

BOB & MARY ANNE PARSCHAUER

European Representative

 Word of Life

April 2022

Dear Friends and Supporters,

*"That they may see and know and consider and understand together, that **The hand of the Lord has done this!**"* Isaiah 41:20 That is the title of the book telling the story of the quartet that I sang with all of my adult life, and how we were used of God to establish the Word of Life ministry in Germany, which spread to Kenya East Africa and 18 countries in Europe.

This is the front cover of the new book that I just completed with the help of Mary Anne, with 381 pages describing how God brought the quartet together and led us all the way. The personal stories of the quartet members, as well as several others who worked with us over the many years to establish what has become Word of Life Europe and Africa, are now finally documented.

The book is presently going through the editing process and will be at the printers within a few weeks. However, the expected date of availability is in August. We will let you know how you can procure a copy then.

Those of you who only receive our printed letter will be wondering why we have not sent out a prayer letter during the last few months. Well, here is one of the reasons. We have used almost every available minute to finally complete what I have been working on for the past two years.

Then the war broke out, with Russia attacking Ukraine. We have been forwarding e-mails from our European staff and communicating with them as they were describing the horrors of what has been going on since that war began. *(If you would like to receive these emails, please provide us with your address.)* This has been very close to my heart because all of

these countries affected have ministries that I have been involved in for most of my life. Our Word of Life properties in Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, and Romania, as well as two centers in Germany and one in Austria, are hosting Ukrainian refugees. Please pray for our staff in all these countries as they are being stretched, in some cases, almost to the breaking point.

POLAND:

Here are a few recent pictures of refugees in Poland: first, the dining room and food line showing the food being served. A good number of Ukrainian women are helping with the cooking and cleaning. Groups from other Word of Life ministries in Western Europe are now helping in Eastern European countries.

Meetings are held every night with a Ukrainian pastor. Many have already received Christ. The majority of the refugees have come to Poland and then are sent to other Word of Life centers in Europe. Pictured are some of the activities that are going on in all the countries hosting refugees.



ROMANIA:

Many people are getting right with God. Mary



Anne and I will join our Word of Life medical team and will serve there from May 28th to June 4th. We will be in **Portugal** from May 25th to 28th to minister to our staff in that country before meeting the medical team. Mary Anne will again work with the children and I will be the evangelist. Pray for many salvation decisions, both among the adults and the children.

UKRAINE:

Sergey Stepanenko, our assistant director in Ukraine, gave this recent report: "Over the past weeks, we have split our team into two groups. Half of the team remains on our property serving refugees, preparing food and cleaning. The director of our Bible Institute, Alexander Bulay, is responsible for this group. The other half travels with me to Chernihiv and other cities in a vehicle column. There is always the danger of shelling, but God has protected us. A couple days ago, when we were driving to Chernihiv, we saw explosions and fire from afar, but the road was safe. A couple hours later, on our return trip, we saw traces of shelling – there were artillery shells stuck in the ground only 20 meters from the road. We understood that God protected our lives. God has blessed us during this time by using our ministry to inspire others to start evacuating civilian. The Kyiv "Almas" Church has worked with us to organize ten evacuation vehicles and, during the first two weeks of the war, we evacuated around 1200 – 1300 people. Many have received Christ."

I wish we could show you some of the pictures of our team in Ukraine. It is impossible to transfer them from the videos to this letter. Eight of our staff, all young men, are putting their lives on the line every day. Their wives and children are helping and translating for Ukrainians sheltering in our Western European facilities. Please be in Prayer for them.

Here are a few reports from our western European countries:

Matthew Melville just sent this report from Portugal

"Wow, what a blessing to be at full – capacity for our camps for the first time since 2019!

Last night we had our first meeting with our camp staff (above) and we welcomed 120 campers here this afternoon.



Once again, we are so grateful for the Woodstock team. (right) They helped with projects, camp prep, evangelism outreach and local church connections! Maybe your church would like to send a group to Portugal sometime, or one of our Europe countries!!"



Jonathan Furst wrote about their winter camp in Austria.



"Originally, we had planned to have our winter camp in Ramsau, Styria, where we had our summer camps

last year, but due to the high Covid-19 numbers, it was not allowed to have camps with overnights. So, we rescheduled and prepared for day camps on site at the WOL house. Then, however, the regulations for extracurricular youth work were changed on what felt like a daily basis, so we were finally able to do an "almost normal" camp with an overnight stay and program (skiing and snowboarding, tobogganing, a visit to a thermal spa) here in our area."

Marcelo Gajarodo, the new director in Spain, sent this in his last newsletter:

"**LIGHT THE FIRE TOLEDO 2022:** During these days, we have celebrated "Light the fire" (an activity aimed at young people over 18 years old). The response has been very good with 120 youth; 13 responded to the call to dedicate their lives to the Lord.



ADDICTIONS VS LIFE:



From Monday March 14th to Sunday the 20th Fernando Soriano from Argentina presented the program “Additions vs. Life” in Ourense, Toledo and Madrid. Around 350 people heard his testimony and 32 people met Jesus as Savior. There is no doubt that God is using this man who has spoken to thousands of people about his former addictions and being healed of aids. He loves God and has a great passion to share the gospel.”

Paul Troxler, Academic Dean, Word of Life Bible Institute at Lake Koeris, Germany, reports:



“New students, new baby! January and February 2022 brought 5 additional students our way, so that we are now a student body of 16. Among them was a couple with a baby on the way. In the meantime, this baby has arrived (a boy on April 1st, no joke!) and he was actually born on campus, but that’s a story in and of itself. Adjustments, growth and stability are now the order of the day. “



“Because he has set his love upon Me,
therefore I will deliver him;

I will set him on high, because
he has known My name.

He shall call upon Me, and I will
answer him;

I will be with him in trouble;

I will deliver him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him,

And show him My salvation.”

Psalm 91:14-16

RUSTY'S CORNER

Did you know it was Robert Burns who wrote “The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry”? (Well, he actually wrote; “*The best laid schemes o’ Mice an’ Men Gang aft agley*”) We planned a simple flight to Canada to take care of 4 medical appointments... minor surgery on my finger, a dental check-up, optometrist visit, and a neurology procedure... and a few extra days to help my daughter move. **But** the dentist complicated my life by sending me to a surgeon to remove a tooth – ouch! **But** some of the stitches in my finger came out prematurely, causing a little grief. We went to get our Covid test required by the airlines for our return flight...but mine was **POSITIVE!** What a shock! (I had absolutely no symptoms!) We were stranded! When we were finally able to fly, our flight was delayed so we spent 7 hours in the airport! God’s Words rang in my head: “*In their hearts humans plan their course, **but** the LORD establishes their steps.*” (Proverbs 16:8) Then my thoughts turned to all those dear people in Ukraine whose lives are much more tumbled and insecure than ours could ever be. Thank You, Lord, for the detours in my life. I know it is You who establishes my steps.

Tour with Darko and Igor from Serbia.

Sunday May 1st AM

Maranatha Bible Church
Lantana, FL

Sunday May 1st PM

Bella Vista Baptist Church
Edgewater, FL

Tuesday May 3rd

Prime Timer's
Temple Baptist Church
Titusville, FL

Friday May 6th

Grace Fellowship Church
New Smyrna Beach, FL

Sunday May 8th AM

Fellowship Baptist Church
Deltona, FL

Sunday May 8th PM

Church in Port Orange, FL

Wednesday, May 11th, 11:AM

SALT EAC Seniors
Edgewater, FL

Sunday May 15th AM

Fellowship Bible Church
Venice, FL

Sunday May 15th PM

First Baptist Church
Hudson FL

We would very much appreciate your prayers for our tour with our Serbian staff in Florida and our travel and ministry to our staff in Portugal and then Romania with our Word of Life medical team **May 24th – June 5th**. We are praying that many will receive Christ. Thank you for all who are supporting us in this ministry.

Bob & Mary Anne

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Europe Support Slip

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- ☐ Give \$_____ Ukraine Emergency refugee fund # 05203C

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