

FALL 2023



THE TCM REPORT

Register Now for PrayerFast 2023: “God Answered”

By Ken Flora

Has God blessed you with an answer to prayer? Did you thank Him afterward? It can be easy to move on with our busy lives after God answers prayer, not taking the opportunity to thank Him and give Him the glory. Sometimes we might even take His blessings for granted, but we know that should not be the case.

This year's PrayerFast will be our third online forum dedicated to prayer and we will start the forum by looking back and celebrating how God has faithfully answered prayers in the lives of several individuals. These brothers and sisters in Christ will share their stories with us as an encouragement to pray expectantly until we receive an answer from God.

After thanking God for answered prayers, we will pray for the Kingdom and ask Him to continue moving in powerful ways. Then we will hear other stories about answered prayer and be blessed through more time for prayer led by group hosts.

Andrew Murray wrote much about group prayer, or united prayer as he referred to it. In his renowned book, *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, Murray described united prayer as the unspeakable privilege we have to pray together. He also wrote, “In the unity of faith and of love and of the Spirit, the power of the Name and the Presence of Jesus acts more freely and the answer comes more surely.” We want to tap into this privilege and power available to us through united prayer with our Christian brothers and sisters around the world.

PLEASE JOIN US ON

NOVEMBER 11, 2023 FROM 10 A.M. UNTIL NOON EST

FOR WHAT WILL BE AN INCREDIBLE TIME OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION. YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ONLINE FORUM AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR GATHERED WITH OTHER BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN YOUR HOMES, CHURCHES, AND OFFICES TO EXPERIENCE THE BLESSING OF UNITED PRAYER. REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE AT [HTTPS://TCMI.ORG/PRAY](https://TCMI.ORG/PRAY).

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT PRAYERFAST,
CONTACT KEN FLORA AT KEN@TCMI.ORG.

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Living on Mission

By Tom Sears

Every year that passes, the world seems to become a more international place. In fact, taking a look at just one TCM class in Indianapolis this summer displays a cross-cultural setting in the professor, students, and even the content of the course. Professor Mihai traveled from his home country of Moldova to spend time mentoring students in Indianapolis through the discipline of *Mission Theology*. What does it look like for you as a disciple maker to lean fully into God's mission for the world? What aspects of intercultural ministries can we leverage to respond to the Great Commission? These are but a few of the considerations in this class. We want you to hear from these students yourself!

One student who serves as a fire fighter and volunteers at his local church stated,

"Mission Theology helped me to understand that scripture is the story of God's mission on earth. Jesus has the power to transform and empower people when you reach them with this good news of the Gospel through mission. We are all called to be a part of His mission and through this course, I was able to better understand my role and the church's role in God's overall mission plan." - Zach

One student from Kenya stated the following,

"This course profoundly impacted my ministry roles at Outreach Hope Church and Missions of Hope International, enriching my serving skills and fostering spiritual growth. Delving into Mission Theology has equipped me with a deeper understanding of the overarching purpose of the Church in the world. As an administrative elder, I have been able to guide the church in aligning its outreach initiatives with a more intentional and holistic approach, rooted in the principles of Mission Theology. This has allowed us to engage with our community in a more culturally sensitive and impactful manner, facilitating genuine connections and meaningful transformation.

Moreover, as a school leader at Missions of Hope International, the study of Mission Theology is guiding me in shaping a curriculum that instills a sense of purpose and global perspective in our students. By integrating Mission Theology concepts into their education, I have enabled them

Another student is preparing to leave for the mission field in Africa and reflects on how Mihai's teaching and the concepts learned in this class have been preparing him for this new season of ministry overseas. He said,

"It's humbling that He uses His people to share and spread the Gospel message. Romans 10:17 says, 'So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.' My family and I feel empowered by this verse and feel called and now equipped to share this same Good News with the widows and orphans of Burundi, Africa." - Josh

to see their studies as a means to contribute meaningfully to the world's needs while fulfilling God's mission. This is empowering our students to become more compassionate and empathetic leaders, prepared to make a difference in diverse contexts.

Beyond the enhancement of my ministry skills, the study of Mission Theology has deeply enriched my spiritual journey. Engaging with the Theology of Mission has brought a renewed passion for God's heart for all nations. This has ignited a fervor for prayer and a greater reliance on God's guidance in both my leadership roles. The understanding that I am part of a larger narrative of redemption has prompted a stronger desire to align my life with God's purposes and to embody the principles of Mission Theology in my personal walk of faith. Overall, the study of mission theology through TCM has been a catalyst for growth, both in my ministry roles and in my spiritual relationship with God." - Isaac





A Second TCM Graduation Celebration

By David Wright

“A day of great joy and a blessing of God,” is how he described it. This joy-filled graduate received two degrees from TCM on July 30, 2023, and he spoke these words with a broad smile drenched by tears of joy. You see, he was told as a young boy and through his twenties, that he would amount to nothing. His teachers and those closest to him belittled him with these harsh words and their accompanying labels. “I believed them, and I failed in school and in life. But then I met Jesus. Those that shared Jesus with me encouraged me to believe that I do have purpose and I can succeed. And today, I give Jesus the glory, for I serve the only true King, our Savior. He can change an ordinary, perhaps even a failing man, into an instrument to be used for His kingdom.”

This is only one of nearly 40 graduates who were able to attend TCM’s Second graduation celebration of 2023. Each one has a unique and God honoring testimony. TCM continues to equip men and women who are impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ. We were thrilled to include graduates from countries that have been challenging to reach. This celebration

included twelve graduates from Turkey, ten from Albania, four from Armenia, and ten from Central Asian countries. In total graduates from sixteen countries were present.

One graduate who was selected to share her testimony during the celebration shared, “Because of my studies at TCM (she received an MA with a concentration on organizational leadership), I was promoted to an executive administrator of a Christian Institute in Albania. I would not have been equipped to do this without TCM, their professors, staff, supporters, and volunteers. Thank you!”

TCM also conferred its first Honorary Doctor of Divinity to Pastor W. Andrzej Bajenski of Poland in recognition of his distinguished Christian service and leadership. Dr. Bajenski is a close friend of TCM with an affiliation with our mission that spans more than 40 years. Through this relationship there has been much positive influence on behalf of Christ’s church.

Our celebrated graduates and all in attendance were challenged and encouraged by the message of Bart Shaw, Campus Pastor of Traders Point Christian Church, Carmel, Indiana, titled “*Our Prayer for You.*” The ceremony concluded with TCM’s Faculty and Regional Representatives offering prayers of dedication in each of the native tongues spoken by our graduates.

The closing hymn, *Amazing Grace*, underscored that this was indeed, “A day of great joy and a blessing of God.”

VP of Compliance and Planned Giving

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) is pleased to welcome Megan Herring to the ELT as Vice President of Compliance and Planned Giving for TCM International Institute. In this role, Megan will work closely with TCM President and CEO, Tony Twist, related to Board and organizational governance along with ensuring that TCM follows applicable laws and regulations related to multiple areas of the mission and ministry of TCM. In addition, she will continue to lead the organization’s development efforts related to planned giving and estate planning.

Megan joined the staff of TCM in 2018 having served as a paralegal for a prominent Indianapolis law firm for 17 years.



A graduate of Wheaton College, she earned a Master of Arts in Political Science from The Ohio State University and is currently completing her dissertation on board governance and institutional mission in theological schools to earn her Ph.D. in Leadership Studies from Johnson University.

She and her husband David are the proud parents of Timothy, Oliver, Naomi, and Colin. Please join us in welcoming and praying for Megan in this significant ministry role.

2023 Student Intern: Elijah O'Dell

By David Wright

Elijah O'Dell is a junior at Central Christian University in Moberly, Missouri. His hometown is Mooresville, Indiana and his home church is Mt. Gilead Christian Church. This summer, TCM had the pleasure to welcome him back to TCM as a Student Intern. His first stint with TCM was in 2019 as a participant in TCM's Great Commission Experience (GX). Along with eight other high school seniors from the United States, Elijah came to Haus Edelweiss to learn and serve. One highlight for them was serving and leading a Vacation Bible School hosted by 3D Church in Estonia, a multi campus church planted by TCM graduate Jakob Rimmel.

A preaching and cross-cultural ministry major, Elijah pursued an opportunity to serve at TCM. His internship began at TCM's headquarters in Indianapolis in late May. In June he traveled to Austria to work at Haus Edelweiss until early August. Throughout nearly three months, Elijah's presence and calling were evident to the staff, volunteers, faculty, and students with whom he engaged.

A gifted vocalist and musician, he led worship services and devotions on campus at Haus Edelweiss.

A willing servant, he washed dishes, cleaned rooms, mowed the grass, along with his internship focus of shadowing TCM Assistant Academic Dean, Andrey Puzynin. Andrey is also a TCM professor of organizational leadership. Elijah assisted Andrey with developing TCM's academic calendar for 2024 as well as serving as an assistant in various classes taught by Andrey. In addition, Elijah attended church at the Ukrainian and Russian speaking church that Andrey and his wife Oksana planted in Vienna. As a result of the war in Ukraine this church has grown to more than 150 members. Elijah participated in their services and learned some Ukrainian and Russian phrases along the way.



When asked to provide some highlights of his internship, Elijah shared:

- "I am a lot younger than most of the staff and certainly the faculty and volunteers. However, they shared with me many ideas and thoughts about ministry. They always treated me as an equal and with respect."
- "Shadowing Andrey and observing him lead his home church in Vienna was a true joy. It was evident that he has been called by Jesus to lead these refugees. There is no doubt that he has learned from his own personal experience as a refugee from Ukraine."
- "Recognizing that a key pillar of TCM's ministry growth and excellence is prayer. Prayer is what moves TCM forward!"
- "Being surrounded by students, graduates, staff, and faculty from around the world has clearly shown me that around the world, God's church is growing. Even in challenging and hard times, He is faithful and we, His Church, must keep responding to His call to make disciples."

Elijah also shared that God answered his prayer to return to Haus Edelweiss and TCM after his Great Commission Experience in 2019. "I wanted to be a blessing and not a burden."

Elijah was a blessing indeed.

(Left: Elijah leading worship at the Haus)

Training Through Partnerships

By Rick Justice

I hesitate to use the word “partnership” these days because it is filled with various and sundry meanings, many of which carry legal implications from contracts to accreditation expectations. I prefer “relationship.”

Two important relationships have changed recently. First, the TCM faculty said farewell to a long-time friend, Dr. Fred Hansen, in July. Fred served TCM for 13 years and was recently called to be the Professor of Biblical Studies for Ozark Christian College. He leaves TCM’s Robert Lowery Chair of New Testament/Professor of Biblical Studies and Director of Research. We wish Fred the very best as he influences the lives of the Ozark students. I will personally miss his refined ability to banter. We will not say goodbye, but *aufwiedersehen*: until we see you again.

Second, Dr. Dennis Lindsay has been appointed to TCM’s Robert Lowery Chair of New Testament/Professor of Biblical Studies. Dennis’s credentials include earning a Doctor of Theology from Everhard-Karls Universitat in Wurttemberg, Germany, an M.A. from the University of Illinois, and various degrees from Lincoln Christian Seminary and College. Dennis joins us from his previous position at Bushnell University where he served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty.

You may recognize his name, as Dennis is also the Director of the Institute for the Study of Christian Origins—a Heritage Mission Site sponsored by the European Evangelistic Society (EES). Dennis’s work at Tübingen for

EES and his academic experience in Germany, Britain, and Central Europe will help support TCM’s teaching and research efforts.

More important than his impressive list of credentials, Dennis has a pastor’s heart that gives him a deep appreciation for the world church and a strong sense of calling to the mission of TCM.

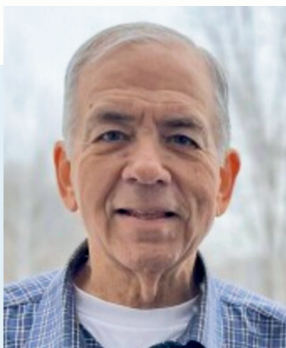
Relationships are always strengthened during Faculty meetings held each May and August. We meet to improve institutional effectiveness and for professional development. In the most recent meeting, we discussed the effects of artificial intelligence (AI) on the education process, both negative and positive. In addition, the faculty discussed ways TCM can impact the Ukraine Diaspora occurring now throughout Europe.

The faculty completed the week with a Doctoral Colloquium and Conference in concert with faculty from the University of Bucharest. During the colloquium, TCM and Bucharest faculty members guided the research efforts of twenty-one Ph.D. students at the College of Theology in the University of Bucharest.

The week was concluded by a conference on “Being a Disciple of Christ Today” with special lectures from three faculty members of the University of Bucharest and one from the University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi, Romania.



Dr. Dennis Lindsay



Remembering Jim Conner

By David Wright

Few people have as many connections to TCM over the years as did Jim Conner – a TCM Board of Directors member, TCM professor, and a continual

champion for the mission of TCM to develop international disciple makers. Jim graduated from his earthly life to be present with his Lord on July 20, 2023. He and his wife Peggy lived at Haus Edelweiss from 1977 – 1981. In fact, their daughter Beth was born while they served at the Haus. Years later one of the Conner grandchildren, Matthew

Higgins, was born in Austria while Beth and her husband Justin (along with daughter Haley) served on the TCM staff at Haus Edelweiss. While serving as minister for Andover Christian Church in Andover, Minnesota, Jim maintained his close ties to TCM.

We are grateful for the life and ministry of Jim Conner. We pray for his wife Peggy and his entire family and wide sphere of friends. We are grateful for those who honor his memory through their memorial gifts to a mission on which he had such a great impact.

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In Memory Of:

Donor:

God Answered: Elizabeth and Robert

We hope you will join us for our third annual PrayerFast online forum on November 11, 2023. More details are included elsewhere in this TCM Report. Our theme this year is “God Answered,” and I’d like to share one timely answer TCM received just this past July.

We have many quiet, under-the-radar donors who faithfully support TCM. One example is Elizabeth and Robert. Since 1977, they were quiet supporters of TCM, faithfully praying for, keeping avid interest in, and giving modestly on an annual basis to TCM. Periodically, we received a note with their gift to thank the team for its work globally. One such note said, *"We read with great interest the large scope of work you are doing for the Lord. We pray that TCM will be very blessed with many successes. Thanks to all the staff for your work."* But otherwise, like many others, they were content to support TCM quietly and without any fanfare.

We received word in 2022 that Elizabeth had died (her husband had predeceased her), but in late July of this year, we were blessed to receive a six-figure distribution from the family trust that they had established during their lives. This estate gift came at a perfect time as summer traditionally is a financially low point in TCM's fiscal year. The gift provided a needed mid-summer boost and was immediately put to use to support the mission and vision of TCM. God is always able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, and He often uses quiet, faithful people to accomplish His work in this world. Elizabeth and Robert were such people, and we are grateful for their generosity received at an opportune time.

Thank you to all of you – our quiet, faithful supporters who pray for us, share our story with others, stay interested in our work, and give of your time, talent, and treasure. Like Elizabeth and Robert, you are God’s answer to our regular prayers!

For more information about making an estate gift to TCM, please contact Megan Herring at megan@tcmi.org.

In Recognition Of:

Wayne and Millie Horbacher's
70th Anniversary

Donor:

Edith Clark

In Memory Of:

Pat Bonner
Pat Bonner

EES Donor:

Tony and Suzanne Twist
Dennis and Karen Lindsay



TCM Fall Classes

OCTOBER CLASSES

Online

Servant Leadership	Rick Justice
Transforming Leadership	Timotei Rusu
Greek 2	Dumitru Sevastian
Digital Leadership and Creativity in Ministry	Myron Williams
Disciple Making	Myron Williams
History of Christian Theology 2	Sorin Badragan

Haus Edelweiss | October 12-18

Theology and Practice of Worship	John Sarno
Leading and Serving from a Place of Strength	Scott Walt
Marriage and Family Life Education	Casey Scott

Haus Edelweiss | November 9-15

Pastoral Ethics	Meego Rimmel
Introduction to Christian Education	Myron Williams
Worldviews and Religion	Mihai Malancea
Old Testament Preaching and Teaching	Konstantin Nazarov

In-Country: October

Moldova – Contemporary Issues in Intercultural Studies	Mihai Malancea
Georgia – History of Christian Theology	Oti Bunaciu
Liberia – Disciple Making	Jozsef Steiner
Central Asia – Hermeneutics	Konstantin Nazarov
Central Asia – Theology and Practice of Worship	John Sarno

NOVEMBER CLASSES

In-Country: November

Turkey – Disciple Making through the New Testament	Jozsef Steiner
Czechia – Hermeneutics	Andrey Puzynin

DECEMBER CLASSES

In-Country: December

Central Asia – The Missional Church	Zhenia Siniy
Kenya – History of Christian Theology 1	Oti Bunaciu
Kenya – Introduction to New Testament Studies	Dumitru Sevastian
Kenya – Hermeneutics	Andrey Puzynin
Indianapolis – Christian Ethics	Meego Rimmel
Indianapolis – Hermeneutics	Sara Fudge
Phoenix – Christian Ethics	Meego Rimmel
Phoenix – Introduction to Old Testament Studies	Konstantin Nazarov



TCM
CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE

Please join us for

PRAYERFAST 2023: "GOD ANSWERED"

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023
10AM - NOON EST

PrayerFast is TCM's annual global online forum focused on prayer where we gather to reflect and pray – and hear stories from around the world of God answering prayer.

Register at www.tcmi.org/pray to:

- Join the online forum (as an individual or gathered with others in homes or churches)
- Serve as a Prayer Group Host

Feel free to invite others to join you for an incredible time of prayer and reflection. If you have questions about PrayerFast, contact Ken Flora at Ken@tcmi.org.



COME VISIT WITH THE TCM STAFF AT
BOOTH #1339 FOR UPDATES ON THE MINISTRY.

AND COME PRAY WITH US AT:

The
BOILER ROOM
EXPERIENCE

BOOTH #1340 IN THE EXHIBIT HALL!

BRE exhibits will highlight Revival Movements and Prayer Initiatives from around the world.

The Boiler Room Experience was originally introduced by TCM International Institute at ICOM 2022 in Columbus, Ohio. There will be an even larger space dedicated for prayer this year in Oklahoma City.



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FALL 2023 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

President's Outlook



The next phase of TCM's Every Nation Initiative (ENI) will engage, scholarship, and equip many more disciple-making leaders by 2027. It means raising an additional \$6,000,000 over and above our current giving to provide the necessary capacity for:

- Adding more cohorts in Africa.
- Recalibrating in rapidly changing Poland, Ukraine, and Russia.
- Engaging the Ukrainian missionary diaspora in Western Europe.
- Continued expansion into the United States, Middle East, and Central Asia.
- Training and commissioning more Organizational Chaplains in our new program.
- Following His lead whether far or near.

This makes possible more and better training at every program level.

- More robust student services.
- Increased academic and ministry services.
- Continual IT growth and upgrading.
- Scaling out while improving quality.

Why?

So that every nation will have effective leaders of disciple-making movements impacting churches, cultures, and countries for Christ. Please pray and give so that through all of us many more trained workers can be sent out into His harvest fields.

Yours gratefully in Him,