

Further Description of Project

Need

The future, with all its variables, possesses the most wonderful possibility before us--actually seeing Jesus face to face. To see the One that made salvation possible, that suffered such enormous agony for a sinner like me, that would be such a wonderful experience. I am sure that throughout eternity we will never forget the impact of that one moment in time when we see Jesus for the very first time.

Of all the promises that are given in the Bible, the personal, visible coming of Christ holds the most precious place in the heart of a believer. Jesus said, "if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3. Do you look forward to that day?

Unfortunately that day has been long delayed. What is Jesus waiting for? He gave a specific prophecy regarding His coming. "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14. God is waiting for the gospel message to go into the whole world so that every person on this planet will have the opportunity to make an intelligent decision regarding their eternal destiny.

We often hear about God's time clock and that Jesus will come whether we are ready or not. To some degree that may be true, however, there is an interesting passage in Scripture that lets us know that this coming is actually dependent on us. We are not only to be "looking for" but also to be "hastening the coming of the day of God." 2 Peter 3:12 (NKJ). "It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 69.

What kind of involvement does every member need to have in order for this hastening to take place? "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Testimonies for the Church, vol. 9, p. 116. We often hear that either the ministry or the laity is going to be the ones to finish the work on earth. But the stark reality is that "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:21. All must be found working **together** in order to find real success in missionary endeavors.

What is one group of people that really need to be prepared to take an active role in missionary outreach? "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come—the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!" Education, p. 271.

When you think of the modern military machine with all its technological advances to produce an advantage over the opponents between nations, the youth are continually being attracted to join one or the other branch of the armed forces. Recruitment officers are constantly roaming the campuses of the high schools and universities to attract the brightest minds among the young. Some of these bright minds do not seem so based on the outward appearance but when they realize they are needed, energies and abilities before unknown suddenly come to the forefront.

For that reason **we need you** in this special project before us to unleash the hidden energies God has given you. "As the will of man co-operates with the will of God, it becomes omnipotent. Whatever is to be done at His command may be accomplished in His strength. All His biddings are enablings." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 333.

Geneva, Switzerland

It is hard to think of Geneva and not think about its link as one of the birth places of the Protestant Reformation. The majority of the people are multi-lingual and English is quite frequently spoken especially by the youth and the business community.

Switzerland has a population of 7.21 million and ¾ nominally adhere to either the Roman Catholic or the Protestant Church. “The breakdown between the different religious denominations has shifted noticeably over the past several years. Traditionally, over 95 percent of the population had been split evenly between the Protestant and the Roman Catholic Church, but since the 1970s, there has been a steady increase of persons formally renouncing their church membership.”¹ In Geneva the Protestant population has continually declined and the Catholic population has maintained its percentages due to immigration.

Although it has its Protestant roots, I understand that only about 16% of the population of Switzerland even attend church services.² It has become a secularized country making it very difficult to penetrate the community with the needs of the soul. But that is no different today than when our forefathers faced formidable obstacles to bring the message to this city.

“Farel had long desired to plant the Protestant standard in Geneva. If this city could be won, it would be a center for the Reformation in France, in Switzerland, and in Italy. With this object before him, he had continued his labors until many of the surrounding towns and hamlets had been gained. Then with a single companion he entered Geneva. But only two sermons was he permitted to preach. The priests, having vainly endeavored to secure his condemnation by the civil authorities, summoned him before an ecclesiastical council, to which they came with arms concealed under their robes, determined to take his life. Outside the hall, a furious mob, with clubs and swords, was gathered to make sure of his death if he should succeed in escaping the council. The presence of magistrates and an armed force, however, saved him. Early next morning he was conducted, with his companion, across the lake to a place of safety. Thus ended his first effort to evangelize Geneva.” GC 232.

In 1536 the Canton of Geneva voted to adopt the Reformation and eventually became the center of the continuing Protestant Reformation during the time of Calvin and others. Today, this beautiful city, filled with representatives from all parts of the world, has declined in spirituality till only 16% of the Swiss people attend religious services regularly.

Because of this difficulty and because the challenge is so great, we need youth who are up for the challenge. **Are you prepared to step up to the plate and meet this challenge** to bring the messages of a living Savior to the very people whose forefathers preserved the faith we have the privilege of possessing today?

Training

No amount of training will really prepare us fully for the challenge presented in Geneva for the project during the months of July and August, 2010. We are trusting that the Lord will inspire some youth with various abilities to think outside of the box to work for this cause. Together with your God-given-abilities and a firm reliance on Divine Power, we can experience and expect miracles even in this late hour of earth’s history.

However, we are planning a small training program to be conducted in Osjek, Croatia from Friday, July 2 -11, 2010.

- (1) The meetings in Croatia will begin with our official registration of attendees who are committed to the two month program.
- (2) The first weekend will be conference styled meetings centered around the theme of evangelism. Programs will be presented by Peter D. Lausevic and Gisselle Lanuza (worker in Southeast US Field) and possibly others.

¹ **International Religious Freedom Report 2004**, BUREAU OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND LABOR—US DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

² University of Michigan News Service, December 10, 1997

- (3) During the week, the morning classes will be conducted by Peter D. Lausevic studying the basic principles of our beliefs. It is important that we are clear in our minds regarding some of our beliefs as we go to the public with our message.
- (4) In the afternoon Gisselle Lanuza will be leading the youth in understanding the need for the canvassing work and why, in spite of all the technological advancements, door to door work is still important giving the personal appeal to the people.

"Many are waiting to be personally addressed." DA 141.

- (5) The afternoon and evening times will be spent in actually going door to door and meeting the people of Osjek and not only distributing literature and canvassing, but also inviting them to an evangelistic type of meetings on the last weekend. Since many people from Croatia and Serbia and other parts of former Yugoslavia will be at the seminar, we will be paring up with those that can understand the local language.
- (6) The last weekend of the seminar in Osjek will be spent in an evangelistic outreach meetings for the community.

We have a large enough church in Osjek that has sleeping quarters for about 30 people on the premises so those participating in this program will be staying there for the whole time.

The following day, Monday, July 12, 2010 will be spent in traveling to the beautiful town of Geneva, Switzerland where our major work will be conducted.

Health Convention

We have often heard that the health message is the right arm of the third angel and that we should be using that message as an entering wedge to introduce the real message to the world. Although we are not able to introduce an actual clinic or a health worker to remain in Geneva, we will begin by holding a health seminar for three days, August 6-8, 2010. Dragan Ivanov from Serbia (GC Health Department Director) will be leading the meetings along with others. We are still finalizing the speakers for that program.

The work of the volunteers will be to invite the general public to these meetings. Once we have finalized the speakers and the topics to be presented, we will publish a flyer that will need to be distributed.

Evangelistic Outreach

After we have introduced the people to the entering wedge, then we can introduce them to the real message. We are not in the business of making healthy sinners but providing a healthy body for eternity. For that reason we will be learning, during the first month, what to be doing during the health convention, how to act towards the visitors, and how to invite them to the spiritual feast that begins two weeks later. The Evangelistic outreach program will be held August 20-22 and 27-29, 2010. That will be two full weekends of spiritual blessings to the community.

At the beginning of each spiritual message we will continue the health nuggets for the initial 15 minutes and then continue with the spiritual prophetic teachings. The volunteers will be mingling in the crowd with various responsibilities that will be defined beforehand.

During one of the weekends of the evangelistic outreach meetings we will be combining it with a French Field conference as well.

Description of Time in Geneva

Most of the mornings will be spent in personal time and socializing with each other. We, of course, begin the day with worship and spend some time sharing experiences we had the previous day. We will be spending some time praying for the success of the work we have at hand and praying for enlightenment to learn better ways of reaching the people. The rest of the morning we may want some personal time for our selves or visiting with each other. However, all volunteers under 20 years of age will be under another adult's supervision. As we approach the actual outreach programs, some time may be utilized in preparing each person for specific responsibilities during the public meetings.

After lunch we will meet together and be instructed on our afternoon responsibilities. We may be singing or playing instruments at strategic locations while others are distributing the literature and information to those passing by. Most of the volunteers will be paired up and go house to house when people are usually home. Since Etienne Lombard is the Bible Worker for that particular area, he may have some Bible studies to attend to and if so, some of the volunteers will go with him from time to time. As time progresses, there may be other visits that need to be given and if so, an experienced member may take a volunteer or two with him for that purpose.

During July most of the emphasis will be on the health message but after the first weekend in August, we will be spending more and more time talking with people about their souls and inviting them to the spiritual meetings.

At any time during this program, volunteers may ask those in responsibility questions of a personal nature or of the program itself.

By the time the two months are up, you would have received a real spiritual boost and be implanted with the desire to continue sharing the wonderful message of the risen Savior to the community.

Outings

Although we have so much to do in such a short period of time, we will not forget that there are social needs for all of us. Even Jesus said to the disciples, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while." Mark 6:31. For that reason there are several outings planned.

- (1) Trip to Munich, Germany for the weekend and on Sunday a trip to the castle: Neuschwanstein.
- (2) Some of the volunteers may want to go to Croatia for the conference in Lipik on July 23-25, 2010.
- (3) Boat ride on Lake Geneva
- (4) International Museum of the Reformation
- (5) Natural History Museum of city of Geneva
- (6) The Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
- (7) We will most probably be staying in France so we may have some outings there too.



You get the idea. We will try to make a very enjoyable program for you so that the stay will not only be remembered for the personal spiritual benefit you receive and the help you have provided in reaching out to this city, but also for the social time in a good Christian environment.

Cost Factor

We Provide: As you know, we are always on a limited budget. However, we are planning to raise enough funds to cover the cost of:

- (1) The evangelist project in the city of Geneva (the brethren in Croatia are taking care of the costs of the actual evangelism outreach in Osjek),
- (2) The cost of your basic nutritious health food needs (although all will be on the roster to help in the kitchen),
- (3) And the accommodations (dormitory style not private rooms) both in Osjek and in Geneva. Since the prices in France are usually cheaper than in Switzerland, we will most probably be staying across the boarder in France. Although there are usually no cross boarder checks, sometimes we may encounter them so make sure you have appropriate documents for travel between the two.

You Provide: Since we have enough responsibility to both run the above program and pay for the above major costs, you will need to earn or raise enough funds for the following:

- (1) Transportation to and from Geneva and Croatia (If you get to Zagreb, the local brethren are willing to take you to Osjek and back to Zagreb if needed. For those at a distance, it involves an airfare and such costs vary drastically. Plan early and purchase tickets at least three months in advance. Although some times you get cheaper tickets closer to the time, many times you will lose out and have to pay much more.
- (2) Cost for any visas needed to travel to these countries. You may or may not need one.
Croatia: Citizens of USA, Canada, and Australia for example do not need a visa for Croatia for stays for up to 90 days. If you are not sure, please check this website for further information: <http://croatia.visahq.com/>
Switzerland: The same applies to Switzerland. If you are not a citizen from USA, Canada, Australia or the EU, please check out http://switzerland.embassyhomepage.com/swiss_visa_information_switzerland_visa_service Cheap flights Switzerland hotels Bern travel insurance Switzerland embassy London.htm to see your requirements.
Make sure you are getting a tourist visa as you are not working there. Wherever you come from, make sure you always carry your passport (or for EU citizens your ID card).
- (3) Sometimes the cheapest ticket may be a return ticket to Zurich or Geneva, Switzerland. However, once there, you need to arrange for travel to Osjek and back (or at least to Zagreb and back). Sometimes I planned a trip and listed all the places I want to fly to and found the price only a little different than to the initial location. Look for bargains.
- (4) You will also need some funds for your personal grooming items and toiletries.
- (5) We will try to find outings that don't cost much or not at all. However, the outings listed above will cost about 50.00 € in total (not including transportation). For trip to Germany see below.
- (6) Transportation costs between
 - (a) Zurich to Geneva: about 55€ by train (one way), 80€ by plane (one way).
 - (b) Geneva to Munich: from about 60€ to 120€ by plane, much more by train (more than 200€).
 - (c) Paris to Geneva: from 30€ to 50€ by plane, 40€ to 70€ by train.
 - (d) Milan to Geneva: From 19€ to 50€ by train, about 70€ by plane.
- (7) Based on this information you will need to work out how much additional funding you will need while you are there. Of course, if you don't want to go on any of these things, then all you need to do is arrive to the two locations and the rest (other than toiletries) will be taken care of.

Donations Welcome

As always, if you are reading this and are inspired to participate but are not able to go, we will eagerly invite you to be a part of the program by giving us the funds necessary for its success. Just make your donations to Geneva Project 2010 and either give it to your local SDARM treasurer to pass it on to the General Conference or send it directly to the **Treasurer, SDA Reform Movement, P.O. Box 7240, Roanoke, VA 24019**. May God bless your heart as you give and pray for the success of this endeavor.

Commitment

If you decide this is for you, you need to make a full commitment for the entire period of time. We need 20-30 youth who are up to the challenge. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at plausevic@sdarm.org or +540 352 4367

If you can make it only for some of the time, you are always welcome but we are not responsible for your accommodation or food in that case. So come anyways. Just let us know when you are coming so that we can coordinate the program and ensure your best enjoyment.

God bless each of you.

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Meeting the Challenge