

7/11/2023

Greetings to All!

Where does one begin when so many events have transpired over the past three months? While the question is rhetorical, it does present a dilemma. Nevertheless, one thing remains abundantly clear and that is that God is at work, in remarkable ways, in the midst of some of the craziest things ever witnessed on planet earth. We feel compelled by God's Spirit to "keep working while it is still day!"

In early May, we met with the wider Europe Teen Challenge community, in Italy, for our annual ETC Conference. Nearly 300 TC workers and leaders attended from 32 countries. What can I say? It was a remarkable time in the presence of God and one another. Carter Conlon and his wife, Teresa, from Times Square Church did a number of sessions. We were all deeply challenged and moved by what we heard. Many of our TC leaders also presented sessions. For Terry and me, this is our 40th year working with Europe TC. The ETC family surprised us with a generous gift as a token of thanks. Terry and I feel like we should be the ones thanking all of them. We have been blessed and enriched by our relationships with those we can call our friends. What a remarkable gathering of God's people it was!

In late May, my 97-year-old mother's health took a turn for the worse. She had been struggling with dementia and began to struggle physically as well. On June 13th, in the middle of the night, she passed over to the other side. My twin brother and I were standing over her bed when she passed. In my family, she was the last of her generation. Of course there is always sadness at the passing of loved ones, but we are thankful to God that her struggle is over and she is now at rest. For those of us who remain, we must carry on until we fulfill all the days God has appointed for us.

Yesterday, I returned from an intense two weeks of travel. It began in Thüringen, Germany where I was so happy to be involved with an open-house celebration for Haus Neubruch. Many local people and many from across TC Germany were present. Most importantly, God was present! From there, I traveled to Macedonia to be with the TC leader there. We traveled, together, to Kosovo and met with two pastors who want to begin work among the many addicted in their communities. Pray for Kosovo, it is a very needy place!

From Macedonia and Kosovo, I traveled to Poland where the TC work there was having a celebration for 35 years of ministry. I will say more about this in my letter next quarter. My heart is so full of thankfulness to God for what he has done—and is doing—in Poland, through TC.

In closing, I again want to thank all of you for your continued support for our work. We are so grateful to God for all of you and we pray God's abundant blessing for all of you!

Tom Bremer
Eastern Europe Outreach
Europe Teen Challenge