It’s very difficult to explain in words how excited I feel about the programs and activities that all our European chapters are developing.

As you all now, we’re an umbrella organization willing to support you and to encourage and promote the creation of new chapters in the countries were we have no presence and to design evangelism projects that can be implemented in all the European countries.

For these purposes we need to have a close contact with our church leaders of both European divisions.

Last 17th June we had a very positive meeting with the EUD leaders in Bern. We shared the morning worship with them and explained our aim as a support ministry to the church. During the meetings we could clarify positions and set a good base for cooperation.

Our next meeting will be 6 of November in UK with the TED leadership and I pray that the Lord will guide us to a good understanding and further cooperation.

During the ASI US convention in Phoenix last August, Radim, Ruben and I, had meetings with the leadership of It Is Written, Amazing Facts and GYC (Generation of Youth for Christ). These ministries have a long experience in evangelism, education and youth leadership that will help us as we implement our European projects.

Annual conventions are taking place in many countries. I have been present in Switzerland, Romania and Portugal. The common feeling is that more and more people are realising our/their mission and joining ASI.

In the next weeks I will also visit Hungary, Spain and England.

The youth evangelism projects are increasing in all our territory and the reports coming from England, Spain, Hungary and Czech Republic show excitement in our members and especially in the young people involved.

In summary, the Lord is blessing our work and commitment so we have to continue “Sharing Christ in the marketplace”.

On September 26, 2009, about two thousand people attended Portugal’s first ASI Convention held in Aula Magna. Vice President of the General Conference, Pastor Mark Finley was the convention’s special guest. The theme for this first ASI Convention was “Sharing Christ Now!”

The Convention programs on September 25th and 26th focused on how and why ASI was started and what its objectives are.

On September 25th, six hundred people attended the two-hour program held at the Adventist Central Church in Lisbon. The program was based on a presentation about ASI, followed by music from the group Laudare, and ending with a reflection by Pastor Mark Finley.

Sabbath September 26th had a full program at Aula Magna. The Sabbath school lesson was taught by Victor Pires, Vice President of It Is Written in the U.S., and was followed by the presentation of six evangelism projects supported by ASI. First was the DVD New Beginnings. Second was the evangelism course “Vive la Experiencia” in Spain for which two young women were chosen. Third was the “Talita Kids on Vacation,” a project that will bring Christ to thirty children in need. Fourth was “Stop & Go” which seeks to awaken people’s minds through public evangelism such as going door-to-door and asking people questions like “What if God really does exist?” Third was the “Talita Kids on Vacation,” a project that will bring Christ to thirty children in need. Fourth was “Stop & Go” which seeks to awaken people’s minds through public evangelism such as going door-to-door and asking people questions like “What if God really does exist?” The fifth project, “Sao Tome Mission 2010,” called for a group of fifty volunteers to travel to Sao Tome and build three one-day churches. The final project, APMP, will start a school of evangelism focused on medical missionary work. The financial needs of these six projects totalled 33 650 €, but the offerings given amounted to 56 000 €! After the offering, the worship service continued with a powerful message from Pastor Mark Finley.

A dynamic program entitled “ASI in Action” was held Sabbath afternoon. Testimonies were given by Radim Passer, Angel Duo, Efraim Caetano, Ruben Dias and João Miguel. Each of their testimonies showed miraculous ways God had intervened in their lives. The entire evening program was enriched by music from Laudare and other groups. Pastor Mark Finley closed the Convention with a message showing how the church is growing around the world, even in countries such as China, India, and Cuba. We look forward to next year’s Convention and to reaping the fruit of the seeds sown during this first ASI Convention.
We have accepted God’s invitation to live with Him eternally but what about our friends, our neighbours, and our relatives?... Have they accepted their invitation yet?

It is the fourth year of CONECTATE and we have been active in Santiago de Compostela since January. It is a city of ninety thousand habitants of which only fifteen are Adventists. Our Challenge is to increase our membership through motivation and encouragement. This in itself is not an easy task but, for God, there are no giants, so we will go to work as the Sower goes to work: With the seeds in His hands. Jesus, while on earth, set the example. He walked close to the people to learn about their needs. Then He prayed with them and He gave them the hope of eternal life.

We have been able to meet the challenges of our Project by using the ‘door to door’ approach when working in the communities. We introduced the communities to the ‘Mobile Library’, a free lending service of Adventist books, music and audio sermons. Several people have opened their doors to us and willingly borrowed booklets from our catalogue. Already we are reaping the benefits of being in regular contact with the community because, in less than two months we have not only started a Bible Study group, we have also made contact with a number of people interested in their spiritual growth.

We have scheduled the following Evangelistic events:

15 March. The orchestra and choir of the Adventist Seminar, in Sagunto, will delight us with their concert: ‘Man is a curious thing’.

3 to 12 April. The ‘Evangelistic Urban Camp’. Sixty youth, from all over Spain, will come to Santiago to experience spiritual revival, fellowship and discipleship while working on a crusade that has already changed the lives of the youth who attended this crusade in Valencia, Zaragoza or Seville.

Every evening, from the 5th to the 11th, one of the youth will preach a sermon inside the First Crusade of Biblical public conferences. The topic: ‘The last week of Jesus on earth and what it would mean for us today and for tomorrow’.

In May, the Conéctate Festival of Christian music, meditations and mimic will portray the Adventist message of hope.

In June, A Bible-Expo will be held in the city centre, with theology students from the Adventist Seminar in Sagunto. This activity will be associated to the Final Crusade of public conferences preached by our youth leader of the Spanish Union, pr. Oscar López Teulé.

The Bible workers are: Sara Guntín (La Coruña), Cecilia Montero (Puerto de Sagunto), Loris Bizarro (C.A.S.) and Diego Angulo (Denia). They set aside their personal projects to join the campaign and to enjoy the privilege of dedicating six months of their lives to a ‘full-time job’ for God.

We would like to thank all the people who have contributed towards making this Project become a reality by sharing with them all the blessings we receive every day.

Think of the changes Jesus has made in your life and share them with your family, friends and colleagues so that we never can forget Jesus is the ONLY one who can give us eternal life.

We will regularly keep you informed, through interesting articles, about news and campaign results.

Take a short break, every day at 22:00 hrs to pray to our Lord so that the Holy Spirit will be the only protagonist of CONECTATE, and of your life and of ours. Amén.
A weekend Flower Festival has raised almost £14,000 for Helen and Douglas House Hospice, a home providing care for teenagers and young adults. “God has been so good to us and blessed us mightily,” Audrey Balderstone, organiser of the Stanborough Park church Flower Festival told BUC News. “Our goal was to raise £10,000 and I am so excited that we have surpassed this!”

“At The Name of Jesus Every Knee Shall Bow,” sung with power and conviction, was a fitting hymn with which to end the Flower Festival that ran 25 – 28 June. Entitled ‘Windows On To God’, it drew hundreds of non-members into the church each day to marvel at the superb floral displays which interpreted words of scripture. Focusing on the attributes of God; of the ways in which He interacts with His people; of His redemptive love and power and of the ways in which we respond to His love, the aim of the Flower Festival was to uplift the name of Jesus and to remind our visitors of His great creative power.

Thirty-five arrangers drawn from local non-Adventist churches and flower clubs in the area joined with the Stanborough arrangers to create forty displays of stunning beauty. On the hottest weekend of the year it was a challenge to keep the flowers looking fresh over four days, but as Audrey said at the Preview on Thursday evening “God works miracles in this church” – and He did. The flowers, with a lot of tender loving care, stayed fresh and even a torrential thunderstorm and local flooding did not prevent the church being filled for the excellent Saturday evening classical concert. It took the prospective Parliamentary Candidate, Richard Harrington, three hours to make a half hour journey, but he brought a warm personal message of support from David Cameron whose late son benefitted from the care at Helen and Douglas House Hospice – our chosen charity this year. An offering collected over £1,600.00 and reflected appreciation for the excellence of the music organised by Roland Guenin. The ‘River of Roses’ was a popular feature of the Flower Festival, with visitors able to give a donation for a rose which they then placed in the water to remember a loved one, say ‘thank you’ to family and friends or to give praise to God. Associate pastor, Mary Barrett, was thrilled at the opportunities she had to talk with visitors about spiritual matters and all involved were able to answer many questions about our beliefs. Most of the congregation who attended the ‘Hymns and Songs of Praise’ service introduced by Valerie Fidelia were non-members. The singing, conducted by Pastor Roy Burgess, was led by the Stanborough Choir and young instrumentalists from the church. The Sabbath morning service, at which Pastor Paul Clee spoke, had an overflow of over 100 who watched the service via a video link in another room. Audrey says, “Our God is a God of miracles and we witnessed His power, His love and His goodness in mighty ways during our Flower Festival.”

DVDs of the Flower Festival are available by sending a cheque made payable to ‘SPC Flower Festival’ to: Flower Festival, Stanborough Park Church, 609 St Albans Road, Watford, WD25 9JL at a cost of £6.00 including postage and packing. All profits will go to Helen and Douglas House Hospice.

Photos are available in the BUC picture gallery:

CLICK HERE

Audrey Balderstone
ASI United Kingdom President

AGENDA

ASI Convention United Kingdom
November 6-8
Staverton Conference Centre, Daventry, Northamptonshire

Special guest: Dejan Stojkovic, Martin Bell

ASI Convention Czech Republic
December 3-6
Erfurt, AugustinerKloster
Motto: “God’s Last Generation Remnant”
Special guest: Michael G. Hasel, Ph.D.

3rd December
16:00 - Seminar: The Biblical Identity of the Remnant

4th December
11:00 - Seminar: The Urgent Mission of the Remnant
19:30 - Sermon: The Last-Day Message of the Remnant

5th December
11:00 - Sermon: The Faithful Life of the Remnant

6th December
Board meeting of ASI-CS

Details can be found on: http://www.asi-cs.cz

ASI Convention Switzerland
February 5-7, 2010
Zurich

Details can be found on: www.asi-forum.org

EVANGELISM
FLOWER FESTIVAL - UNITED KINGDOM

AGENDA

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In 2006 ASI Europe sponsored Charlotte Bramble, a young English girl, to attend the ARISE School of Evangelism in the United States, on condition that she would organise a Youth for Jesus campaign in the UK on her return. Charlotte kept her promise. She and her team of supporters have been hard at work preparing for the meetings which are scheduled to begin in June this year. She has also been working closely with Alan Hush, the Youth Director for the North England Conference. When I spoke to him recently he was very excited about the work Charlotte was doing on behalf of ASI-UK. He wrote the following report.

The NEC and the local district are delighted with the progress made by Charlotte and her team of supporters. During the ADVANCE conference, held over the Easter break, approximately 200 youth, with only 20 minutes training, went out into the streets of Nottingham and raised 150+ Bible Study requests in just two hours. We have had to enlist a sixth Bible worker to cope with the ground work in preparation for the Youth for Jesus campaign in June/July.

We are also preparing for our youth field school of evangelism where we train older teens and youth to give Bible Studies. There are 20 places available. The teachers at the school are mainly young people. I am thrilled to see them rise to the occasion and take up the reigns.

How often have we not prayed to God and reminded Him of His promises? Then, even when our requests illustrate the bitter reality, He still does not respond? Are we to blame ourselves because it seems as if God does not want to act on our requests?

Our petition was exactly in accordance with the will of God. We asked Him for a place in Austria, where we could open a TGM (Trainings Center for Health Evangelism). He assured us that we were to move forward in faith. But, a month before the school was set to open, we still had no building for the school. We were confused, undecided, and had no answers as to what to do. Then, the Josiazentrum (Josiah centre) in Isny, Germany became an alternative possibility. We questioned, Why God would want us to start the Austrian Mission School in Germany? At the time, not knowing the answers, we reluctantly gave up the plan to start in Austria and went to Germany.

Since starting our work in Germany, we have marveled at God’s wisdom in leading us to the Josiazentrum.

• We rented the Josiazentrum, and without the responsibility of having to manage an estate we were able to devote all our attention to establishing the school.

• Right from the beginning: The dynamic, newly established local church was very positive towards us.

• The family-like composition of the Josiazentrum gave us an ideal environment for our very small, pioneering student body.

• The pioneering class from TGM in Isny, did all the preliminary work for the planned Josiah Mission School.

It was two years later that God bestowed upon us the same petition. A very suitable building, in a delightful location in Carinthia, Austria, became available. We once again realized just how unbelievably accurate God’s time table is:

• If we got the property in Carinthia two years ago we would have had to pay unnecessarily high operating costs. If we had found it just one week later, the school would not have been able to open in September.

• The property was excellently located and could accommodate both the Mission School and the Health Centre.

• The real estate property had been vacant for two years, giving us plenty of room to negotiate a better price. We bought the property for less than 70% of the current market value.

• Currently there are two Mission Schools. One in Isny, Germany and one in Carinthia, Austria.

How many times have we not been disappointed when all our waiting seems to have been in vain? Ellen White comments as if God does not want to act on our requests, or do we only trust Him just as long as He fulfills our desires? Some of our prayers are never answered, and only when we get to heaven will we learn the reasons for God’s actions. Then again, God sometimes lets us wait or He leads us in a different direct. It is as Ellen White says:

“As I see what God has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader.”

(TM31)
The six month project began in February running through to the end of July. It consisted of essentially five phases ending with baptisms organised by the local district of churches and the ASI Youth for Jesus (YfJ) evangelist. The five phases of the project were:

Phase 1. Placement of Bible Workers

Five female Bible workers with an average age of 22 were housed in one large house near the centre of the City. They began working in the first week of February to generate Bible study contacts primarily focusing on going door to door with surveys and leaflets introducing Bible study guides.

Strengths:
- Comfortable standard of accommodation in a four bedroom semi-detached house where all five were housed together.
- Strong community relationship with communal worship most mornings.
- The Bible workers were all ARISE graduates and hard working.
- Well placed in relation to outreach area.
- Training of the local church members including youth (13 weeks Bible-Boot Camp) and getting them giving Bible studies. This was given to both Nottingham Central and Bulwell churches.

Weaknesses & Recommendations:
- Lack of male Bible workers. At least 1 or 2 male Bible workers for balance and safety.
- Lack of clear leader and motivator within the Bible working team.
- ASI YfJ coordinator did a great job but was detached from the program with full time other work and by geography. ASI YfJ coordinator could be part of the project team next time.

Phase 2. Advance

A training conference focusing on effective evangelism. Two hundred and thirty youth attending were taught outreach skills including, how to detect conviction, how to make an appeal, how to gain a decision, various health evangelism strategies, as well as hearing enriching and souls searching messages which lead to nearly one hundred youth coming forward to an appeal inviting them to full or part time ministry in soul winning. 17 for pastoral ministry, 30 for overseas missionary work, 30 wanted to be Bible workers and interested in training at ARISE or AFCOE, and a further 20 wanted to help with the local SI YfJ project as Bible workers and support staff for the upcoming campaign.

Weaknesses:
- Boosted the YfJ project with worker force and subsequent 150 Bible study contacts gained.
- Venue was central and well placed for local outreach.
- Speakers were excellent and chosen for their emphasis in training youth. Louis Torres – Mission College, Lyle Southwell – It’s Witten Oceania, Matt Parra – ARISE, Don Macintosh – AFCOE.
- Workshops were relevant and practical

Weaknesses & Recommendations:
- Nearly one hundred youth coming forward to an appeal inviting them to full or part time ministry in soul winning. 17 for pastoral ministry, 30 for overseas missionary work, 30 wanted to be Bible workers and interested in training at ARISE or AFCOE, and a further 20 wanted to help with the local SI YfJ project as Bible workers and support staff for the upcoming campaign.

Phase 3. Youth Field School of Evangelism

“Prophecies of Hope” was the title for the series including 24 presentations spread over three weeks, with three messages presented on the Sabbath with two off days each week being Monday and Thursday. The venue was a hired lecture theatre in a well known central modern community college.

The program was planned and presented to a standard including electronic registration for all attendees. There were greeters and ushers, as well as an intentionally planned crèche for families with children. Topics presented to the children who corresponded to the topics in seminars, twenty students came together for three weeks of both theory and practical training. During the week at 08:30 they gathered for morning worship. Classes began at 0900 prompt through to 13:30. Lunch was provided after which they went out into the community street witnessing, door to door, and leafleting. At 18:00 they made their way to the evangelistic meetings where they participated and lead out in ushering, greeting, hospitality, crèche supervision, instrumental music, and vocal accompaniment as well as accompanying the Bible workers on their visits.

Strengths:
- Well presented and planned outreach series for the students to get the best experience.
- Good relationship built between the students and the ASI team.
- After the field school the students were resourced and encouraged to implement what they had learned in their local youth departments.
- Good food served each day prepared and served by local church members.
- Class subjects were relevant.
- Strong leadership through the school principle Andre Crawford.
- Students were housed with local church members.
- 4 local youth were enrolled in the school.

Weaknesses & Recommendations:
- Not all the teachers were as effective in their teaching abilities and did not meet some of the student expectations.
- More advertising needed to increase the enrolment.
- Increase the size of the co-ordinating team with specific roles allocated e.g. outreach co-ordinator, administrator, web designer, advertising, t-shirt, poster, bookmarks, what ever it takes to get word out.
- Needs a full time co-ordinator as part of the team (as mention previously).
- More local youth to be enrolled in the school, only 4 youth was a little disappointing.
- Increased communication between leaders, teachers, and Bible workers.
- More time for individual tutorials and classes.
- Lack of infrastructure in the conference to put the youth to work. We need to create opportunities in evangelism with co-laborating Bible work, teaching, and missionary work in England. Get them connected with ministries in the UK.

Phase 4. Evangelistic Seminars

"Prophecies of Hope" was the title for the series including 24 presentations spread over three weeks, with three messages presented on the Sabbath with two off days each week being Monday and Thursday. The venue was a hired lecture theatre in a well known central modern community college.

The program was planned and presented to a standard including electronic registration for all attendees. There were greeters and ushers, as well as an intentionally planned crèche for families with children. Topics presented to the children who corresponded to the topics in the main theatre each evening. The evangelist and local ministry coordinated the visitation of guests. Over the series there were in regular attendance over two hundred swelling to well over three hundred on weekends. At the close of the series there were 46 decisions for baptism, as well as others requesting further Bible study and visitation. Ten have already been baptised and there is a further baptism planned at the end of September.

Strengths:
- Children learned the same subjects as the parents because the crèche corresponded with the main program in a child friendly way.
- The speaker was a young thirty years of age who connected with the youth.
- The speaker was the best the conference can offer as a professional evangelist.
- The program was well attended by both the church members and the public.
- Field school students lead out in a variety of aspects and did a great job.
- Organisation could not have been much better.

Weaknesses & Recommendations:
- Some felt there should have been more music
- Could have been preceded by a build up program such as CHIP, Health Expo, etc.

Phase 5. Follow up Work and Baptisms

As many of the candidates were from the community, it was decided not to rush candidates for baptism therefore a baptismal service was held two weeks after the close of the meetings where six souls were baptised. A second is planned for the end of August and third service is planned for late September 09. It is hoped that all 46 will follow through to be baptised by the end of the year.

The follow up has been coordinated by the evangelist and the local pastoral ministry. It has also proved necessary that the local district of churches retain two of the five Bible workers for a further two months to assist in the follow up.

Strengths:
- Planned for a two week follow up to the campaign.
- Did not plan and budget for an extended follow up to the project.
- A two week follow up was inadequate. As a result the local church has had to find the monies to cover the costs of two Bible workers. I have learned that extended follow to a community campaign is as vital as the build up as many of the contacts and baptismal candidates are from the community rather than the church.

Conclusion:

We would like to submit an application for another ASI YfJ project next year and this document has highligted some areas of weakness which will be addressed while planning for next year. This has been an involved venture, yet exciting as we have seen 20 youth trained to go back to their local churches. I have seen the Nottingham district of churches focused on evangelism, and 4 local youth left with the tools necessary to make a difference in their local youth departments. Of the 46 requests for baptism, 10 have been baptised thus far. The main challenge when working with contacts from the community is that their personal home circumstances, and habits need to be given time to for the Holy Spirit to work out in their lives. We are witnessing this happen as more are being prepared for baptism on an ongoing basis and there is large baptism scheduled for September.

Brief synopsis of those baptised thus far:
- 2 White British, age 13, 19
- 4 Black British, age 21, 41, 19, 16
- 4 African, age 19, 35, 14, 15

Charlotte Bramble
Youth for Jesus United Kingdom Coordinator
We proudly announce that Hungary held its first Youth for Jesus from the 3rd till the 30th of August! The first week we had around 40 youth. They had their share of games, trips and fun; they had very creative and spiritual worships and they even went out doing some outreach.

When we asked the youth about the camp (who were not selected, some of them were not even Adventists) they gave the highest score to outreach.

We had a baptism on the first Sabbath, one of our youth got baptized. When appeal was made the great majority of the not yet baptized youth came to the front. We heard kids saying: they want to get baptized in this camp next year!

They left with good memories, testimonies and many experiences with God.

The second part of the camp we worked with 20 youth. The goal of this camp was to hold a complete evangelistic series with young people.

Our speakers were 25 and 17 years old respectively. The rest of the kids greeted the guests, did the registration, held the kids program (complete series), ushered and so on. Before each meeting one of the youth held a health talk.

The evening series started in early August and they proceeded on until the 29th of August every day of the week except Sundays. The sermons based on New Beginning series. Each night we had 10-20 guests. The number of registered guests all together was around 75.

Each day we started with a short worship, then we discussed yesterday’s meetings, shared our testimonies, then the morning ended with classes about the Bible, mission work and Christian life.

On the afternoons the youth went out to do outreach: going door-to-door with flyers and canvasses, giving outdoor concerts on the main square and later visiting our guests and giving Bible studies.

The evening ended with the seminars, where each youth had their important roles.

We invited the guests to stay for a little snack (fruits and drinks) where the youth and the local church members were able to talk with them, get to know them. Some guests would stay even for 10-11 p.m.

Prayer had a very important role in our camp. We prayed together in big and small groups in the morning, had a prayer group of youth through each seminar and finished our days with a little worship and prayer at the girl’s and boy’s dorm respectively.

We had a baptism on the last Sabbath of our stay. Five precious souls got baptized: two people (mother and son) who requested that they would be baptized in this camp, two of our youth (one of them decided during the camp) and one lady who has been a friend of the local church for a long time.

At the appeal before the baptism many of our youth came forward with some of our guests.

The youth worked very hard from morning worships through afternoon outreach till the evening meetings. They made good friends with the guests and each other, spent a lot of time praying and studying their Bibles which left them with many testimonies, helped them to a closer relationship with God and other youth and sent them home with joy and fire in their hearts.

God blessed our project greatly and we are very thankful for all His grace and blessing.

We are grateful to all the people who helped us: our main staff, coordinators, speakers, kitchen staff, guest pastors/speakers, local pastor and church members.

Thank you for all the support, wonderful food and many kindnesses.

We are also very grateful to everyone who supported us and for every prayer said on our behalf.

May God bless you richly.

“And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

Melinda Rajki
Youth for Jesus Hungary Coordinator
Announcement

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