



SPRING 2024

# TCM REPORT

FROM PAGE 2

“...their stories illustrate the fruit of your sacrificial giving as you helped TCM launch into new areas and equip more effective national leaders...”



## ENGAGING EVERY NATION INITIATIVE | P.2

Learn more about the exciting expansion of TCM around the world through our Engaging Every Nation Initiative! *Did you know TCM conducted its first graduation ceremony on the continent of Africa?* And even more opportunities are available for TCM to fill the void of ministry training for Christian leaders in new areas. *Will you join us?*

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE >>>

#### MISCHECK'S PASSION | P.3

We highlight the growth and determination of one of our Zimbabwean students, Mischeck, who demonstrates how God is using TCM to accomplish the vision *that every nation will have effective leaders of disciple-making movements impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ.*

#### BORN OUT OF CRISIS | P.4-5

A meeting of Ukrainian pastors and church planters throughout Europe was held at Haus Edelweiss in February. As a key center for training Christian ministers, TCM's role in the evangelism and discipleship of Europe continues to be instrumental. Read more about this new disciple-making Ukrainian network!

DR. VICTORIA  
BOJONCA  
P. 5

PURPOSEFUL  
GIFT PLANNING  
P. 7

COMMEMORATIVE  
GIVING  
P. 6

TCM  
CLASSES  
P. 6-7







# ENGAGING EVERY NATION INITIATIVE

by Tom Sears

“...we are in conversations with Christians in other countries who desire TCM to come and fill the void of ministry training to equip their Christian leaders to reach their own people for Christ more effectively.”

In 2016, the TCM Board of Directors sat around the table to discuss and approve the expanded TCM vision - that every nation will have effective leaders of disciple-making movements impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ. Even though TCM's mission did not change, this expanded vision launched TCM into a season of expansion and deepening that slowly began to transform the face of TCM students around the globe. Later that same year, TCM launched the Engaging Every Nation Initiative and over the next few years, raised 2.7 million dollars to allow TCM to deepen in Europe and expand into new countries around the globe. Many of you gave generously to that campaign, and we have been so blessed to share the stories of the lives that have been changed and about ministries that have been started because of TCM's educational ministry in those areas of the world.

Another TCM milestone is quickly approaching. In fact, by the time you read this, TCM will have conducted its first graduation celebration on the continent of Africa. Fourteen Kenyan students have fully completed the TCM ministry training program. Following after them, over 50 other students from Kenya are working at various stages in the program. These graduates and their stories illustrate the fruit of your sacrificial giving as you helped TCM launch into these new areas and equip more effective national leaders to engage in the Great Commission.

But this is just one example. TCM has also expanded into Latvia, the United States, Albania, Liberia, and we are in conversations with Christians in other countries who desire TCM to come and fill the void of ministry training to equip their Christian leaders to reach their own people for Christ more effectively. This is the TCM mission, and we need your help to continue.

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This year TCM will be launching our Engaging Every Nation initiative to raise money to grow our capacity in the ministry. We want to say yes to these emerging partnerships. The story on the next page is just one example of how God is raising up more pioneering leaders who have a vision of multiplying their training efforts with the help of TCM.







## MISCHECK'S PASSION

My name is Mischeck. I am a Zimbabwean church leader and church planter. I joined TCM mentoring center in Nairobi, Kenya after TCM brought their program to my continent. My first class was Disciple Making. My professor for this subject, Professor Jozsef, was used by God to impact my life so much in ministry. God called me and I truly heard from God saying, go and transform communities of the world, one person at a time.

I started full-time ministry in June 2003. I had so much passion. I reached out to thousands of people, and they were responding to the Gospel. They gave their lives to Jesus as their Lord and savior. But there was just something that was not looking right. I now realize that I was doing everything except being with the twelve. I strongly felt that the people I brought to Christ were just weak, feeble Christians. I was teaching them, but they were not maturing. It was frustrating. In that first TCM class, the professor explained disciple-making from Mark 3:14 and the statement he explained to us that struck me with awe was, "...he ordained the twelve so that they could be with him." Then, from his teaching, for the first time my eyes were opened to the fact that success in disciple-making was a walk of obedience. This walk would be a lifetime commitment and it would take real patience to make disciples.

From then on, I realized that I had to really slow down if I was going to make true disciples. Then my problem became how to grow the church that I envisioned with that slow pace. This is when God opened my eyes and gave me a vision: to make 20,000 leaders in 20 years each discipling 50 people in 20 years. This strategy would produce 1,000,000 disciples in 20 years. I am concentrating and walking with my 50 disciples right now whom I am entrusting with

50 disciples each. As they grow, leaving me with less responsibility on them, I will concentrate more on the less mature and target 50 leaders (disciples) at different levels of maturity for 20 years. I have since learned to delegate and follow up with these few as they also delegate and follow up on the few. The chain goes on.

The Disciple Making subject taught me to slow down and concentrate on the few for many years but also entrust a few to slow down and entrust a few for many years. Since then, I am seeing the fruit. I am witnessing spiritual maturity in the church in all of our ten branches. I am seeing more integrity, more passion for growth through a walk of obedience, and real maturity amongst my leaders as they follow my example. They are raising well-grounded disciples who have real deep roots in their walk with Christ. I am forever grateful to TCM, and I pray that TCM will one day come to my country and launch the program for other leaders like me in the southern countries of Africa.



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# BORN OUT OF CRISIS: A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR MAKING DISCIPLES IN EUROPE

“...the Lord has blessed TCM with valuable gifts to empower the new disciple-making Ukrainian network in Europe.”

by Andrey Puzynin

The unprovoked aggression of Russia against Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022, changed the lives of millions and had global consequences. More than five million Ukrainians were forced to leave their homes and move to other countries. Most Ukrainians moved to the countries of the European Union. As in the days of the apostles, God used migration to expand the boundaries of His kingdom. During the war, dozens of pastors and thousands of members of evangelical churches were forced to leave Ukraine and began planting groups and churches in the European diaspora. During the two years of the war, about 150 evangelical groups and churches have been established in Europe. TCM was actively involved in helping brothers and sisters from Ukraine through TCM Regional Representatives in other countries. In 2024 it became evident that the ministry of Ukrainians in Europe needed a more systemic coordination and support.

February 13-16, 2024, a meeting of Ukrainian pastors and church planters in Europe was held at Haus Edelweiss, Austria.

Ukrainian pastors and church planters in Europe from Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Croatia, Switzerland, France, Netherlands, and Great Britain attended the meeting. Pastor Valerii Antoniuk, chair of the AUC ECB (All Ukrainian Union of Churches of Evangelical Christians Baptists), and pastor Eduard Petrov, head of the Union's missionary department, traveled from Ukraine. TCM President, Dr. Tony Twist, led the prayer fellowship during the conference.

The meeting at TCM was planned as a time for fellowship and recreation. Some of the Ukrainian pastors came with their spouses and children for whom a program of fellowship and recreation was organized.

All participants of the meeting had the opportunity to relax one evening in the thermae in Baden and to visit a tour of the Heiligenkreuz Monastery the following day. The tour was conducted by a Catholic seminary student from Lviv in Ukraine.

Meego, Andrey, Tony, and a Ukrainian leader





Christian Witzman gave a tour of the TCM campus, telling the history of the Institute.

During the three-day conference TCM teachers, Dr. Meego Rimmel, Dr. Oti Bunaciu, and Dr. Sorin Badragan, conducted seminars and shared their experiences of ministry in Europe in general and to Ukrainian refugees in particular.

At the meeting it was decided to establish a new Ukrainian regional association of the AUC ECB Union in Europe. The main goal of the new association is evangelism and discipleship in Europe and coordination of various ministries. TCM is one of the key centers for training Christian ministers involved in the movement of multiplication of disciples.

Dr. Tony Twist has invited the leadership of the Union and the in-country coordinators of the new European network to continue and deepen the partnership that was established with Ukrainian churches a long time ago. The regional centers of TCM in Kherson and Lviv are part of the AUC ECB. The field for ministry is expanding beyond Ukraine into the European Union and the Lord has blessed TCM with valuable gifts to empower the new disciple-making Ukrainian network in Europe. The Ukrainian/Russian speaking evangelical church in Vienna ([www.evangelie.at](http://www.evangelie.at)) led by members of staff and faculty of TCM is part of the new network that raises new disciples of the Lord Jesus in the times of crises.

All participants of the meeting heartily thank the leadership of the TCM Institute for organizing the meeting, which made an important decision in the life of the Ukrainian evangelical movement in Europe.

Please continue to pray for a speedy end to the war and for the development of Christian discipleship movements in Europe through TCM partnerships with various evangelical unions that share the values and mission of God's Kingdom through the fulfillment of the Great Commission of Jesus.



## DR. VICTORIA BOJONCA

by Rick Justice

We want to acknowledge and celebrate the recent accomplishment of our registrar, Victoria Bojonca. Or should we say: Dr. Victoria Bojonca. On March 25, Victoria successfully defended her dissertation, completing her Ph.D. from the School of Theology and Religious Studies located within the University of Bucharest, Romania.

Her research interest and dissertation is titled: *Hearing God's Call: A theological reflection on emergence of TCM International Institute as a strategic leadership formation program in a global context.*

Her study investigates the motivations and rationales behind TCM's organizational changes, which were driven by a commitment to respond to the perceived needs of churches in Romania between 1975 and 1995, taking the organization from benevolent ministry and literature distribution to leadership formation ministry and offering accredited master's degree studies.

Victoria's work adds to the current documentation of TCM's history, and she hopes that this research will serve as an insight and encouragement to other faith-based organizations and churches to embed spiritual discernment practices into their business practices.

**Well done, Victoria!**







# PURPOSEFUL GIFT PLANNING

by Megan Herring

We invite you to partner with us for our Engaging Every Nation Initiative and help us deepen and expand TCM's ministry of developing effective, disciple-making leaders for significant service impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ.

Now is the perfect time to think about ways to maximize the impact of your 2024 gift. By using one or more of these simple planned giving strategies, you can leave a legacy for future generations, provide a larger charitable gift than you thought possible, and potentially reduce your income tax and/or capital gains tax.

- **Gift Appreciated Securities Instead of Cash**

If you own appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds and have held them for over a year, you can give a portion or the entire value of those appreciated securities to TCM as a smart alternative to cash gifts. With a gift of appreciated securities, you save on income tax and any capital gains tax you would have incurred upon the sale of the securities.

- **Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA**

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a gift to TCM directly from your IRA without owing income tax on the distribution. Furthermore, the distribution to TCM can count as your required minimum distribution (RMD) for 2024.

- **Establish a Giving Fund**

Experience the joy of giving in your lifetime and beyond by gifting cash from your current income or non-cash assets such as appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or real estate to a personal or family giving fund. This fund, called a Donor Advised Fund, is a simple and flexible charitable tool which allows you to make distributions to TCM and your other favorite ministries. You choose (2024 or beyond) when and how much to distribute to each of your charities and receive a full deduction this year for the fair market value of your gift.

For more information about gift planning in 2024, please contact Megan Herring ([megan@tcmi.org](mailto:megan@tcmi.org)) or visit [tcmi.legacywill.org](http://tcmi.legacywill.org).

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## IN-COUNTRY:

### UKRAINE:

Pastoral Ethics – Meego Rimmel

### LATVIA

Worldviews and Religions – Mihai Malancea

### LIBERIA

Hermeneutics - Sara Fudge

### MOLDOVA:

Introduction to New Testament Studies – Dumitru Sevastian

## HAUS EDELWEISS:

### SESSION 2 | April 18-24

Disciple Making through the New Testament – Jozsef Steiner

Homiletics – Rick Grover

Graduate Seminar – Leading the Local Church: Building

Healthy Elder and Staff Teams – Gary Johnson

### SESSION 3 | JUNE 6-12

Disciple Making – David Roadcup

History of Christian Theology 2 – Sorin Badragan

Introduction to New Testament Studies – Dumitru Sevastian

History of Christian Theology 1 – Oti Bunaciu

### SESSION 4 | JULY 4-10

Servant Leadership – Rick Justice

Small Groups Ministry – David Roadcup

Christian Ethics – Meego Rimmel

Survey of Church History – Yulia Lubenets





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**SPRING 2024 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN**



## PRESIDENT'S OUTLOOK

In 2016 two consultants worked with TCM to initiate what we called the "changing lanes and load bearing walls" process. The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) identified our "lanes," the areas in which we were working, plus new lanes we knew would come

with growth through our Engaging Every Nation Initiative (EEN). Since then, we have seen much progress as new faculty and staff have been onboarded, responsibilities have shifted, and the ELT has doubled in size. And the process is accelerating as the EEN enters the next growth phase with a goal of \$6,000,000 additional income by 2027 dedicated to developing even more effective leaders of disciple making movements around the world who will impact churches, cultures, and countries for Christ.

For 18 years, David Wright has been a mainstay in the growth and advancement of TCM's mission and vision. As many of you have

heard, he is retiring as Vice President of Ministry Services in June. But there is something more you should know and celebrate. David exemplifies the culture of good beginnings, middles, and endings that TCM wants. Not only is he finishing well, but he has also intentionally worked himself out of a job. Lane by lane he has poured into others while "giving away" many of the very responsibilities that he loved personally fulfilling. This type of unselfish, kingdom-focused leadership is worth celebrating. It is Christ-like, exemplary, and much too rare these days.

While David's place of service may be shifting, his calling and mission remain the same. He is a prayerful, faithful disciple maker for our Lord and His Kingdom - and will be until he is called home. Well done, David. Well done.

*Tony*