2019-2020 Victories in Jesus p.2

Stories of Ministry Impact p.3

First U.S. Graduates p.4

First Course in Kenya p.5

End-of-Year Report p.6

TCM Winter Report 2020

2019 - 2020 VICTORIES IN JESUS

By David Wright Vice President of Ministry Services

At the beginning of each year, we at TCM like to reflect on the year that has just completed. This time of reflection results in much praise and gratitude to our Lord for His faithful guidance of TCM's mission. As we sum up this reflection time, we rejoice in the "victories" that have occurred.

Along with our time of reflection, we look forward as a team and seek to ascertain the direction our Lord is leading us in 2020. This is also a prayerful process that includes open hearts seeking the will of our Father for TCM during this year. We always look forward to sharing our Vision for the year with you.

Time nor space allows for a detailed listing of the challenges, the hurdles, nor each victory that resulted as God opened and closed doors, changed hearts, and allowed TCM to progress significantly. But let me list a few:

- First Kenyan student cohort began with 26 students with a class on Discipleship. (See page 5)
- First U.S. student graduation took place in Indianapolis on December 11, 2019. (See page 4)
- The number of mentoring centers in Europe was expanded (New centers in Latvia and Albania)
- Two newly open positions at Haus Edelweiss were successfully filled. These were the Food Services Coordinator and the Office Manager/Campus Pastor positions.
- Stateside the Director of Educational Support Services position was created and filled.
- Successfully completed the initial Engaging Every Nation Initiative! (See page 6)

These six victories all relate to the Engaging Every Nation Initiative (EENI) and position TCM well as we establish our 2020 Vision. A successful EENI allows for the mission of TCM to expand in a variety of ways. These include increased capacity related to human resources, information technology, and geographical expansion. These are integral elements for reaching more of this world with the saving grace of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, TCM's vision for 2020 is to continue to advance our ministry's overall vision:

"That every nation will have effective leaders of disciplemaking movements impacting their churches, countries, and cultures for Christ."

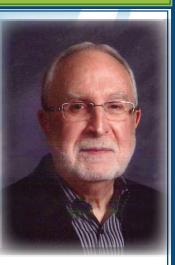
Please stay tuned throughout 2020 for updates in our TCM Reports as well as our E-News Blasts and Prayer Channel IVideos. There is much that is underway. Please also know that the victories mentioned above as well as the many that were not mentioned came as a result of your prayers and support. Please keep TCM in your prayers. We hope and believe that 2020 will be full of God's blessings as we seek to follow Him.

"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Well Done, Fred! Thank You!

It is not easy to say goodbye to a longtime and close friend. But sadly, those of us who knew and loved Fred Brasher did just that. Fred, TCM's longest serving member of our Board of Directors, "graduated" to his eternal home on October 17, 2019. Fred served on the Board for 40 years. He was a key contributor to TCM's overall strategies through the years. His wisdom and



quiet wit will be missed. His example will live forever, as he was a dedicated disciple maker who loved His Lord Jesus. Please join us as we continue to pray for Fred's widow Carolyn.

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AMAZING TIMES FOR MINISTRY IN EVERY NATION

An Interview with K. V. Central Asia - Part of the Former Soviet Republic

By Debbie Poer Director of International Services

Note: Because of severe persecution and phone tapping, K.V. has given us permission to use his story without name, real initials, or photos.

TCM: Tell us a little about your faith journey.

K.V.: I'm in my mid-30s, married, and have young children. I grew up in a Muslim family that attended mosque. When the Soviet Union collapsed my father lost his job and he began drinking, becoming an alcoholic. At the age of 14 because of my family life I began staying away from home, skipping school, and all the time wanting to become bigger and stronger to protect my mother from my father. At one point I met a neighbor who, knowing I was hungry, invited me to a gathering where there would be food and people who would listen to me. Through the patience and caring of that group of Christians I went from a bitter teenager who had hit rock-bottom to a young man who loves Jesus. Jesus made such a change in me that I was able to care for my father who was very ill and weak, and I was able to tell him about Jesus as I cared for him.

TCM: How do you serve in ministry?

K.V.: My desire is for people who are living in difficult conditions to have a chance to be changed by meeting and walking with Jesus. I serve in a pastoral ministry, teaching young people about Jesus and equipping them so that they become disciples who make disciples. Given the pressure of the growth of Islam, I am concerned about the future generation.

TCM: How have your TCM studies helped you in ministry? **K.V.:** The knowledge I gain I can share with those I am discipling. I am also comforted and receive moral encouragement through my fellowship with other TCM students. In my country it is difficult and dangerous for believers to gather.

TCM: How can we pray for you and your ministry?

K.V.: Pray for protection of my family and the growth and safety of the church. Pray for the youth who have turned to Jesus, because they are in danger of persecution at school if their faith is discovered.

IMPROVED MARRIAGES An Interview with Peter from Kenya

TCM: Peter, how did you come to know Jesus as Lord of your life? **Peter:** My life was very hard before I came to know Christ. In fact, I always felt like God hated me. I had no hope and was reckless with my life because I saw no future. I was becoming a habitual user of alcohol. After high school I moved in with my cousin who was married and a believer. She always shared God's Word with me and let me know how much God loved me. In March 2002 after hearing a powerful sermon I accepted Christ into my life and became an active member in my church.

TCM: Tell us a little about your ministry.

Peter: I serve as an elder in my church which is on the edge of the Mathare Slum on the outskirts of Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya. I serve as the chairperson of the couples' ministry. I am passionate about this ministry for two reasons. First, I was brought up in a family where my dad was violent to my mum, so I did not believe marriage worked. When I married I vowed to make my marriage work so that my kids would not hate it. That caused me to want the same for other people and their marriages. The second reason is seeing how strong marriages affect the church. When marriages are stronger the church is stronger.

TCM: How does your ministry impact your church, culture, and country?



Peter: Since I started serving in the couples' ministry, there have been many testimonies from couples on how the couples' meetings have helped them improve their marriages. Some women have husbands who never came to church but now are attending church. Others who had unstable marriages are now attending regularly. The couples also testify of sharing the secrets of successful marriages with their friends outside of our church. If this cycle keeps moving many married couples in our country will be able to testify that marriage works.

TCM: How do your studies at TCM help in your ministry?

Peter: My TCM studies have expanded my spiritual understanding in a great way. Having a chance to read books which teach more on spiritual disciplines has helped me integrate what I have learned into my ministry. Occasionally, I also have a chance to preach in our church. My TCM studies have helped me prepare my sermons using what I have learned so far.

By Debbie Poer Director of International Services

NOTHING HOLDING US BACK!

International Institute.

One of my grandsons recently asked me: "Opa, do any of the kids in your classes act up?" I explained that I teach at the graduate level and that the "kids" in my classes are 30 or 40 years old. In total innocence he asked: "Why are they so old? Were they held back?"

In 2016, the Board of Directors and executive staff felt the prompting of the Spirit to expand TCM's vision that was Eastern European/Central Asian-centric to one of a vision for every nation. This vision would be one of true expansion, not just one of reallocation. TCM would NOT be leaving our Eastern European/ Central Asian brothers and sisters but starting to venture into the rest of the world.

It was supporters like you who prompted such prayer and discussions. Questions like: "How do we make TCM's program available to our churches in America?" took us to our knees and to the Board Room. Thank you for asking the question.

Answered prayers led TCM to launch its first U.S. cohort in 2018. That cohort completed courses for the Certificate in Discipleship in December this year and recently enjoyed the first TCM celebration and graduation service ever conducted in the U.S. Eight U.S. graduates joined the ranks of 48 graduates who participated in celebration services in May 2019 at the Stift Heiligenkreuz,

CELEBRATING FIRST U.S. GRADUATES

Despite falling temperatures outside, rising excitement soared inside the chapel at the Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis, Indiana on the evening of December 11, 2019. It was on this special night that TCM proudly honored eight U.S. students finishing their Certificate of Discipleship program, the first-ever graduates of the newly formed U.S. cohort academic program.

Beginning in 2018, these individuals constituted the beta testing of TCM's expansion into the United States as part of our vision to make effective leaders of disciple-making movements in every nation. Celebrating their accomplishment, TCM held this inaugural graduation ceremony during the final night of the U.S. students' intensive retreat. With an invitee list including pastoral supervisors of students, local ministerial leaders, staff/ board members, and other distinguished guests, 103 people were invited with 84 in attendance.

The program featured prayer, songs of praise, communion, scripture readings, student testimonies, conferral of diplomas, and a message by Rick Grover (Lead Pastor of East 91st Christian Church and TCM Board member). Following the graduation, 81 guests stayed for a formal dinner and video presentation featuring TCM professors and constituent church pastors praising and encouraging students for "finishing well." The impact of TCM's program was best expressed in the words of graduate Jason Seeger, who jokingly kept asking about the meaning of TCM's acronym during his testimony. He concluded by asking, "What does TCM mean?" After a short pause, he smiled and said one word: "Everything."

4

by Ryan Akers Director of Student Support Services

Rick Justice Vice President of Educational Advancement

Austria. With these two graduations added, we now have more than 700 graduates from TCM While the number of graduates continues to grow, the important thing

is not to lose sight of the vision: that every nation will have effective leaders of disciple-making movements impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ. These graduates and nearly 1,500 other TCM students are serving their churches, cultures, and countries in more than 50 countries.

2019 saw the first TCM courses taught in Kenya and in Albania. In 2020 we will begin teaching in Latvia and Sierra Leone. That is the victory we celebrate and we have you to thank for asking the question: "Why not here?"

To answer Owen's question: in one regard my students have been held back — by political systems, by finances, by the lack of opportunities. But from the Kingdom's perspective: no they haven't been held back. There is nothing holding us back because "the gates of Hell shall not prevail against His church."



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ve ck ey se On Monday December 9, 2019, 26 men and women from Kenya gathered in a small retreat center just outside of Nairobi, Kenya for the first ever TCM course in Africa. TCM's valiant professor Dr.

Jozsef Steiner taught TCM's course on Discipleship to kick off what we hope to be a long history in training Christian leaders in Africa.

TCM's approach to expansion is always firmly based in native partnerships. Missions of Hope International is a wonderful ministry reaching literally millions of people across Kenya and other countries in Africa. Through this partnership, God has provided an amazing group of humble, yet high caliber, native Christian leaders who are passionate about making disciples in their own nation. Take Judy, for example, who left her teaching job to join her husband in full-time ministry running a Bible training center for African pastors. Or take Tendayi who is originally from Zimbabwe and now lives in Kenya leading the missions department of a church where he cares for all the church's church planters and is also responsible for mobilizing for new church plants. Each of the students - from many different backgrounds and locations - has a unique calling given by God to make Christ's salvation known to the nations. We are so grateful for our partnership with Missions of Hope in helping establish a stellar first TCM cohort in Africa. These are indeed the types of men and women in whom we desire to invest.

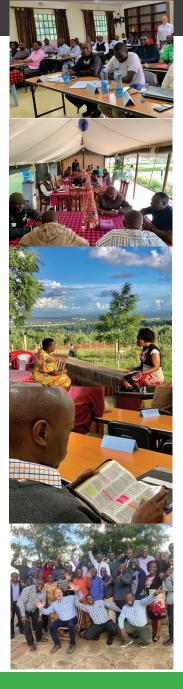
The African students weren't the only individuals impacted from this course. See professor Jozsef's reflections about their time in Africa.

I had felt the responsibility before the faceto-face time started, and prayed a lot for my time in Kenya, and of course for the students. They amazed me! They prepared themselves spiritually and academically well. During the entire course they stayed motivated, active – as a matter of fact, all of my breaks were further theological and practical ministry consultations. It is a difficult and dangerous life for everybody who lives there, so they decided to stay close to the Lord. I have learned a lot about the dedicated life from them, and happily experienced that the Lord used me to develop their theoretical and practical knowledge and skills in making disciples for Christ." — Dr. Joszef Steiner

FIRST COURSE IN NAIROBI, KENYA!

Though the geography of these students is far removed from TCM's historical area of ministry, the culture and vision of these students is exactly on target with TCM's mission. Three more courses are already scheduled for 2020. It is our desire to conduct our full M.A. program in Nairobi and even look for future groups of students. Take a look at the men and women in these pictures. Your gifts to the Engaging Every Nation Initiative have helped make this opportunity possible for them. Will you join us in praying for these African leaders as they impact their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ? And please continue to give as we together expand our program into a continent that is truly ripe for the harvest.

> *By Tom Sears Director of Global Outreach*



We want to see God continue to work in amazing ways through the ministry of TCM, so we chose to make the ministry a beneficiary in our estate planning. – Rick and Dorothy

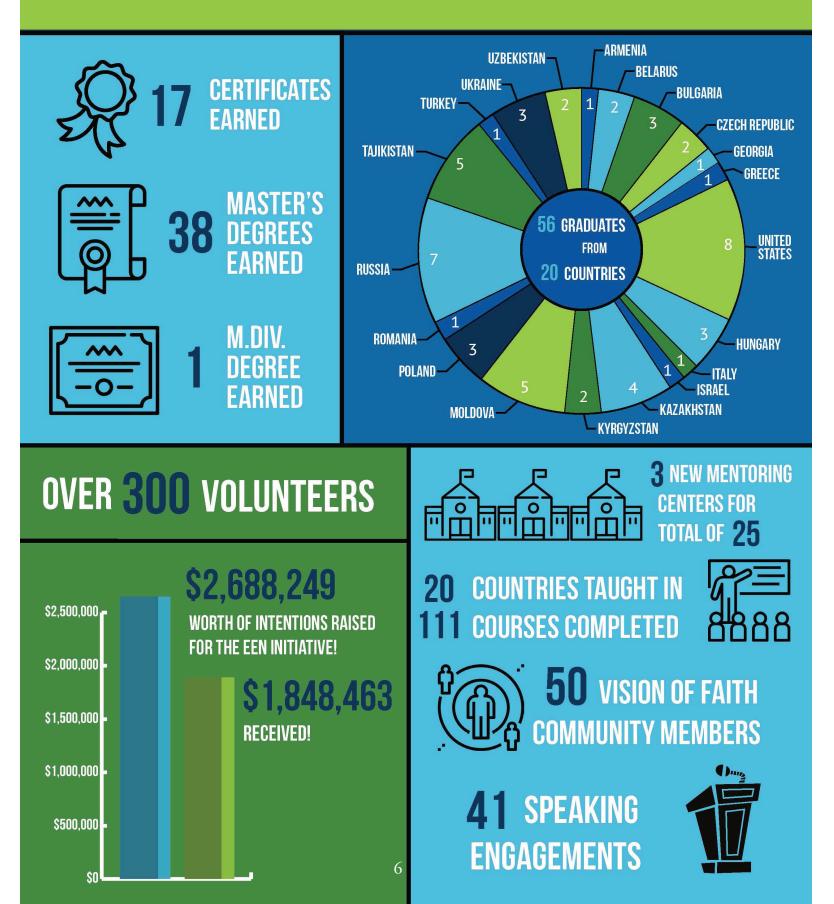
In 2019, over 50 donors notified TCM of arrangements they have made in their estate plans to include the ministry of TCM. Just like Rick and Dorothy, these donors value the ministry of TCM and want to help TCM continue its work into the future. THANK YOU to all who have made such a decision. We are so very grateful!

VISION OF FAITH

COMMUNITY

If you have included TCM in your estate plan or want more information about including TCM in your estate plan, please contact Megan Herring at megan@tcmi.org.





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TCMII CLASSES

Haus Edelweiss

March 26 to April 1 Hermeneutics New Testament Preaching and Teaching Leadership and Management Mission Theology

In Country

January

Discipleship

February

Introduction to Old Testament Studies Mission in the New Testament Contemporary Issues in Intercultural Studies History of Christian Theology 2

March

Discipleship Theology and Practice of Prayer Servant Leadership Servant Leadership Transforming Leadership Exegesis of the Gospels World Views and Religions

April

Homiletics Hermeneutics Research Methods Old Testament Preaching and Teaching Mission Theology Exegesis of the Pentateuch Discipleship Theology and Practice of Prayer Research Methods



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Indianapolis, Indiana | Winter 2020

PRESIDENT'S OUTLOOK

A disciple-making movement is a rapid and exponential increase in disciples making disciple makers. Trusting and obeying God's Word just as Jesus commanded in His Great Commission. These movements are expanding all over the world. Jesus is leading His global Church in the power of the Holy Spirit to make disciples who make disciples. These movements are fueled by prayer and fasting, with His children petitioning our Father to bring a fresh anointing on their churches, cultures, and countries.

In 2020, let us join with the global Church to fast and pray that our Father will bring a fresh anointing on our churches, culture, and country. Let us fast and pray that Jesus will lead His church in the United States in the power of the Holy Spirit to make disciples who make disciples. Let us pray that He will bring about a wave of disciple-making movements here in the United States just as He has around the world!

Prayer for TCM in 2020

Father, we ask you to send a fresh anointing on the churches, culture, and country of the United States. Please lead our churches to know you, love you, and follow you more faithfully. We ask you to pour out your Holy Spirit on your people so that disciple-making movements will occur in the United States just as you have done around the world.

In Jesus' name.

Amen

