

josiah

*A movement of God among the youth of Central and Eastern Europe
that finds its home in the local church and transforms society*

Sheppersons in Slovakia

Dear Friends, thank you all for your encouragement and prayers as we head into this summer ministry season. Summer camps have always proved to be a strategic tool God uses to build his movement. Below you will find some other events happening around us. Thanks for taking time to care about our lives here.

Hopeful Change



In my last update, I introduced you to Daniel and Lydia. My connection with them led to their oldest daughter Flora (age 13) visiting the local youth group. For the last five months, she has hardly missed a meeting. Now she is registered for summer camp too. What a miracle! Please pray that Flora will come to know Christ and start a transformation in her life that will influence her whole family.

Ukraine Camp



Two weeks ago, I had a call with my Ukrainian friend Sasha – who serves with JV there. Ukraine is having more summer camps this year than ever before! But not too many international teams are able to help with camps because of the war. So, I decided to put together a camp team from our town here in Slovakia. Our team of eight will travel by train on August first and spend the next two weeks helping with a youth camp near Kiev. What an amazing opportunity to take the hope of Christ to students in a war zone!



Fusion lets music be the gateway to knowing the one who created music. Since 2009, Fusion has become an international ministry of Josiah Venture in nine countries (Czech Republic, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, and Romania). Each Fusion choir is run by a local church, but is open to all teenagers. They learn new skills and grow in areas they are interested in, like singing, playing an instrument, conducting and dancing. Then, they have the opportunity to perform in Fusion concerts. Click on the picture above, and as you watch the short video, pray for students to join Fusion and find Jesus.

Renovated Training Space



Within two weeks the new Kompas work space will be functional (previously Kompas Cafe). These before and after pictures are really dramatic. One of the first events will be the graduation weekend of our School for youth leaders this month. This redesigned space will serve as a place to train youth leaders for many years to come.

Equipping young leaders



Sam was on the stage and Hampton was behind the concessions counter as more than 500 youth leaders converged on our town for another annual training conference for youth leaders in April. Sam is now a youth leader himself and Hampton is not far behind him. In a small country of only five million, five hundred youth leaders is a powerful force for the church in Slovakia!

Youth Ministry Training School



While attending his first year of University, Sam has also been in the one year, Kompas training school specialised for youth leaders. It has been a significant academic load, but at last, this month he will complete the school for youth leaders and his first year of University simultaneously. He is a faithful leader in his local youth group and takes his shepherding role very seriously.

Ukraine Relief



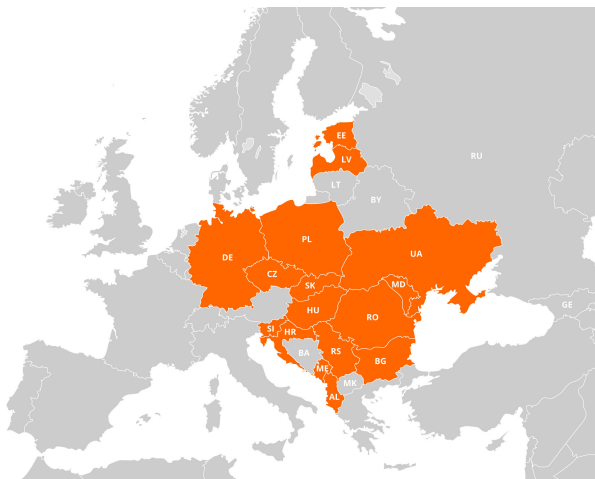
A number of you gave to supply electric generators to needed areas in Ukraine. Much of the country's power supply has been stabilised now, but the hardest hit areas still experience issues. The final two generators were sent to the Kherson region in mid April and were received by two grateful pastors who put them straight to use.

Creative Environments



Kim and I were asked to be the decorators for a Family Ball at our annual conference for missionaries in Czech Republic last month. It was not our usual skill set, but we loved dreaming, creating and making a special place for celebration and fun. Maybe this can be our job in retirement!

A Little Clarity



It's confusing, I know! What is Josiah Venture and who is Kompas and what's the difference? Here is the thumbnail explanation. Josiah Venture is the International "mother" organisation that coordinates and unifies seventeen Central and Eastern European partner organisations. There is only one Josiah Venture, but there are seventeen partner countries. Each partner country has their own national organisation and name. Kompas Training Center is the name of the national organisation in Slovakia. Every national partner focuses on the same vision – "A movement of God among youth". Hope that helps:)

Return to Ukraine



At the start of the Ukraine crisis, we helped an American missionary family from Ukraine move to our city. The Steeles have served in Ukraine for twenty years, but suddenly found themselves on the run. For over a year now, they have been our friends and served in the church with great dedication. This month, they will return to Ukraine to begin serving again where God has called them. Despite the ongoing danger, we believe God has called them to step up and continue their ministry. We will miss them dearly.

Equipping young leaders to fulfill Christ's commission in Central and Eastern Europe through the local church

josiahventure

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