

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,  
and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and  
Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.*  
-Acts 1:8

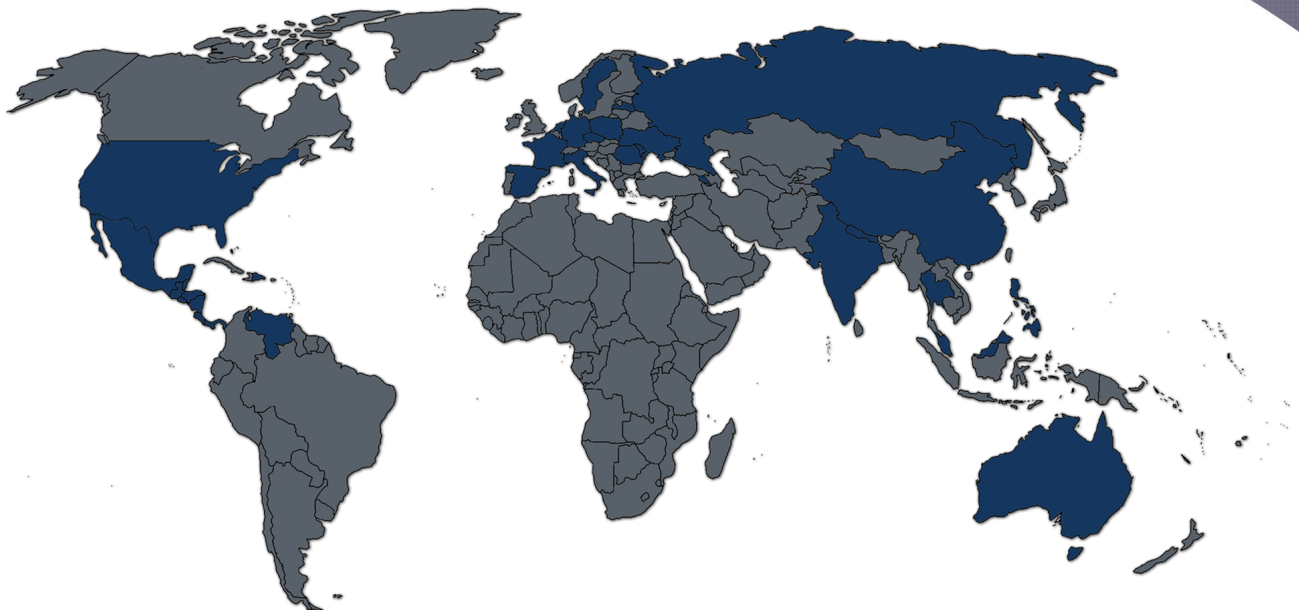


*international edition*

# christianity in ACTION

*GCC International Report  
October 2013*

## *International Churches:*



### **ASIA**

China, Hong Kong  
India  
Japan, Tokyo  
Nepal  
Pakistan  
Philippines, Bulacan  
Taiwan, Taichung  
Thailand, Bangkok

### **AUSTRALIA**

### **EUROPE**

Armenia, Yerevan  
Germany, Berlin  
Germany, Dortmund  
Germany, Koln  
Italy, Milano  
Italy, Torino  
Moldova, Chisinau  
Moldova, Transnistria  
Netherlands, Amsterdam  
Poland, Poznan  
Spain, Gijon  
Spain, Madrid  
Spain, Pamplona  
Sweden, Lulea  
Ukraine, Alvchesk

Ukraine, Chigirin  
Ukraine, Dimitrov  
Ukraine, Kiev  
Ukraine, Krasnayarmesk  
Ukraine, Odessa

### **EUROPE : NEW WORKS**

*Czech Republic, Prague  
France, Grenoble  
Latvia, Riga  
Romania, Brasov  
Romania, Sardu  
Spain, Barcelona  
Sweden, Skovdev*

### **LATIN AMERICA**

Costa Rica, San Jose  
Costa Rica, Guapiles  
D. Repub., Santo Domingo  
D. Repub., San Pedro de Macoris  
El Salvador, La Libertad  
El Salvador, San Salvador  
Guatemala, Guatemala City  
Honduras, Choluteca  
Honduras, Comayagua  
Honduras, Danli  
Honduras, El Progreso  
Honduras, La Ceiba  
Honduras, La Entrada Copan  
Honduras, Olanchito  
Honduras, Puerto Cortes

Honduras, San Pedro Sula  
Honduras, Siguatepeque  
Honduras, Tegucigalpa  
Mexico, Monterrey  
Nicaragua, Managua  
Panama, Panama City  
Venezuela, Caracas  
Venezuela, Valencia

# Europe: Affiliate Churches & New Works

*Great Commission Churches works with Great Commission Europe in these countries:*

## Netherlands

### Amsterdam

Amsterdam50 is beginning new home groups around the city and they continue to work towards being fully led by nationals under the pastoring of John Shepard.

## Italy

### Turin

il Rifugio is an established church that focuses on young Italians and internationals, primarily at the university. Paul Meiburger and Anthony Testa continue to transfer responsibility to nationals.

### Milan

The Apisa's were recently joined by Stacy & Debbie Ware. They have benefitted from this summer's pilot Euro-LT project.

## Spain

### Madrid

The Madrid church, led by Alex Gonzalez and José Cabal, is our oldest European work. The families and young people focus on evangelism, and plan and host an annual all-Spain Easter Retreat.

### Pamplona

Dom & Damaris Marrone recently opened a campus outreach facility, La Roca. It is strategically located on the city's two major university campuses.

### Gijón

Wauner & Ana Ruiz were first reached by the Madrid church but moved back to their hometown, and host a small, growing fellowship there.

### Barcelona

After moving to Barcelona due to a job transfer from Singapore, Adrian & Susan Lim provide the basis for a new work in Spain.

## Germany

### Dortmund

Germany's original church-plant continues to grow and train people, effectively reaching new people under the leadership of the Riegers and the Borks.

### Cologne

The Bridge is especially strong in using the Outreach Training Program and focuses on the University community. The Bonnets team with Daniel & Lori Goering in leading, and are recognizing a new elder soon.

### Berlin

The Rock continues to be a light to young people and families in northeastern Berlin. The Schades co-labor with John & Stephi Goering.

## Sweden

### (2 works)

Partnership between a stateside church and two evangelical churches in Luleå has revived a Technical University's fellowship. Sarah Bedi, a GCM staffer, hosted a LINC program this summer. Rom & Sarah Rwamamara recently moved to Skövde and are eager for co-laborers to join them to plant a house church.

## France

### Grenoble

Julien & Dani Fils, from il Rifugio in Turin, moved to and are working in Grenoble. They are eager to labor with GCE for a church-plant in France.

## Poland

### Poznan

The Zubenkos minister to Poznan's growing house church, and the church-planting efforts and Gospel Music ministry of Andrzej Gorski are encouraging.

## Ukraine

### Kiev (3 works)

Spring of Hope is an established, family focused church led by nationals and coordinated by Andre Y., with staff members David and Mindy Henson co-laboring for discipleship. Sasha S. and Kolya S. lead an established church that has an effective leadership training program reaching students, families, and internationals. A network of six "simple churches" across Kiev effectively work with orphans, drug addicts and alcoholics. Key leaders in the network are Maksym R., Vasia Z. and Dima S.

### Ukrainian House Churches (5 works)

Five house church regions across Ukraine are Odessa, Dimitrov, Krasnayarmesk, Alvchesk, and Chigirin. Each region has one to three house churches, where ministry focuses on young people and families, with effective outreach to orphans, the poor, drug addicts, and alcoholics. Pray for leaders Gennadi G., Misha D., Igor T., Yaroslav K., Uri M., Igor T., Uri S., Maksym S., and Sergei S.

## Russia

### St. Petersburg

Vitaly K. leads two house churches in St. Petersburg that focus on students and young families, and he also coaches house churches spread across other Russian cities.

## Moldova

### (2 works)

A team of nationals coordinated by Stas B. are multiplying disciples and smaller churches in Chisinau. Anton Olmechinko leads a new house church that is very engaged in the gospel in the republic of Transnistria.

## Armenia

### Yerevan

There are five house churches in the area around Yerevan that are focused on the poor. Tigran Z. oversees this work.

## Romania

### (2 works)

David and Amy Cato are in the beginning stages of a house church network focusing on students and young families in Brasov. The Rock, Salt Lake City is partnering with existing missions in Sarbu for gypsies and the poor in this region. They plan to send a team to join this work full-time this year.

## Latvia

### Riga

Young leaders Raimonds L. and Andris D., partnered with Tim Powers, are reaching students and young families as a part of existing ministries that are open to further partnership with GCE.

## Czech Republic

### Prague

Tim Powers made connections with several key mission leaders open to future partnership. Jack Stockdale is planning a short term mission to Czech Republic in the summer of 2014.

Please send inquiries to:

[U4E14@gceweb.org](mailto:U4E14@gceweb.org)

For more information, please visit:

[www.gceweb.org](http://www.gceweb.org)



## *Fruit in the Dominican Republic*

by Herschel Martindale

Four years ago, God opened a very interesting door for us in the Dominican Republic. Short term teams have shared the gospel with hundreds at the university in Santo Domingo and many have trusted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Bible studies are held every week to follow up the new believers at the University, and because of outreach we've found a Haitian community that has been quite responsive to the gospel. Our desire is to see many students from the University saved, growing spiritually, embracing God's vision, then reaching out to other cities and towns all over the country and eventually the Caribbean.

A church called La Vid (The Vine) began last year, and has grown steadily and a leadership training course began in the church there this past June.



## *Latin America*

by Carlos Gomez

Great Commission Latin America (GCLA) and Great Commission Churches (GCC) have partnered for years to bring the Gospel, health care, food, nutrition, education, hygiene, training, jobs, microloans, emergency relief, clothing and housing to hundreds of thousands of people. We mobilize more than 500 missionaries who serve terms from one-week to one-year. GCLA has a presence in 10 countries, and our calling and mission is to plant reproducing Latino churches, to train locals, and continue to form new partnerships to bring the Gospel and the Kingdom to the lost.

Would you like us to talk about opportunities to go, make disciples, baptize and teach for your church and our churches? To change the world one life at a time? Please write to [carlos.gomez@igcla.com](mailto:carlos.gomez@igcla.com) or visit us at [www.gcla.com](http://www.gcla.com). Find out more about the Spartans program at [www.greatcommissionla.com/spartans](http://www.greatcommissionla.com/spartans).



## *Philippines*

by Mike Bergen

There are ten Great Commission churches in the Philippines today.

A great encouragement among these Philippine churches is the success of the microloan program begun in September, 2012. Since then, over 50 small loans have been made to help church members build small home businesses. The success rate for repayment has been over 95%. With weekly meetings for loan recipients that include Bible discussion and prayer, the pastors are encouraged by the way this service has strengthened their churches.



# *East Asia and India*

## **East Asia**

by Doug Brown

*"... that Your ways may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations," -Psalm 67*



The Asia ministry in GCC exists to advance the Kingdom of God and see GC churches established in every Asian country. We catalyze, connect, and coach Great Commission churches along with other partners to the world of Asia in missions, leader development and church planting.

Current efforts range from one-year study abroad programs where American students go to Asia for culture and language learning, with the intent on coming back to work with ISM on GC college campuses; to sending teams to Nepal with the Jesus film; to local churches hosting short term internships for Asian leaders to learn church planting and evangelism skills to take back to their home country. Partner with us through joining our prayer partner team, joining a mission project and seeing in person what we're doing, investing financially in our work, or by training and coaching those who can join us. For more information please visit,

[www.e3leadershipgroup.net](http://www.e3leadershipgroup.net).

## **India & South Asia**

by Mike Keator

For two years I traveled across North India, training 12,000 pastors and believers in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. These trainees are on track to reach a million Indians with the gospel. Two years ago we started an Indian Great Commission movement. From one training group, this movement now has 327 training groups, with 1,139 people in training.



Su and I will move to Nepal the first week of October to start a church planting movement. Ken Young is training in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and North India, with good results. His trainees are mobilizing for the least reached districts of these areas. Soon, U.S. short term mission teams will be able to choose between North Indian cities and Nepal to join indigenous teams in spreading the gospel. We dream of launching church planting movements in every Asian megacity. Please pray for courage for the teams and the new believers, that they will keep "holding forth the Word of life."

# International Student Ministry

## ISM Update

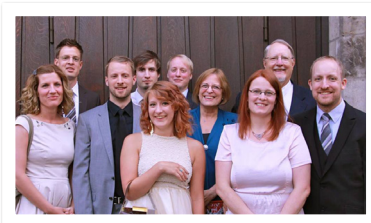
by Jim Wiebelhaus

In 2013, International Student Ministry (ISM) encouraged and helped equip churches start and/or grow an effective outreach and discipleship to International Students. One highlight was the “Dare To Dream” International Student Ministry/Missions Conference, May 24-26 in Omaha, NE. Many testified that God spoke to their hearts through this conference, such as Sue Ann Chong:

*“By God’s grace, the ISM Conference 2013 was invigorating and emboldening. I left with a heart more broken for the lost, more secure in Christ, and with courage more refined to press on with the Great Commission.”*

This year, several GCC churches sent American and international students who were involved in ISM to become international students in East Asia.

Current and former International students are playing a greater role in International Student ministries and short-term mission trips around the world. Please, pray for more workers! *“Therefore beseech the Lord of the Harvest for more workers for the harvest.” (Matthew 9:38)*



## Meet A Missionary:

Dan Goering

My wife, Lori, and I had our lives gripped by Jesus Christ in the early 70’s in Lawrence, Kansas. We came to understand and embrace God’s calling, choosing individually to devote our lives to fulfilling the Great Commission. Several years later, in 1980, as we were living out this conviction on a church-planting team in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, He brought us together in marriage.

Two church-plants, five sons, and ten years later, He opened the doors for our young family to move to Germany and continue to follow His calling. We didn’t really know what we were getting into, but we did know Who was with us. We had never before needed the kind of grace it would take to tackle a language and to disciple people and plant churches in a culture so different from our own. Even though we went through times of wavering, His grace never wavered.

In the meantime He has rounded out our family by giving us a daughter in 1994. We now have a basketball team and a cheerleader. They have all essentially grown up in Germany, and although we are now empty-nesters, we maintain very close family relationships. My current role as one of the GCE Co-Directors includes providing oversight and coaching to most of our churches in western Europe. This includes not only Germany, Italy, Spain and Poland, but also initiatives through United for Europe 2014 in Sweden, France and potentially a few others. We feel so privileged to be united with the entire GCC family in seeking to truly be a part of reaching the entire world with the gospel.



## Our Strategy:

*The Acts 1:8 Local Church*

by John Hopler, GCC Director

*“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’” Matthew 28:18-20*

This year, our theme in Great Commission Churches has been “Just Sow It”—just sow the gospel of Jesus Christ with people, and watch God work! Normal people like you and me can have a supernatural impact by simply telling others the powerful message of God’s grace in Christ.

In a similar way, God uses the local church—any local church—to bring the gospel to people in other parts of the world. Throughout the years, Great Commission churches have brought the message of Christ to people in Europe, Latin America, East Asia, India, and Pakistan. This newsletter gives testimony of the amazing impact that local churches can have. How about you? And how about your church? What is the Holy Spirit leading you to do to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to people outside of the United States? As followers of Christ, God has given to us the awesome privilege of being His ambassadors to a dying world in need of the Savior. Therefore, let’s give ourselves to this very noble task, sharing the word of eternal life with every tongue, tribe, people and nation for the glory of Jesus Christ.



nae

CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION is a publication of Great Commission Churches, published four times each year.

www.gccweb.org | EDITORS: John Hopler, Christian Clonch | LAYOUT: Tyler Dormanen  
© Great Commission Churches, All Rights Reserved.