



*Renaissance Church of Christ
Sofia, Bulgaria
July 21, 2022*

*“I can do everything through
Him who gives me strength”
Philippians 4:13*

Dear friends, brothers and sisters, greetings from Hristo and Vania Arnaudov, servants of the Lord at the Renaissance Church of Christ in Sofia, Bulgaria!

We hope that our newsletter finds you in good health and under God's blessings!

As you know, we share our news with you quarterly, highlighting the ministry work and activities for that period, as well as any challenges we have faced. Indeed, just like everyone else, God's people also face challenges. However, we know that God allows these in our lives to strengthen our faith and renew our trust in Him.

As mentioned briefly in our previous newsletter, at the end of April, we welcomed the Krivega family, who with God's help and after crossing 11 country borders, made it to Bulgaria safely.

The Krivega family at their home prior to the war



The Krivegas arriving in Bulgaria after two weeks of running away from the war



The Krivegas sharing an Easter meal with the Renaissance Church in Sofia



Their story is very long and filled with lots of sad events. However, with the help of God and thanks to a sister in Christ from Sofia, we will be able to host them in her family's apartment. The church collected a special contribution for the family, and we helped them obtain necessities such as clothing, food, medication, as well as give them some financial help. They registered at the refugee center and hoped to be offered jobs, so they can begin working and not have to depend entirely on refugee help. However, since there were no offers for work for several weeks, they began praying and seeking God's guidance on what to do. During that time, Pavel Krivega received a message from acquaintances located in Estonia

that there is work available there, and after some more prayer and thoughts they decided to travel back.

The Renaissance church sends off the family with a prayer



The children will continue their education in Estonia which should be easier because there will be no language barrier as Russian language is also spoken. We thank God for all brothers and sisters who responded to this special need in various ways, including all those of you who helped financially.

The church praying for the students on their recent school graduations and for the upcoming exams



This 3-month period also marked the end of the school year in Bulgaria. There were several teenagers from the church who had to prepare for and take exams before they could continue to high school. In Bulgaria, the children take such exams at different grade levels and usually move to a different school, where they choose the focus of their studies - while taking all regular courses, they might specialize in languages, science, history, or other subjects (like college majors in the US). All the teens successfully passed their exams and, despite the fierce competition, have been accepted into their chosen schools/fields of study. The church has been praying for them all and is now praising God for the answered prayers.

This period also covered two much anticipated events for the Renaissance church, as well as for many Christians throughout Bulgaria - a weekend seminar and our annual Summer Camp for children and parents.

In the past 10 years we have been hosting a seminar with the help of the visiting mission's team from WestArk Church of Christ, led by brother Rick Odell the.





This has become a tradition and an event awaited by many. We invite brothers and sisters from all over Bulgaria, who have once given their life to Christ during our ministry in Athens, Greece.



In their life as immigrants in Greece and faced with various problems and difficulties, they all sought the Lord, believed, and were baptized for the forgiveness of their sins, and were added to the Lord's church at the Bulgarian immigrant congregation in Athens. We keep in constant contact with all of them and often, visit them in their hometowns and villages, as well as send them Christian literature which we have received from the Eastern European Mission.





The seminar was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to gather and to once again, praise and worship our Lord together. The topic of the seminar "Shout," based on Matthew 10, was a great encouragement to all through the lessons shared by brothers Rick Odell, Samuel Amadin, Rafik Hanna, and me.



July 4 - 8 was our Family Summer Camp week which we had in the Borovets Mountain resort area. Unfortunately, during the covid pandemic and restrictions we had to skip a couple of years but are so grateful to have had the opportunity to do it again this summer. The group of young people from WestArk and our children and teens had a wonderful time getting to know each other, learn from the word of God, praise His name, and create special bonds. The camp's theme was "Planting Seeds," and it was covered in various ways with all age groups (ranging from 4 - 15 years of age). The American youth performed Biblical skits each day, where the stories and Biblical characters represented would reveal another way of planting a seed or the type of seed being planted. Then, they will all discuss it together. We all sang songs to worship our God, prayed together, shared testimonies, and had devotionals each day. The youth also had some free time to bond, play games indoors or outdoors. Brother Rick held sessions with the parents/adults,

sharing his many years of experience in working with youth, giving examples of how he plans the activities for the whole year and encouraging us to take the lead for our youth in a similar way. The parents were very excited about what they heard and have begun making plans on how to apply some of the shared knowledge and experience to our situation and circumstances in Bulgaria.







encouragement to all of us and we pray, that their future mission trips to other places will be guided and blessed by God beyond measure. May He continue to use them wherever they go. We also pray that we can see them again next year and hope to share what we've learnt and what we've been able to apply.



As always, we thank all of you for your help, support, and encouragement, dear friends! We believe that God uses us as His servants and instruments in His hand but also, He uses you through your constant prayers and financial support so we may make some of these blessed events possible, to "shout out"/proclaim the good news to the world, and to plant good seeds in the hearts of others! We are grateful to you, appreciate your various support and collaboration in the work on His field - may God continue to bless you richly for the sacrifice you make in His name! Be blessed!



Some more photos from the life of the Renaissance church

Both the seminar and the camp were a great blessing to us and a bright example of practical Christianity. The WestArk's youth mission trip to Bulgaria was an





*In God's might hand and in
His love,*

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