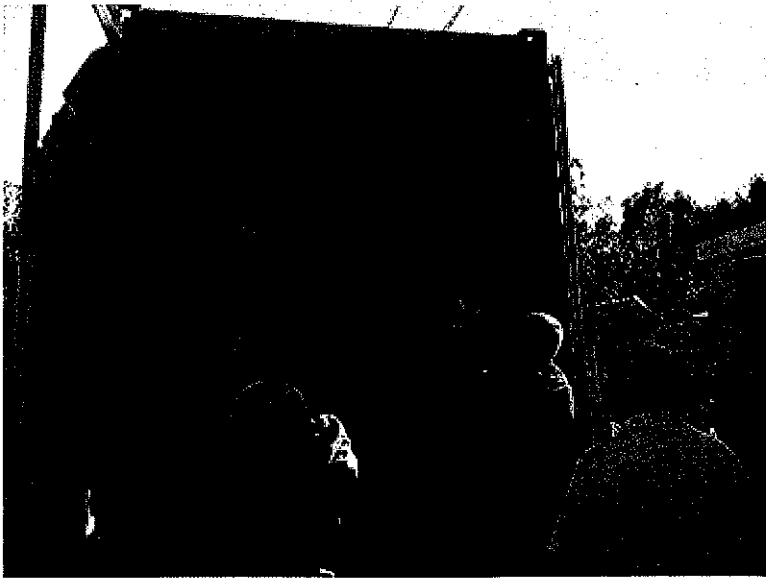
Precious Seed staff of Milford, Ohio, that stood beside their work tables and laid out the gospel of John and Romans and then walked over to the roll web press and readied it to print those two precious books of the Bible in the Bulgarian language.

Next, I considered the shoes of the faithful Seedline Ministry men that gathered up the John and Romans, placed them in trailers, and traversed the country to various Baptist churches where dedicated folks then collated, added covers, stapled, trimmed, and finally boxed the books for our campaign. After placing their fingerprints on the Bulgarian booklets, the church folk then had the Seedline men pick up hundreds and hundreds of boxes of this valuable Seed and return it to Milford for shipping in the container.

Meanwhile, the Couriers for Christ men and ladies' shoes took them thousands of miles throughout the USA, delivering the message to churches that team members were needed to personally distribute the John and Romans to the people of Sofia, and that funds were needed as well for the operation of the campaign and for the Bulgarian Bibles to give out freely.

By and by, shoes of men at First Baptist Church, Milford, Ohio, loaded up a 20 foot container with 350,000 completed Bulgarian portions of Scripture. Their work

# Answer to Prayer: Both Containers Arrive!



The Croatian container arrived on the second day of our distribution. Brother Lowrie had over 20,000 John and Romans from a previous shipment in storage so our team had scriptures to hand out the first day. All the Croatian John and Romans and Bibles were delivered on pallets, so they were easily unloaded with a forklift and placed in the warehouse. We rented a panel van to be used as portable storage, which worked extremely well in resupplying our teams with scriptures.

The Bulgarian container arrived in Sofia late in the afternoon on the first day of distribution. We handed out gospel tracts along with invitations during that first day. The truck

was positioned by the storage garage at 5:00 p.m., but the driver did not want us to start unloading because he didn't think that we would be able to unload it all before dark. The container had 350,000 John and Romans in 1,345 boxes and weighed 38,000 pounds. In one hour and ten minutes all the boxes were unloaded and in storage! Our crew worked very hard and fast to accomplish this.

Thank you for praying that these containers would arrive in time.

*"...I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."*

*Isaiah 65:24*

finally done, they prayed over the container and asked God to guide it safely to the city of Sofia for distribution.

Shoes of devoted men and ladies from eight states formed a team of 28 single minded Christians to leave American soil and place their shoes on the foreign soil of Sofia, Bulgaria, with the express purpose of sowing the Seed to the spiritually needy people in that land.

Once there, over 1,100 man-hours were spent with shoes on the pavement distributing 146,000 Scripture portions. That is not including the hours spent by the missionaries, Jeff and Grace Shergalis, the Nick Maulucci family (serving in Varna), the Jonathan Owens family (ministering to gypsies in Sofia), and for a couple of days even the Danny Kessler family (serving in Bulgarovo).

Full circle, my thoughts brought me again to the hall where I stood in my shoes on the night of the evangelistic meeting. I still ruminated on the theme of "shoes" as an hour before the service and up to the start time, almost 300 precious Bulgarian folks strode into the hall in an assortment of shoes and boots. Shoes took them to seats in the audito-

rium to hear the inestimable message that could change their souls' destiny that very evening!

Those same shoes would then finally carry them to the table lined with wonderful gold-leaf Bibles being handed out with great joy by the American team God had put together for this campaign. I saw Bulgarians in shoes, rejoicing over a blessed copy of God's Word for each of them. Reactions were visibly heartfelt--many rubbing the covers, kissing their Bibles or literally hugging them to their bosoms, while others stayed rooted to the spot perusing the pages of the marvelous gift they'd just been handed, eyes carefully searching the pages of God's precious message to man.

I then prayed that their shoes would bring them to the Bible study that Brother Jeff would hold the next week. I was reminded of some precious verses that went along with my thoughts: Romans 10:15, Ephesians 5:2, Psalm 37:23, Psalm 18:33, Genesis 17:1.

Wherever our shoes take us and where we choose to place them is so important!