



NEWSLETTER

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Louisiana Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship

P.O. Box 120, Homer, LA 71040

Partnership Missions Ministry, Louisiana Baptist Convention

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Focal Scripture. *Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.* (Matthew 28:19-20)

Focal Thought. God is so powerful that He can direct evil to a good end. — *St Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)*

Report on Projects in Eastern Europe. Our goal with this and the next two Newsletters will be to provide our membership with an overview of projects we have/are supporting in three regions of the world. This one focuses on a poor region of Eastern Europe. The picture below shows one of many garden projects in the



mountains where onions, garlic, beets, carrots, and potatoes are being grown to provide food, and even cash from the sale of surplus produce. The people are poor, both in resources and spirit. Thus, one of the goals of the missionary with whom we are working is to take the *gospel of Jesus Christ where it has never been before.*

Meet Jasmin. She is a poor widow who lives with her son, but is pictured here with our missionary. She is unable to work. She and her son live in a tiny two room house. She has no income and is not eligible for any government assistance. Your funds have helped purchase 50 laying hens and helped to improve her little chicken house with a new fence.



Jasmin professed Christ this past year and attends church when she can. She lives out of town in a small Muslim village. We visit her home regularly to encourage her in the faith. She sells about 30 eggs per day. Please pray for her to grow in her faith and dependence on the Lord.



This picture confirms that “necessity is the mother of invention” and that there are true “rednecks” in Eastern Europe. Isam and his family received five bred sheep. He found an old travel trailer, floored it with wood, and

built a small floored pen connected to the trailer. This project is up in the mountains where they receive plenty of snow, so this “trailer” provides vital shelter for the animals. Isam professed Christ, but because he lives



so far from our missionaries, he is being discipled by another like-minder worker. The sheep provide much needed food and income. Isam also works as a carpenter when he can find work. This family works hard and they are a real success, both in terms of community development and the success of the gospel.

Our funds have helped with several small animal projects. This lady is doing very well with her goats. She kept the female goats and grew her herd to the point she could sell some of them and purchase a cow. The goats provide meat and cheese, as well as extra income to improve the quality of life.



This young Simmental milk cow is yet another project. The cow is not a high milk producer but is



adapted to the mountain environment and does well. Such animals provide milk, butter, and cheese, as well as meat. Behind the cow is one of many drip irrigation systems we have helped provide. This one aids in irrigating strawberries beds. The family that owns the cow has five children and were displaced to this area as a result of war. The oldest child in the family is now a believer in Christ.

Introduction of drip irrigation has been one of our greatest contributions to small gardens. These pictures are at a community garden on land owned by the



evangelical church the missionaries attend. The area has turned into a sort of test farm where people cooperating on agricultural projects come to learn improved production methods. By watering the ground before planting, almost all seedlings survive. People are amazed that only 30 minutes of drip irrigation every other day provides plenty of water even in dry, hot

August. This type of irrigation provides a perfect lead-in to the introduction of the One who provides “Living Water,” namely, *Jesus Christ*. The picture below shows



a group of volunteers helping “weed” this year’s cabbage crop. Cabbage is a staple food for vast numbers of people in Eastern Europe. Your Fellowship has also assisted with the establishment of several, small, inexpensive greenhouses that aid in starting plants to be planted into larger gardens. An added bonus of our partnership with the missionary, who happens to be from Louisiana, is that extra food is donated to a nursing home, which provides residents with fresh vegetables that improves the nutrition of their diet. In addition, the volunteers who help grow the food realize they are part of the “hands and feet” of the gospel shared with the residents.

Project Support. *The greatest need of your Fellowship is always for additional funds with which to help the poor help themselves.* Following are examples of projects individuals, classes, or churches can support to provide a helping hand to those who are poor, hungry, and in need of Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord:

Egg incubation facilities for a family or village.

Rabbit project for a family.

Chicken project for a family.

Goat project for a family.

Sheep project for a family.

Dairy heifer project for a family.

Vegetable garden project for a family.

Drip irrigation for a family.

Small greenhouse for a family.

Water filters to provide pure water to families.

Please help us help those in desperate need to help themselves by making your check payable to Louisiana Baptist Foundation and sending it to P.O. Box 120, Homer, LA 71040. Indicate the funds are for Ag Missions. All donations are tax deductible and 100% of your contributions go directly to the mission field because the Executive Committee pays all expenses for operating the Fellowship.