

Spring 2022

The TCM Report

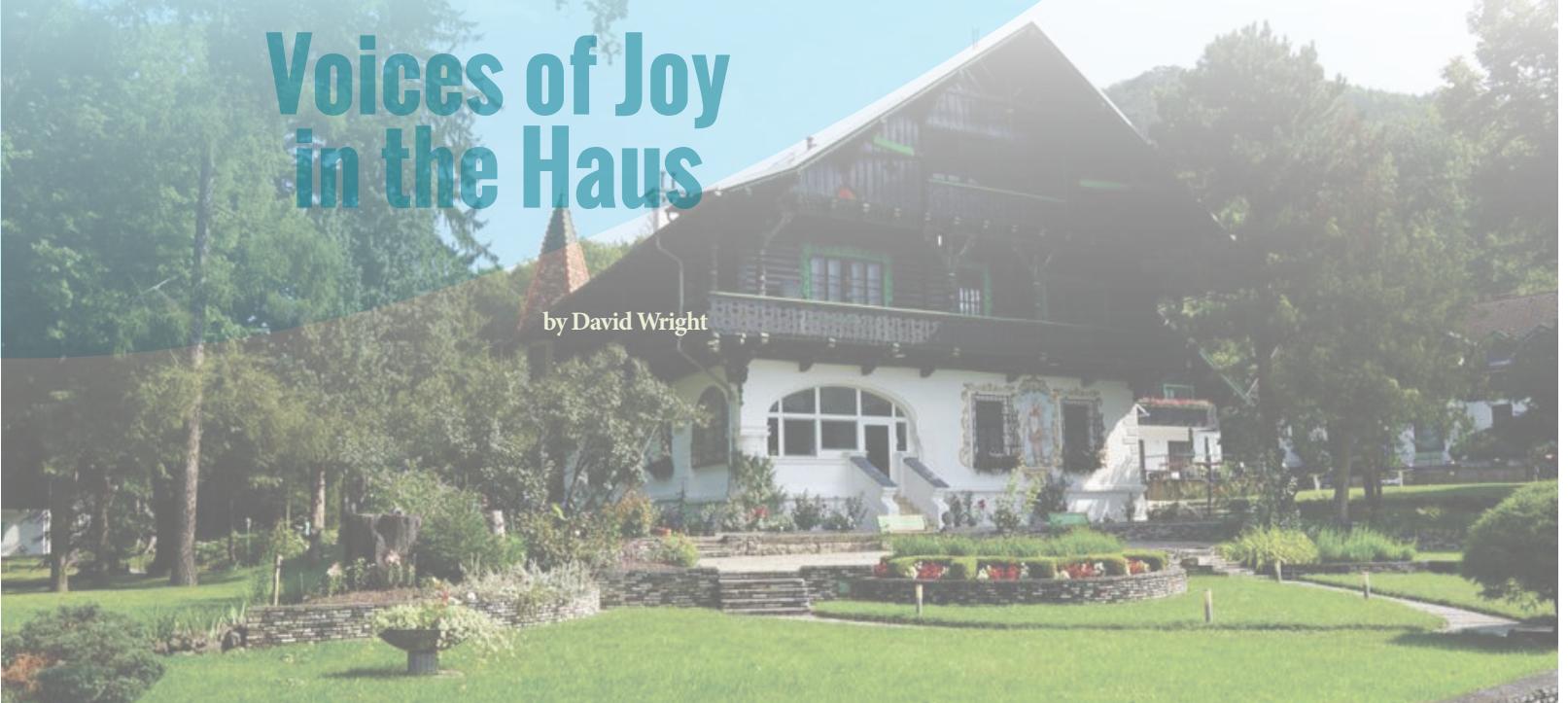


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Voices of Joy in the Haus

by David Wright



“Voices of the Haus!” was a title of a segment of TCM’s Every Nation Summit presented on April 29, 2022. Along with 225 guests, we celebrated TCM’s purchase of a rundown property in Austria in need of much repair.

Gene and Lenora Dulin came upon this property in the fall of 1971. Gene, ever the visionary, just knew this location would serve TCM well as they would be able to move Bibles, clothing, medicine, food, and other needed items into communist-controlled countries. Helping other believers share the Good News of Jesus and ultimately change hearts and cultures was the vision. But a survey of the property revealed that this “handyman’s delight” in the middle of Austria’s Vienna Woods would require extensive repairs. With the help of many others that is just what happened. From several feet of mud in the basement of the Big Haus, an antiquated utility system, to trees, grass, and land that had not been tended to for years, improvements and changes began.

The purchase was finalized in the spring of 1972. TCM staff families moved onto the property, volunteers to remodel and upgrade were recruited, and financial arrangements for the purchase were finalized. Outreach ministry to other countries began in earnest and included a college internship program in the summer of 1972. Steve Henderson, a Cincinnati Bible College student was among the first interns. “I was and am still amazed

at the border crossings we made. There is no doubt in the minds of those who took Bibles into Czechoslovakia and other ‘closed’ countries, that God was opening one door after another. That experience influenced my life and ministry to this day.”

The 50 years that followed have seen nearly 10,000 volunteers, thousands of students, hundreds of churches, and TCM staff serving One God. This six-acre property continues to be a tool for God’s Kingdom. In essence it is a large and effective saltshaker as the work done here equips men and women who are salt and light in their countries and cultures. As it stood empty and useless for years prior to TCM’s purchase of it, almost any onlooker would have questioned its value. But in the hands of people with a God-given vision Haus Edelweiss has been a tool that God has allowed TCM to use to share the light of Jesus in a very dark world.

We do love this place and are so grateful for its history, its present use, and how it will be used in the years ahead. Let us be clear. We do not worship this Haus. We do worship the God who was; we do worship the God who is; and we do worship the God who forever will be.

There’s Joy in the Haus of the Lord. And we won’t be quiet. We shout out Your praise!

(Lyrics above from *House of the Lord* by Jonathan Smith and Phil Wickham)

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Prepared for Such a Time as This

An Interview with Andrey Puzynin

by David Wright

Andrey and Oksana have been a true blessing to TCM since their arrival at Haus Edelweiss in 2014. They arrived in Austria having fled the 2014 conflict in Eastern Ukraine when Pro-Russian rebels took over the area of Ukraine in which they lived and worked. Along with their three young sons, they were seeking shelter and a place to rest. Little did any of us know that this family would become instrumental in executing and expanding TCM's mission and vision.

Their presence at Haus Edelweiss, eight years later, has enabled TCM to be a bridge for Ukrainian refugees who have either migrated through or chosen to stay in Austria.

Andrey serves as TCM's Assistant Academic Dean and Professor of Organizational Leadership. Oksana serves as TCM's Information Services Librarian. Together they are raising three wonderful sons.

Knowing Andrey and Oksana's history related to their life in Ukraine prior to 2014, I asked Andrey the following question: How is God using you and your family today regarding serving Ukrainian refugees at the Haus and elsewhere?

Andrey shared the following response:

"I believe God in His grace and mercy uses our family to serve Ukrainian refugees in Austria in several ways. All of our family members are actively involved in ministry."

"Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine our church has been providing detailed information for Ukrainian guests in Austria. Because of this up-to-date information, our church has become one of the main hot spots for Christians and God-seekers from Ukraine in Austria."

"During the first several weeks of war, Haus Edelweiss became the main transit center for Ukrainians traveling on their way from Romania, Poland, and Hungary to other European countries, Canada, and the United States. The website of the church became the main tool of contact for travelers as well as the networks of TCM students."

"A month after the war began, we were forced to change our church premises. The number of people attending the services was multiplied. We used to have up to 30 people in our regular services before the war, now we have up to 200 people. We could not stay in the old premises as we did not have enough room for the people who came to the services."

"With the support of Austrian evangelical churches and individual believers, our church helps Ukrainians to find long-term accommodations, which are graciously offered by Austrian Christians."

"On Tuesday mornings, we offer German language courses at the church to help Ukrainians integrate into the Austrian culture."

"On Thursdays and Sundays, we serve dinner for refugees. Other partner churches participate in this ministry by preparing meals or by donating funds for the meals and services."



"Thanks to donations from individuals and churches in the United States through TCM, we had an Easter picnic in a city park. It was a great time of celebration, fellowship, and evangelism."

"Also, with thanks to the funds donated through TCM, as well as funds provided by the evangelical church union, every Sunday the church distributes food bags, which are a great blessing for the Ukrainian guests, whose financial resources are incredibly limited."

"Our church is a member of the Network of the Russian-Speaking Churches of Europe. Coordination of the ministry among the refugees takes place through this European network as well."

"The Lord has strategically located our family to serve people during the time of the Ukrainian war. If my understanding of God's dealings with Empires is correct, it is not the last wave of migration from Eurasia. It is a great blessing to participate in the Great Commission of the Lord under the guidance of His Spirit."



Refugees at Vienna
Easter Picnic



Distributing
Supplies to Refugees



Andrey speaking at church service

TCMII Classes

In-Country

May

<i>The Missional Church</i>	Jozsef Steiner, Hungary
<i>Pastoral Ethics</i>	Meego Remmel, Georgia
<i>Hermeneutics</i>	Jordan Scheetz, Belarus
<i>Contemporary Issues in Intercultural Studies</i>	Mihai Malancea, Russia
<i>Theology and Practice of Prayer</i>	Tony Twist, Hungary
<i>The Missional Church</i>	Jozsef Steiner, Latvia
<i>Christian Ethics</i>	Meego Remmel, Online

June

<i>Pastoral Ethics</i>	Meego Remmel, Moldova
<i>The Missional Church</i>	Yevginy Siniy, Online
<i>Homiletics</i>	Leonid Mikhovich, Online
<i>Systematic Theology</i>	Sorin Badragan, Online
<i>Introduction to Old Testament Studies</i>	Konstantin Nazarov, Central Asia
<i>Transforming Leadership</i>	Timotei Rusu, Ukraine
<i>Disciple Making</i>	Jozsef Steiner, Russia
<i>Introduction to Christian Education</i>	Myron Williams, Albania
<i>Christian Ethics</i>	Meego Remmel, Online

Haus

May 26 - June 1 (Session 3 - Online)

<i>Introduction to New Testament Studies</i>	Konstantin Nazarov
<i>Servant Leadership</i>	Richard Justice
<i>Homiletics</i>	Leonid Mikhovich
<i>Small Groups Ministry</i>	David Roadcup
<i>Disciplemaking Through the Early Church</i>	Myron Williams

June 16-22 (Session 4 - Online)

<i>New Testament Theology</i>	Dumitru Sebastian
<i>Principles of Christian Teaching</i>	Myron Williams
<i>Disciple Making</i>	David Roadcup
<i>Apologetics and Culture</i>	Bruce Little
<i>Disciplemaking Through the Early Church</i>	Myron Williams

July 14-20 (Session 5 - In Person)

<i>Hermeneutics</i>	Jordan Scheetz
<i>Disciple Making</i>	David Roadcup
<i>History of Christian Theology 2</i>	Sorin Badragan

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

Lord, we profess that You are the King of the Universe and You have everything under control – even though we may not see it in this terrible situation. Thank you for Your Church, Your Bride, which shines brightly as Your witness by serving Ukrainian refugees and those remaining in Ukraine by providing them with food, shelter, medicine, psychological and spiritual help, as well as other needs.

Lord, please, stop this evil and heal our country. Restore the cities and villages from ashes; return people to their homes, jobs, and daily routines. Heal the hearts and bodies of those who have suffered physically, emotionally, and spiritually during this war. Comfort those who have lost loved ones and those who have become wanderers in their own country or in foreign lands. Help them find that You are the mighty and loving God in every place. Please, protect our people, especially women and children, and those in the villages, where they are particularly vulnerable these days. We pray for your daily and nightly care, protection, and provision.

Lord, we are scared and anxious; we no longer have the sense of safety and security. Give us your peace among the horrors of war and help us remember that You are our unshakable foundation.

Lord, we feel hatred, bitterness, and resentment filling our hearts because of what we experience now. Please help us win the war within ourselves; help us continue to reflect your image; and teach us to love our enemies.

Lord, help the people of Ukraine cry out to You in this situation and find Your salvation. Help them see that You are the only Deliverer to be trusted. Lord of peace, please stop this war. The hearts of all the rulers are in Your hands and all the power belongs to You. May all see that You are the true Ruler of this world and may You be glorified even in this terrible situation!

Amen.

From Yulia, A TCM Graduate and Ukrainian Refugee

Beth Langstaff



It is not easy to say good-bye to a longtime colleague and friend. It was with great sadness that we learned that Dr. Beth Langstaff, Director of the EES Institute for the Study of Christian Origins, lost her battle with cancer in March and was called away into the hands of the Lord.

We grieve with all who knew her and whose lives she enriched, especially with her children Jessica and Jonathan and all her family in Minnesota.

Beth was the daughter of Alan and Dorothy Langstaff. She committed her life to Christ at a Billy Graham crusade in Sydney, Australia when she was seven. Her parents wondered if she was too young to know what it all meant, but she was determined to go forward and make a decision to accept Christ. And since that day, she sought to follow Jesus and to glorify Him. Beth worked her way through school – first, a bachelor's degree, then Master of Divinity from Bethel Theological Seminary, and finally her Doctorate at Princeton University. While at Princeton, Beth met a German student, Thomas Foell, and they later married and moved to Germany. Beth devoted herself to the task of leading the Institute for the Study of Christian Origins in Tübingen first from 2000 to 2002 and then again from 2012 to 2021. She has also taught classes as

From the moment she was born, Beth captured our hearts with her blue eyes and smile. She was so beautiful, like a little cherub. We never knew how much you could love someone so tiny.

She was an adventurous child, always challenging the limits. But this is how she embraced life. She saw a challenge, and she didn't run away.

Our family joked that we could ‘Lock Beth in a library and slide McDonald’s Big Mac’s under the door, and she would be happy.’ I think her love of Big Mac’s dwindled as she got older, but her love of books and knowledge only grew. She was always ready to discuss what she was learning. She wanted to inform, argue with, and include everyone in her journey. She was brilliant. She took on the academic world and not only succeeded in everything she did, but she also made a lasting impact in the lives of her teachers, colleagues, and students.

Over the last week, we have received countless messages and what stands out is the impact Beth had on people all over the world, not just in Germany where she currently lived, but in the United States and Australia. She has touched so many. As one person wrote, “She was one of those special friends that even though the miles separated us, you always felt close to her.”

Alan Langstaff (Beth’s father)

* 20 June 1961 (Sydney, Australia)

† 20 March 2022 (Tübingen, Germany)

*O let there be no end to your loving mercy
to those who have knowledge of you, or of
your righteousness to the upright in heart.*

Psalm 36:10

by Birgit Hallmann

a church historian (online) at Bethel Theological Seminary in Minnesota, orientation courses on theology for the Faculty of Protestant Theology at the University of Tübingen, and for TCM International Institute in Heiligenkreuz, Austria.

At the funeral at her home in Betzweiler on March 29, 2022, some of her academic colleagues were present (e.g. Prof. Dr. M. Tilly, University of Tübingen and Prof. Loren Stuckenbruck, University of Munich) and paid tribute to her outstanding achievements in the field of Christian research.

In her classes at the University of Tübingen, she not only contributed to supporting a new generation of theology students in their preparation for doctoral studies, but she has given many students from all over the world and from various religious traditions access to the Christian faith with her classes in theological German and English.

In addition to her scholarly contributions, Beth volunteered in her home church to help those around her (including her home group and clothing closet).

Many peoples' hearts are heavy these days as we must go on without her. She left us far too soon.

Beth Langstaff was and remained intellectually active until the last. She was simply curious about new information and insights. Several times she revealed what she had found constructive from a scientific presentation. But all this happened within the framework of a firmly anchored faith. Her heart beat to combine an acumen, which in my opinion partly defined her, with the execution of her beliefs. Her work, her family life, her faith were not separate, definable areas, but united. She kept a lot of private things to herself, remained professional in every respect, and still radiated such caring for the benefit of others, which one could only admire in difficult times such as her own.

I, like many of you who gather here today, have been able to see and feel her character for years. She was realistic but was able to adopt a positive attitude; she was especially serious, but could also radiate humor and joy; she was aware of her limitations, but constantly remained open to what was possible. She takes a God-given character with her to her death, but she leaves the same for us who are inspired by her way of life. Beth was and remains a part of us who remember her with gratitude. In God’s hands it does not disappear, and in faith and memory we remain connected to it today.

Dr. Loren Stuckenbruck

(Translated from German by Google Translate)

Ukraine Relief Fund Update

by Tom Sears



Many of you have given generously to the Ukraine Relief Fund since the war in Ukraine began in late February. Thank you! Through your generosity, TCM has been able to mobilize her networks in and surrounding Ukraine to conduct a variety of relief efforts. Because we know and trust these national leaders, TCM's relief efforts are implemented quickly and in a way that the local church gets the credit. Here are just a few examples of how these funds have been used.

In Ukraine, many TCM graduates have chosen to remain in the country and serve their communities, even during very difficult times. After discovering a safe way to transfer funds directly into Ukraine, one TCM graduate and his sons have been distributing food to starving people in the community. They currently live in Russian-occupied territory which makes it difficult to move around. But they were able to purchase and distribute food with the funds and minister to many.

In Hungary, many activities have taken place including transportation of refugees to safe places in Hungary and into western European nations. Our regional representative from Hungary has also made several trips into Ukraine providing much needed medical supplies to various communities. This, paired with evangelism and outreach provides an incredible opportunity for Christ's light to shine. Because many Ukrainians

in southwest Ukraine also speak Hungarian, there is a great opportunity for the Hungarian church to make a direct impact in this region. .

In Poland, TCM's regional representative from Latvia is working with a mixture of Polish and Ukrainian church leaders to provide shelter, food, and transportation for hundreds of Ukrainians. One such project was to secure a handicap accessible van for a local Ukrainian church leader to transport disabled people across the border to safety. Many of them had poor care before the war and now are in a position where proper health care is even more scarce and common transportation to flee the country is inaccessible for them because of their disabilities.

On his most recent trip into central Ukraine, our Latvian brother wanted to pass along this message from the Christians still in Ukraine:

"All of your support is great, and we are thankful for it. But most of all, what keeps us going is the notion that there are people out there who care and who pray for us. The fact that some of you are ready to travel and visit us in person is even more surprising. That is what gives us strength not to lose spirit and continue to bless others!"



Commemorative Giving

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Tony and Suzanne Twist

Ways to Give

by Megan Herring

We are grateful and honored by the outpouring of generosity from many individuals and churches throughout TCM's history. The faithful generosity by so many who have prayed and given time and treasure has enabled TCM and our Regional Representatives, graduates, and students to respond to the current crisis caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Our networks of national leaders who know the cultures, churches, and communities, are strategically placed, and allow TCM to respond both short-term and long-term in ways that H.E.L.P. Thank you for giving so generously so we can H.E.L.P.

We ask for your continued generosity toward TCM's mission. Many open doors and opportunities to train Christian leaders for significant service exist, and we are eager to continue to fulfill the mission God has given TCM. As you consider your giving to TCM, we remind you there are many ways to give. Thank you for your generosity!

• Publicly Traded Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds	• Charitable IRA Distributions
• Real Estate	• Charitable Gift Annuity
• Life Insurance Policies and/or Proceeds	• Farm Crops
• Bequests in Wills or Revocable Trusts	• Vehicles or other Personal Property

For more information about ways to give, please contact Megan Herring at megan@tcmi.org.



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President's Outlook



"No," he answered, "because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned, then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn." His response in Matthew 13:29-30.

And His response to our sufferings still.

In our family gardens, we live alongside the weeds of war. Yes, they can choke the life out of us and we ask Him to let us weed them out. His response means we must live amid evil. Up close and personal. We see it. We smell it. We hate it. And it keeps growing.

But so does His wheat.

In the midst of the awful, the awesome also grows: Haus Edelweiss blessing the nations for 50 years. 2,580 kingdom servants at work. Over 12,000 refugees served. Homes and hearts opening up and out. Not just in Europe, but in family gardens all around the world.

As we look forward to the next 50 years of ministry, God is opening doors to train more and more Christian leaders all around the world – equipping them to faithfully tend the soil in all of our good times/bad times gardens.

Thank you for your investment in TCM's past, present, and future. Please join in PrayerFast with us that every nation will have effective leaders impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ, keeping His eternal wheat growing even as our temporary war rages on.

Tony