

# Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International



- Networking News –  
Issued by the European Office

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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](http://www.fgbmfi-europe.com)*



**New Year message from our European Vice – President John Walker**

My warmest greetings to you all for a happy and blessed 2009. May you truly know the joy and peace of the Lord.

The Book of Acts Chapter 1 and verse 8 says

'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the Earth'.

You may recall that in 2007 I wrote that I believed the Lord had shown me that for a period of seven years we would have a wonderful opportunity to witness and reap a mighty harvest of souls for Christ. This would be followed by seven years of terrible spiritual darkness.

In the last 12 months the entire world has been plunged into a financial crisis of epic proportions and many people are becoming extremely fearful concerning the loss of their homes and jobs.

They have seen that the world has built its foundations on shifting sand instead of the Rock - The Lord Jesus Christ. I believe this affords us who believe on his name to

witness and share our testimonies in a way that has not been possible for many a long year.

Many are asking ' What on earth is going on - What is happening? '

We have the answer and his name is JESUS.

Let us be bold in our witness. Our Judea and Samaria are the peoples of the nations of Europe who for too long have lived in spiritual darkness. Let us all, as we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit, share the love of Christ with a needy world.

The Lord is still saying as he did to the prophet Isaiah thousands of years ago

'Whom shall I send? and who will go for us?'

Let our individual responses be as Isaiah.'

Here am I. Send me (Isaiah 6v8)

Finally can I encourage as many of you as possible to join us for our next European Convention to be held on the island of Malta in April 2009.

You can be sure of a warm welcome.

Richest blessings in Christ.

John Walker

Regional Vice President-Europe

#### **4 Reasons to Face the New Year without Fear** , by Adrian Rogers.

God's Word brings us a comforting promise, along with an insightful command as we face a New Year: "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for He has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Hebrews 13:5-6).

We can live this coming year without fear if we apply these four incredibly wonderful truths to our lives and root them deep into our hearts.

#### **The Contentment of His Provision**

Contentment is not getting what you want, but it is wanting what you already have. First Timothy 6:6-8 says, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us therewith be content." If you

know Jesus Christ, you have contentment. If you've got clothes on your back, something to eat, and Jesus Christ in your heart, you're rich!

Do you know why we have fear? Because we think our needs or the needs of someone we love are not going to be met. Or we fear that the things we think are meeting our needs are going to be taken away from us. The deepest need of your heart can only be met in the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **The Companionship of His Presence**

I don't know what I'm going to face this year. But there's one thing I know, He will never leave me. Are you a child of God? He will never leave you either. Isn't that wonderful? What's another reason we may fear in the coming year? Perhaps we're afraid we're going to have to face something we don't understand, and we're going to have to face it alone.

When God's Word promises that God will never forsake you, it literally means that He will never abandon you. He will not give up on you. We need to practice the presence of the Lord this coming year. When the devil comes and knocks at your heart's door, you can simply say, "Jesus, please go answer the door."

#### **The Confidence of His Promise**

We're going to zero in on a little phrase in our verses in Hebrews, "He has said." A promise is no better than the one who makes it. Who says, "I will never leave you nor forsake you"? It is the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God. This is the confidence of His promise. In the coming year, when you say, "God, I just don't have the strength" the omnipotent God will answer, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." When you say, "God, I'm afraid of what is going to happen" the omnipresent God says, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." And when you say, "God, I don't know what to do" the omniscient God will respond, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." He himself has said it.

## The Comfort of His Protection

Hebrews 13:6 promises, "So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Now, put that with verse five which says, "He has said."

Like I said earlier, I don't know what you're going to go through this coming year. But I know you can boldly say, "The Lord is my helper, so I will not fear what man shall do to me." When you find your contentment, companionship and confidence in Jesus, then you will find your comfort and courage in Him.

## Conventions



### 'In the footsteps of St. Paul'

European Convention Malta, April 24 to 26.

The island of Malta is the place where St. Paul was shipwrecked (Acts 28 v.1) and is rich in church history. It enjoys a warm climate and the people are friendly.

### 'In the footsteps of St. Paul' European Convention – Malta, April 24 to 26.

Convention speakers include Dr. John Bunnici-Mallia (medical doctor with a healing ministry), and the Archbishop of Malta the most reverend Paul Cremona, plus testimonies from international FGBMFI leaders. The convention will be preceded by evangelistic outreaches to various parts of the island.

Families are welcome at the convention. Members and friends from the worldwide family of FGBMFI are invited to participate in

this international convention, which we believe will spread the Holy Spirit fire throughout Europe. Come and join us, and walk in the footsteps of St. Paul.

The conference hotel is Topaz\*\*\*\*Hotel, St. Paul's Bay, see [www.tumas.com/topaz](http://www.tumas.com/topaz) Room bookings should be made directly to Stephen Cassar (Topaz Hotel) at – [Stephen@sunislandservices.com](mailto:Stephen@sunislandservices.com)

## Belgium

Rik van Neste, National Vice-President writes 'we are still receiving positive reactions about our Belgian convention; some were taken up into heaven, others had a real meeting with Jesus and others were healed. Not always did we have experiences of people who got up out of wheelchairs or those who threw away their crutches for walking, but above everything in every session people were won for Jesus'. Over three hundred people attended and 20 nations were represented including several churches.

## FGBMFI UK & Ireland National Convention – October 9 to 11 in Telford, England.

Guest speaker: Rick Gillis with his wife Kathy are senior pastors of Christian Life Church, Texas, USA. Rick ministers prophetically and teaches on 'realising your full potential in Christ'.

## UK

**Making the 100 !** – London 30<sup>th</sup> FGBMFI anniversary outreach dinner took place on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

The first London chapter started in January 1978 after an earlier start in 1965 following a USA airlift.

Hiring the large first floor restaurant room at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, requires a 100 to pay for a dinner. On the evening exactly 100 were sitting down to dinner, although only some 65 had booked a few days before. God brought forth the increase as He has done consistently for such events in London over the last 30 years! We praise God for this evidence of His hand at work

over time in the outworking of the FGBMFI Vision.

At least three people gave their hearts to Jesus, being touched through the anointed speaker Wilber Short, head of transport for 2012 Olympic Games and former president of the FGBMFI Milton Keynes chapter. John Wright, Eur. Director, led one of the three to the Lord on Liverpool Street station in London after the dinner, before returning home.

Five minute testimonies before the speaker were given by Rev Idy Samuel, converted at a night club in London and now in ministry based at Southend on Sea, Rodney and Judy Radcliffe's son Timothy, project manager with Sodexo Ltd, who has been linking with the new Guildford FGBMFI initiative, and Michael Uwadiae, a current MBA student in London, whose father helped found the FGBMFI in Nigeria. Two of the striking testimonies were from fine young, anointed, Christian men under 30!

### **Miraculous Healing from Leukemia**

Stuart Cripps, UK Natl. Executive Officer writes: In the doctor's words: "this is a miraculous recovery from leukemia - the bone marrow sample is clear!"

The whole family are giving thanks and praise to God for this miraculous answer to prayer. God is the Great Healer and giver of life more abundantly.

Young 13 year old Madison was admitted to hospital with recently diagnosed leukemia. Her blood count was over 50 and she was given her first dose of chemotherapy. However, at the same time her young uncle Steve, who had only a month earlier become a Christian at the Warrington FGBMFI meeting, prayed for Madison's healing. Other FGBMFI members and local Christian friends supported the family in prayer and shared a very special promise from God's Word (Ezekiel 16v6). Each day her blood count fell dramatically: 50, 13, 7.5, 1.5 until within 1 week a bone marrow sample was returned clear.

Thanks be to God for this healing.

### **National Men's Advance 2008**

#### **Men Advance in the Kingdom of God**

Over 100 men gathered at Penkrige for the 2008 FGBMFI National Advance. Dan Chesney ministered on 'living the deeper life in Christ',

There were times of wonderful praise and worship led by Trevor Bendrien ( a UK Natl. Director) and the Power Praise Band. Many prophetic words of encouragement and challenge were shared concerning what the Lord was doing in our midst. Testimonies were also shared from several of our younger members who are stepping out in faith in their individual careers in close relationship with the Lord. We heard of their plans for activities to interest and attract more younger men into the Fellowship. Exciting testimonies were also shared including angelic visitations, divine protection and miraculous healings, particularly dramatic improvement in one man's eyesight and another man's hearing .



A Men's Weekend is planned for Bawtry (N.E. England) on March 27 to 29. For details contact the UK Office or the European Office.

#### **France**

René Agrain, Natl. Officer France, and his wife Liliane continue their teachings on 'Walls of my heart'. Many people have been touched by God in their personal lives.

Jean Pointot, one of the participants writes: When we had the invitation to go to this seminar in Brittany, Jeanine, my wife wanted to go but I was not so enthusiastic in taking part. But then I heard a small voice

saying: 'would you deny Me the possibility of acting?'. I did not resist any more and we registered.

I asked the Lord Jesus before leaving that He would show me a point on which He wanted me to change: the Lord showed me that in many circumstances I was afraid to open my mouth for fear of the reactions of those around me.

A personal topic for me was "fear and anxiety." I appreciated that the seminar thought this was important. It was the confirmation of what I had received before leaving. At the time of prayer with an adviser, this person took authority over these bad powers. I was ready and I had the faith for something to happen.

This is what happened: I blew and coughed a little, but since that moment I have experienced several circumstances where fear was pushed back. Glory to God! "If Christ sets you free, you will be free indeed!"



I am really thankful for this seminar under the control of the Holy Spirit. The presence and the love of God were tangible and surrounded the participants by putting them at ease in a climate of freedom. Thank you René and Liliane, and of course, thank you Jesus.

### **Austria**

FGBMFI Austria celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special meeting of nations. We thank God for the faithful work of Franz Kren, Natl. president and his team.

15 different nations sent delegates and there were over 150 businessmen present.

There were many healings: a young man, who lost his eyesight in an accident, was healed completely through prayer. An Italian businessman reported the healing from deafness of two Mafia bosses in the south of Italy. These healings have brought openness for the Gospel.

Our International president Richard Shakarian held a lecture on Godly principles in business life. A delegation from Nicaragua reported that they now have over 600 Chapters in their country and more than three million people have been blessed and saved.

### **Germany**

Reaching Arabs and other diverse cultures in Germany. Rad Jakob, FGBMFI chapter president Braunschweig writes:

Like in the vision of FGBMFI, the I = International, our chapter members are from Brazil, Poland, Thailand, Syria, and of course Germany.

We have different kind of meetings:

Chapter meetings (most times in homes, only for members)

Chapter events in hotels (monthly meetings with breakfast)

Business meetings (for business people)

We also have Men's camps meeting three times a year with other chapters to proclaim the vision. We also go to places where we are invited, we call this 'the mobile chapter'.

In 2008 we had different meetings outside of the normal chapter events. The following are a few of them: Men's breakfast meeting at the prison in Wolfenbüttel, service in a nursing home, and a north German congress in Braunschweig, speaker Dr. Peter Gammons, on the topic, 'Germany - back to God'.

50 prisoners attended the church service in Wolfenbüttel prison; the prison pastor gave us half an hour to share and half an hour for coffee time with the prisoners. We explained the Fellowship to the prisoners and gave

them Voice magazines. We spoke about hope and the life changing message of the Gospel. The prison pastor has invited us to come again.

At a men's breakfast meeting in Hillerse I was invited to speak on the theme Islam or Christianity. Approx. 20 men came to this breakfast meeting and a woman reporter from the local newspaper. I shared my testimony and spoke also about some essential points of the Bible, and how these relate to the Koran and the Alhadith (the story book of the Islam).

After the meeting one bank manager came forward and gave his life to Jesus Christ. Many of the people said that this teaching was new to them.

[Rad.jakob@t-online.de](mailto:Rad.jakob@t-online.de)

A full report is on our European website including comparison of texts from the Bible with the Koran.

### **Renewal Movements**

Roland Benz, European Outreach Director writes 'during 2008 we held 3 Men's Camps in the area of Stuttgart, Munich and Saarbrücken.

The next one will be in Braunschweig (Feb. 6.-8.), again with Komo Antakon, FGBMFI-National President Thailand. The Men's Camp in Munich was 'international' with members from France, Poland, Indonesia, Syria and USA.

Also seminars entitled "New Breakthrough" are being held 3 times a year to equip and encourage chapter teams; this is mandatory for new chapter presidents.

Humberto Arguello and Roger Gonzales from Nicaragua are coming to Germany for a 'Revival Seminar' in Ulm 31. January, and Pertisau/Austria 27-29. March.

### **Peter Gammon (evangelist) from UK in Germany.**

Peter received a prophecy at the FGBMFI World Convention in Orlando – 'UK back to God' – and that God is now going to change Europe, starting with the UK. Germany is also beginning the campaign – 'Germany back to God'.

A 'North German Congress' was held in Braunschweig (15. Nov.08) with Peter Gammon from UK - under the motto "Live joyful and victoriously". Rad Jacob says, 'some 200 people attended this special event, many received a new touch by God's anointing'.

As Peter Gammons has offered to serve through FGBMFI in Germany, we are planning further events in Munich/Bavaria in May and Magdeburg/Sachsen-Anhalt in October.

### **Men's Camp in Japan**

Ralph Schlotter, member of the German Airlift team, went to Japan in November to support a Men's Camp in Osaka.

### **Outreaches**

Roland Benz, writes: during November 2008 my wife Traute and I have been on a 3 week outreach to Africa visiting **Nigeria**, Mozambique, Malawi and Ethiopia.

First, we took part in the Nigeria FGBMFI National Convention in Owerri (5.-9. Nov.), which was an overwhelming experience and awesome demonstration of God's power in today's Market Place, with up to 15.000 people in a huge tent owned by FGBMFI.

Then we went on to **Mozambique**, where I was able to share the FGBMFI vision and mission to a group of 45 business men, mission representatives, pastors and a diplomat from the Mauritian Embassy, with the aim of supporting the newly founded local chapter in Maputo.

From Maputo we carried on to **Malawi** for one week packed with several meetings and seminars in Monkebay at lake Malawi, Zomba and finally the capital Lilongwe. During our time in Malawi we were joined by a member of our Munich chapter.

In meetings with up to 150 people we were able to introduce FGBMFI and hold chapter meetings. We experienced great interest and were able to make firm contacts with business men who want to become involved in the Fellowship.

We also had the privilege to speak in different churches. Leaders from an 'Assembly of God' Church also confirmed that our coming is in God's time, to lay the foundation for FGBMFI in Malawi. On our last day, before leaving Malawi, Traute was invited to a pastor's wives conference in Lilongwe.

We are very thankful to Francis M. from 'Compassionate Mission Centre' in Zomba and his team, who provided all contacts and organised our 'FGBMFI Outreach Mission tour' with almost 1500 km on the road.

Our next destination was Addis Abeba, **Ethiopia**, where a leader from Youth with a Mission and his team helped us to arrange contacts and meet with business people, like one lady who is chief operating officer of a shoe manufacturing company. We held the first chapter meeting in a nice restaurant owned by a Christian couple.

During our African outreach we handed out the Happiest People on Earth books and Voice magazines in English.

It is planned that FGBMFI Germany will lead another team to Malawi and Ethiopia during springtime of this year. We have invited FGBMFI Nigeria, who supported this outreach, to join with us for the next outreach with the aim of following up new converts to Christ and help the new chapters.

We thank God for the guiding of the Holy Spirit and protection throughout our intensive travels, despite the obstacle of having someone breaking into our luggage and stealing computer equipment. We also got delayed at Lagos airport leaving for Maputo. The customs officer refused to let us on board because I didn't have an empty page left in my passport for his stamp.

After intensive prayer I approached the customs officer again telling him that we know an FGBMFI member who is a senator in Nigeria and mentioned his name (Fred B.) I said, 'he would surely speak for us'. The officer looked puzzled and replied 'oh

Fred is a relative of mine' and then he allowed us to pass through. The door of the plane was already shut, but was opened again for us. The plane took off almost one hour later than to schedule. I thank God for His intervention.

In Maputo, I went straight to our Embassy for a new (interim) passport, which was processed in 1 day.

#### **Outreach to Africa (update on Malawi):**

Francis M. (FGBMFI coordinator in Malawi) says that they had their own first FGBMFI chapter meeting in Monkebay on Jan.10th and 20 people attended. A radio presenter working for 'Trans-World Radio' in Lilongwe, doing a special programme for Muslims, was giving his testimony. It was so powerful that the only Muslim man who came gave his life to Jesus and asked for special prayer. The following day in Mangochi some 30 people turned up for the chapter. It was also a very good meeting.

An encouraging beginning on a small scale in Malawi'. Praise the Lord.

Hans-Petter Thue, Natl. President Norway, and his wife Kari have conducted a number of evangelistic campaigns in **Nepal, India and Bhutan**, where thousands of people have accepted Jesus Christ. They plan to revisit in March.

They have also planned outreaches to **Uganda, Rwanda** and will attend the FGBMFI **Philippines** national convention in April.

Those members wishing to join these outreach campaigns can take contact with Hans-Petter at [president@fgbmfino](mailto:president@fgbmfino)

Peter Spreckley, chairman UK & Ireland Council, plans to visit several FGBMFI chapters in **Kenya** in February.

#### **No one is neglected!**

*Vanik Tovmasyan is an FGBMFI chapter leader in Vanadzor, **Armenia***

#### **In the valley of the shadow of death**

In the 1960s and 1970s, when I was in high school and in college, it was forbidden to talk about faith or to study it. Educational

institutions would only teach socialism, communism, atheism, Darwinism and everything else that denied the existence of God. I heard about Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Hitler more than about Jesus.

Nevertheless, there were fearless groups of people even in the days of communist government, who would secretly go to the Armenian national church. My elder brother was among them. He would exhort me to follow his example, but I, not sensing the existence of God, would get frustrated and try not to think about it.

Growing up without a father, I became a model of wild conduct: partying all night, women and alcohol. I continued that behaviour even after I got a job at a big industrial plant, which would regularly send me on business trips to Russia.

This lifestyle, however, got me down with urinary obstruction. This condition was becoming increasingly worse due to my careless attitude. In March of 1988, I was taken to hospital. For seven days I was not able to urinate; my skin got pale and swollen with blood problems. The pain was severe. Later one of the nurses told me: 'thousands have come and gone, but your howling and bellowing are still in my ears'. Finally, my brother drove me through a snowstorm for two hours for an emergency surgery in Yerevan, the capital city. Any movement made the pain more acute. Something was also affecting my lungs and throat.

### **Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?**

Just before the surgery my elder brother urged me to pray. Lying on a bed I turned my face to the wall and began to weep. I did not know what to pray or how to pray. The wall was like the border of death, but it seemed that the closer I got to it, the farther it pushed me back, like the same poles of magnet. God was instilling faith in me. Still weeping, I believed I was not going to die. My fear gradually evaporated and I said, 'dear God forgive me. Have mercy on my two children. Don't let them be orphans as I have been. Give me life, and as long as I live, I will serve you'. Immediately the

urinary tract burst open. I shouted, 'I got saved, I got saved!' I felt how the poison was rushing out of me under great pressure, down the lungs. It was like giving birth, both pain and joy.

I thank God for this healing and for giving me new life.

*Vanik Tovmasyan, Armenia*

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*Part of Vanadzor chapter (Armenia)*

### **European website:**

Please take a few minutes to look at our European website [www.fgbmfi-europe.com](http://www.fgbmfi-europe.com). It has many interesting articles and testimonies (in different languages). It also gives up to date information about Fellowship events.

### **Events:**

**All European Convention – Malta, 24-26 April.** Members from around the world are invited.

**World Convention** - June 30 - July 4, at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa, Ft. Lauderdale Fl. USA

**UK & Convention and European Council meeting** - Telford, Central England, October 9 to 11.