

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International



- Networking News –
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Please use all or part of this newsletter to communicate to the members of your nation. Would you also encourage your members to take part in our outreaches both national and to other nations.

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This newsletter is produced in six languages (including Russian) and is sent to our members throughout Europe.

For more information about the Fellowship and coming events see our website www.fgbmfi-europe.com

A New Dawn in Europe

John Walker, Regional Vice President Europe writes ' my wife Margaret and I have just returned from the wonderful European Convention held in Innsbruck, Austria, between 5th-7th October 2007. This was a beautiful location for an event of this kind and representatives of 21 nations attended. Those present listened to stirring testimonies of what the Lord is doing in the lives of the members in the various countries.

We were pleased to have in attendance our International President Richard Shakarian and his wife Vangie. Richard shared on the wonderful things happening throughout the world through the outreaches of the Fellowship and also encouraged us to follow his father Demos in 'Breaking the Mould'.



European leaders gathered in Innsbruck

There are many new ways to win souls whilst still keeping firmly in the Vision. He further commented on the 2007 World Convention held in the nation of Panama at

which many souls had been saved and also on the many miracles which had occurred.

On the first evening of the Convention after the main speaker Fred Ladenius had finished speaking there was silence for approximately 15 minutes. After this time all sorts of wonderful miracles started to occur, and mothers who had gone upstairs to collect their children from the special ministeries, found their children had at the same time been baptised in the Holy Spirit and were speaking in other tongues.



Richard Shakarian ministering at the World Convention in Panama

Innsbruck also played host to the European Council which held its meeting prior to the Convention. Earlier this year I shared that I believe the Lord is going to bring a great revival to this spiritually dark continent of Europe and I believe this revival has already begun.

There are already encouraging signs of this with a tremendous growth in the chapters in Spain which has happened in a matter of months. The opening of two chapters on the island of Cyprus, and outside of the work of the Fellowship even the secular press in Holland has taken note of the amazing growth amongst young people of the Christian faith. These young people are meeting in all sorts of venues and generally not in the historic Church setting.

It is time for us to see and believe this revival with our spiritual eyes.

Without faith it is impossible to please God and we need to speak this revival into being. In the beginning God spoke and the worlds were created. He said 'Let there be light' and there was light.

Jesus said speak to the mountain and command that it be removed and be cast into the sea. We must speak to the mountain of unbelief in our nations, to the mountain of secular humanism, and believe that once more Jesus will be truly Lord in Europe and indeed the whole world, with millions coming to know him as Lord and Saviour.

Our faith must be demonstrated by our love for the 'lost'. Jesus said 'by this shall all men (saved and unsaved) know that you are my disciples, by the love you have for one another'.

A lawyer (Matthew 22v36-39) once asked the Lord 'Teacher which is the greatest commandment in the Law'

Jesus said to him 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

The first part speaks of our vertical relationship with Father God and the second the horizontal relationship with those around us, and all these must be built on the Love he has placed in our hearts by faith.

The fields are indeed white unto harvest but the labourers are few.

I want to encourage all members of FGBMFI to work as never before to ensure that this harvest is safely gathered in to His glory and honour.

This is Europe's hour, let us not be found wanting in the Masters service.

Every Blessing in Christ Jesus to you all.

John Walker-Regional Vice President-Europe

Richard Shakarian writes, 'I believe there will come in Europe an explosive multiplication of souls, of people and chapters, by the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Again and again, the Holy Spirit is pushing Europe to new ways and new growth. God is preparing FGBMFI to bring in the harvest of 20 centuries!

8 is the number of new beginnings and the year 2008 is a year of new beginnings. The

Lord has shown me that it is the beginning of great things!

Hans – Petter Thue, Natl. President Norway, writes:

We have been in **Berlin** and were outside the church door in Wittenberg where Martin Luther nailed up his 95 theses exactly 490 years ago. We were there at 12 o'clock midday, and prayed for a new reformation. A man from New York and a lady from Oregon had been told by God some years ago to be at this church at exactly this time. The church door was open, but after a short time someone from the church closed it and locked it from the inside. For me this was a picture that Jesus wants reformation but the church has closed the door from the inside. Jesus will make a revival in Europe in the market place and not in the church. And he will do it now; please pray for Europe. Kari and I are going to **Uganda** for 14 days at the end of November, and then to **India, Nepal and Bhutan** at the end of the year. We are organising the first FGBMFI Himalaya Conference in Nepal on January 10 to 12, 2008. Please pray for these outreaches.

Spanish Mission 27 Sep – 9 Oct 2007

John and Susan Wright have recently been in Spain where there is tremendous interest and growth in FGBMFI. John writes ' FGBMFI men are being sent out to start new chapters and Bruce Wick, Natl. President Spain, makes sure that each member has an active role in their chapter.

Sir Lionel Ferrier (former diplomat) is in Marbella and Kevin Eves (former Lloyds Bank Manager), in Fuengirola, to start chapters. The fourth Costa Del Sol Chapter at Malaga has a Nigerian, Anthony Amadiogwu, as president. A fifth chapter, inland, is in formation, when Alan Dunbar returns in January.

On Saturday 29 September there was a breakfast outreach at Fuengirola. A full English breakfast for only 3 Euros! Two Anglicans called Roy and Anne were called

inside separately from the café forecourt. They both proved to be providential guests. God gave us several 'words of knowledge' for them concerning sickness. Five men joined the Fellowship including Pastor Conrad, founder of the first Filipino Church in Marbella.

On Sunday I preached on witnessing at a large evangelical Church where the Church Treasurer, a lady, responded to a word that someone had a bad shoulder. She was healed without anyone praying for her!

On the Monday we had a training session for Kevin Eves and his officers of the Fuengirola Chapter. I brought supplies of the UK Booklet 'Grasping the Vision' which is being copied for all members.

On Wednesday we had a training evening for Lionel Ferrier and his men at Marbella. This Chapter is very much in its infancy. Also met the Anglican Evangelist John LePage and opened the doors to Anglican churches.

On Saturday 6 October we had an Outreach Breakfast at Malaga, which was well organised by Anthony. About twenty five came; three were born again and there were gifts of healing in response to words of knowledge. The men were encouraged, especially by the long awaited salvation of Paddy. Pastor Malaki, the founder of the first and largest Nigerian Church in Malaga, who was there, has since asked Bruce to share his testimony and the FGBMFI Vision at their Sunday service.

Sunday morning I preached again on witnessing at a Pentecostal Church pastored by Bernard Grandjean from Switzerland, which was appreciated.

Sunday evening Bruce and I preached at a Filipino Church celebration at Marbella. Again some were healed after words of knowledge and three people were born again, including an English real estate man called Jim who said he will join the chapter. Pastor Conrad is arranging a presentation of the FGBMFI Vision to all the Filipino Churches.

I spoke on the telephone to the Chapter Presidents of the Almeria and Torre Vieja chapters, a few hundred miles to the north. David Templeman and Stuart Handley are both ex FGBMFI men from UK and seem to be holding good meetings.

We had excellent European Conference planning meetings with the owner of the hotel. Cyril Smith has joined FGBMFI and agreed to handle all media publicity in which he has great experience from Premier Radio and Revelation TV.

Bruce and Caroline Wick are abounding in enthusiasm and much labour which must surely be rewarded. Caroline was told by the Lord to cut the overtime at her work, so as to give time to form the Ladies of the Fellowship. Her sales the next week were as much as she had done in three months! They are God's people for this crucial move of the Holy Spirit which is just beginning in Spain. The former Spanish chapters will be revived under Field Rep Sir Lionel Ferrier who speaks Spanish. The future is full of promise. Glory to God!

Bruce Wick says we now have six chapters and hope to increase to twenty by Spring 2008.

European Conference – Spain

You and your wife and family are invited to join us for our next European Conference near Malaga, southern Spain, for the weekend of 14 to 16 March 2008. The Conference hotel is hotel Alay. This is a 4 star hotel and is situated about 10 km from Malaga airport and train station. The room prices are Twin BB per night including breakfast € 66,50, and single occupancy €60,00. You can see this hotel at www.hotelalay.com where you can also make bookings for your rooms.

A second hotel, 3 stars is Best Hotels Siroco; this is about a 5 minute walk from the conference hotel. The room prices here are € 60,00 for a double room including breakfast and a single room is € 40,00 including breakfast. Bookings can be made via <http://www.besthotels.es> - e-mail: siroco@besthotels.es

UK

Peter Spreckley, UK chairman writes: 'some 120 members came together for our National Men's Advance. Under the banner 'change men to change the nations', it was a time for faith building and giving vision.

There was also a time for sharing new initiatives, and we heard about the first chapter in a university which is in Liverpool, and the amazing 'walkabouts' of John Wright and Michael Wiltshire around the industrial estates in Norwich, witnessing to passers by and in businesses. The weekend was blessed by a wonderful sense of unity and love, and the presence of the Holy Spirit was evident. Praise God, we are moving forward.

All the teaching and training sessions, were recorded on DVD and CD. These are available at £5 (euro 7,50) for a DVD, and £3 (euro 4,50) for a CD, with discounts for a complete set of 7. For more information contact: Quattro@q4.cc

100 companies visited in 'walkabouts'

"Are you up for it?" asked John Wright as we wondered about 'cold-calling' (unannounced) on local businesses in the city of Norwich.

Yes, I was. And so we began a series of visits, usually 20 calls in a morning, on local trading estates and in city business areas, writes **Michael Wiltshire**, a UK Natl. Director.

So far, we have visited 100 companies and found amazing open doors to talk and pray with business people and ordinary passers-by.

Is it scary? To be honest, yes. But God has filled our hearts with joy and laughter as we have gone out regularly. We first meet at my house for prayer at 7.30, then had breakfast before starting soon after 9am.

We go armed with Holy Spirit confidence, Voice magazines, invitations to our next FGBMFI lunches and dinners, plus a notebook or clipboard to jot down contact names as follow-up is vital.

Humour is important, too, but our approach often includes a simple apology on behalf of the church "for hiding away behind four

walls on Sundays” and not getting out to the wider community and meeting real needs. A simple question like “How’s business?” will trigger an anointed conversation.

Then we give our invitations to an FGBMFI dinner (offering a free meal) – and make sure we get the company address on a compliments slip so we can email, phone or write to them later.

We have had some amazing responses. One young man gave his heart to Christ at 10.30am on a Thursday morning; many people let us pray for them. It’s wonderful to watch the Holy Spirit touch people in this way. At one FGBMFI lunch we had more than a dozen new-comers attend.

We have a list of hot tips on how to do all this, so e-mail us if you would like a copy: you can contact me at:

mwithshire4@aol.com

Key points are:

- Ask God which area to visit - then go boldly, always alert for unexpected opportunities along the way.
- Go in pairs, armed with Voice magazines and FGBMFI Dinner Invitations, plus a notebook.
- Don't worry about the odd rebuff; it's a learning exercise. Laugh a lot!
- Ask to see the manager or senior partner in private room for a few minutes, especially if the reception area is embarrassingly busy.
- As you leave, ask the receptionist for a compliments slip so you have the address details and can prayerfully stay in touch.

Finally, imagine the potential of say, 100 pairs of men across the country going out twice a month, visiting 20 companies each time. We might easily reach 4,000 companies a month or more than 40,000 companies a year!

“Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord . . . and you *shall* be My witnesses.” (Zech. 4:6; Acts 1:8).

No wonder we always come back rejoicing from our ‘walkabouts’!

Rodney Radcliffe, Natl. Director London writes: Here in London, Jacob John is

bringing together many North London men to seek God on potential new chapters following the North London outreach occasion with Ricky Leonard. The FGBMFI National President for Nigeria who is in London will be sharing vision with the men. The West London men are also meeting to seek God for the way forward and to pray for a planned outreach dinner on Thursday 31st January 2008.

Largely through my role as secretary to the European Council, FGBMFI National leaders from Finland, Sweden and Germany flew to Riga, **Latvia**, for a banquet and three days of official functions to mark the 160th birthday anniversary of my great grand father George Armitstead (Lord Mayor of Riga from 1901-12). The banquet marked his christian heritage and business background. The Vice Mayor of Riga, the British Ambassador and a number of other high level people attended the banquet, which was jointly run by FGBMFI and Business Mens Fellowship (BMF). We shared brief testimonies at the banquet and had other opportunities to share testimonies during the 3 days. We were conscious of a special anointing upon us and though representing different nations, we moved in unity. All FGBMFI participants were interviewed for Latvian national television. This is probably the first time that European christian men have held such an event in Riga since Latvia gained independence. Gunter Ziverts from Riga, a former FGBMFI member, has agreed to act as our FGBMFI representative there.

A full report of this outreach is on our European website.

Africa

Richard Shakarian writes: **Ghana**, a land that has suffered through countless generations of hardships; the people oppressed again and again, only to rise from the ashes of their trials, a united and solidified body of individuals with a vision for their country that brings joy to our hearts.

The hospitality is amazing here; everybody we have met is incredibly friendly and helpful. They are willing to assist with anything, regardless of whether they are a national president of the Fellowship or a high powered businessman, we are all family here.



We have been welcomed by the top levels of the government. We had two special meetings with the Vice-President, as well as two meetings with the Attorney General, three of the Supreme Court Justices (two of whom are FGBMFI members), members of the Central Bank (two of whom are FGBMFI members), and several other government cabinet members.

The opportunities here are outstanding, with seventy percent of the population following Christ and Christians leading the government. In eight years, they have been able to change the value of their currency from nine thousand to one US dollar, to the new rate of one to one, and prosperity is filling the nation.

Awesome is the only way we can express the leading of the Spirit of God, the anointing, and our ministry outreach to the government officials and to the FGBMFI National Convention. Because of this trip, God has opened many doors for future outreach, not just to Ghana, but also throughout Africa.

Just a praise report from Lagos, **Nigeria** - One year ago the FGBMFI men decided to reach that great city with the Gospel. Since then they have exploded from sixty to one hundred and forty chapters. That is an

increase of almost two and a half times. Praise God!

A satellite picture of the world at night shows very few lights in Africa. By God's Grace we are going to change that. FGBMFI will plant the brightly shining light of the Gospel all over Africa.

Madagascar.

This is an African nation of which we hear little in our daily news bulletins. Jean-Pierre Witzmann (Berlin) has this nation on his heart and has been there several times with teams from Europe. A number of FGBMFI chapters have already been started and Jean-Pierre hopes to go back again in November. French is the language widely used and at our recent European Conference in Innsbruck Jean-Pierre met with the natl. French president, René Agraïn and some of the French members, as they are interested to send a team to Madagascar in the future. Tony Gardiner, a former UK national director, and his wife Jean, are also planning to visit Madagascar for FGBMFI outreach.

Please pray for this nation of 8 million people.

Jean-Pierre@witzmann.net

S.E. Asia

Christian businessman gets access to 691 cities in China

Hugo Chan is a lawyer based in Hong Kong, leading the Full Gospel Christian Businessmen's Fellowship. Using the standard approach of hosting dinners with an evangelistic thrust, he had made 100 trips into China since 1991 with meager results. However 2006 has been a big breakthrough for him. For one thing he was approached by a large international investment company who asked him to be their legal counsel. This provided a huge increase of his financial base. He mobilized businessmen from ten Chinese cities in March 2007 for a large dinner, and 90 people attended. He told us that they had a wonderful banquet. Unknown to him, five

government officials were attending the dinner. Afterwards, one of them came up to him and said, "I like what you are doing. You are not doing religion. You will benefit our nation. I am the party official in charge of 691 cities. I want you to have dinners like this in all of my cities. They need what you have. I will take you to them and open the cities for you!"

Source: C.Peter Wagner, ICA (Joel News)

Roland and Traute Benz, **Germany**, outreach director, have just returned from the Latvia outreach, and will be travelling with an airlift team from Germany to **Thailand, Cambodia, Birma and Japan**, participating in the FGBMFI Japan National Convention in Kobe. Please pray for this outreach.



Roland & Traute Benz

Muslim outreach

Rad Jakob, an FGBMFI chapter president in **Germany**, is from Syrian background, and has a ministry amongst Arabs, Kurds and Armenians. He writes: the following is a report from a co-worker at our Arab conferences.

"I blame you Christians. You have all this and you haven't told us"! This was said at an evangelistic conference this summer. Over 800 Arabic speaking people, immigrants, mainly refugees, from North Africa and the Middle East attended three conferences this summer in Germany, Sweden and Holland. Two hundred were Muslims. Approximately 300 people made commitments to Christ. Thank you very much for praying for the conferences. Pray that the follow-up being done will result in

people being settled into house groups, and churches.

Please pray for Stephen, a half Palestinian American Muslim background believer, who has found himself expelled from Gaza where he had been doing evangelistic work for six years. His car received 14 bullet holes while he was in it. He is not welcome back into Israel officially. After attending our conferences this summer, he is now ministering in Sweden. He needs prayer as to what to do in the future.

From an eyewitness, we heard very encouraging news about H., the brother who returned to his country of origin from Holland and ended up in prison for four months. His imprisonment has led to the small local groups of believers being made bolder in their faith. He continues to work among his people. Thank you for your continued prayers for him and the believers there.

In the next week we plan to take a couple of trips visiting individuals, some of them house group leaders and delivering literature and DVDs in Germany and Holland. We are always thankful for prayers for safe travel and encouraging visits.

Training conferences are coming up for Arab leaders, the attendees need visas.

Many are experiencing visa difficulties. Pray for the protection of those who are planning to come, and for their safe return home. Some Islamic governments prevent them leaving their country, and others are detained when they return for questioning.

We thank you for your prayers, making it possible to work together for God's glory,

Rad.jakob@t-online.de

Over three hundred people registered for the national convention in Blankenberg, **Belgium**, including about fifty from Africa. This was the largest Belgian convention for many years. After the evening meetings many people went forward for prayer and there were a number of salvations.

It is hoped that this convention will bring in new members and new chapters to the nation.

Nico Aarnoudse, a Natl. Director

Netherlands writes . ' My wife Josta and I, are leaving soon for **Curacao** for 11 days. A number of meetings are being set up for us and we hope to revive FGBMFI there. At the end of January we plan to go back to **Egypt**. We are waiting on God for reactions from Cairo'.

Praise and Power

Richard Shakarian writes 'FGBMFI will conduct a **global night of praise and power** – all over the world on Friday night, January 11, 2008, or Saturday night, January 12.

'As the world turns, let our Lord hear our praises and the joy of our songs as we receive the anointing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for the days ahead.

Let every Chapter present a Night of Praise and Power! No preaching, no teaching, just worship, praise, music, ministering to one another, short 5-minute encouraging testimonies, and receiving the Holy Spirit and Power for the days to come.

Let us praise God Worldwide. Every nation, every city, every suburb, every town, every village, and every crossroads in the whole world. Don't let God see your nation or city left out!

Globally...as one! We will praise the Lord! We will lift our voice in praise! We will receive the power of the Holy Spirit! We will praise Him for the victory for the harvest of 20 centuries.

Events:

All European Convention in southern Spain at the Benalmadena Costa, Malaga, March 14 to 16, 2008.

World Convention - The next World Convention will be at the new OMNI Hotel in Orlando, Florida July 3 to 6 , 2008.

A golf tournament is also planned prior to the convention. For details contact the FGBMFI International Office. www.fgbmfi.org

All European Convention – Amsterdam, Netherlands, November 7 and 8, 2008

All European Convention – Malta, 24-26 April 2009 at Hotel Topaz, Bugibba.

For up to date news and events about FGBMFI Europe see our website:

www.FGBMFI-Europe.com