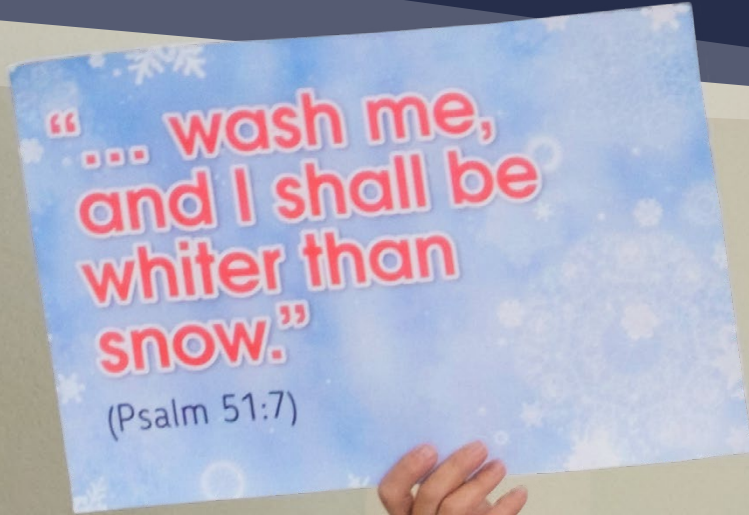


# ommission

NEWS FROM CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® IN EUROPE



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## TRAINING IN EUROPE

**PLUS:**  
EURONEWS  
SHORTFALL  
SPORTS OUTREACH

Dear friends,

Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20 is clear: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."* This Great Commission lies at the core of CEF's training programmes. We believe that to fulfil this command, we must equip faithful men and women to share the Gospel effectively with children. Training is essential because it aligns with Jesus' broader vision in the Great Commission. He didn't just command us to go, but to make disciples. This requires not only sharing the Gospel but helping others grow in their faith and understanding.

Effective discipleship, especially with children, doesn't happen by accident—it requires intentional preparation. That's why training is a vital part of our ministry. Through it, we equip believers with the tools to communicate the message of Salvation clearly and to lead children into a lifelong journey of following Jesus.

In obedience to Jesus' words, our training is about raising up leaders who will not only evangelise children but also disciple them—helping them grow spiritually and become faithful followers of Christ. Through our training programmes, we are multiplying ministry, ensuring that the message of Salvation reaches new generations of children in a lasting and meaningful way.

As we reflect on the call to make disciples, I want to challenge you: Will you pray that God raises up more workers for His harvest field? There is a great need for those who are willing to be trained and prepared to share the Good News with children across Europe. Let us join together in asking God to call and equip more labourers to fulfil His Great Commission.



# WHAT IS YOUR HEART SET ON?

Have you ever been asked this question? Depending on your situation and circumstances perhaps your answer would be—a good job, financial security and a home. Others might say a good car; physical fitness

to compete for a gold medal at the Olympic games; a plane ticket to travel around the world or it could simply be having your heart set on eating your favourite flavour of ice cream or slice of cake.

Ezra knew what his heart was set on. The Bible records it for us, “For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.” (Ezra 7:10) This verse is sometimes referred to as ‘the Ezra principle’ because it sets out the “ABCs” of his heart’s commitment to first study, then practice and finally teach God’s Word.

We have adopted this principle in the European education department and have been using it for many years. It is applied not only to the students who attend

CEF training courses—where they study, practice and then teach children but also to those who teach the courses. The Ezra principle is essential for both student and teacher if our training is to bear fruit and glorify God.

The 12-week Children’s Ministry Leadership Course (CMLC) provides intensive training for those who want to implement the Ezra principle. It is designed to help those already involved in children’s ministry to grow in their knowledge of God’s Word, to develop their gifts and skills in teaching, to gain a more profound understanding of children and the challenges they face today, to learn about innovative methods of evangelism and to practice using tools and resources that are effective in teaching God’s Word to children. Perhaps, it is best to hear from some of the students who studied this summer,

Triin from Estonia wrote, “I decided to take the CMLC training because I felt I lacked the skills to be the best teacher I could be for the children I work with. However, CMLC also widened my focus from serving children only in my church, to seeking (and seeing) more opportunities to reach children everywhere!”

Dorote from Lithuania shared, “I wanted to take the CMLC training so that I could learn how to improve my ministry among the children I work with. The training gave me helpful and practical tools for my Gospel ministry among the children, made my teaching much more interesting and Bible-centred and gave me a strong Biblical basis which really encourages and inspires me to evangelise children.”

“FOR EZRA HAD SET HIS HEART TO **STUDY** THE LAW OF THE LORD, AND TO **DO IT** AND TO **TEACH** HIS STATUTES AND RULES IN ISRAEL.”

**Ezra 7:10**

Dana from Romania said, “I decided to take CMLC, because I needed more training in order to know how to expand the children’s ministry in the area where God called my husband and I to serve Him. CMLC helped me a lot—not only because I learned so many practical things for the children’s ministry, but also because it put in my heart, more than ever, the desire to evangelise the lost children urgently, wisely and to guide them to the Saviour.”

Ultimately, CMLC offers the necessary training for those who

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## TRAINING

feel God's call into full-time ministry, especially in CEF. It is our desire that God will fill each CMLC with students in answer to our prayer that He will call labourers into His harvest field (Luke 10:2)—labourers who have set their heart to study, practice and teach. Labourers with a vision to reach the children in their countries, cities, towns and villages with the Gospel.

This year we planned five CMLCs in Europe (either the complete 12-week course or one of the six-week modules). Three of the six-week module courses are already complete. They were held in Portugal, Romania and Kyrgyzstan. A total of 33 students took these courses, representing 11 European countries. The two 12-week CMLCs are currently running in Ireland and Germany. There are 29 students enrolled in these courses, representing six European nations. Praise God for 62 CMLC students trained in 2024! Praise God for 17 European countries represented by these students! But here is the challenge—75 million children live in these countries, many of whom have never heard the Good News of the Gospel. Who will tell them? Those who have prepared their hearts to study God's Word. Those who have practiced what they studied. Those who are ready to teach.

This is Ezra's principle—it couldn't be more simple, clear, logical and Biblical. This is why we practice this principle in CEF and emphasise the importance of training. If no one has asked you this question until today, let me ask it to you now—what is your heart set on? If it is to study God's Word, to practice it and teach it then contact the CEF office in your country today and find out more about CMLCs planned in 2025!



Jesus' words in Luke 10:2 remind us of the great need for labourers, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." This verse reflects our deep desire, and after completing a Children's Ministry Leadership Course (CMLC), a new worker begins the journey of becoming part of this mission field—evangelising children.

# BECOMING A WORKER IN THE HARVEST FIELD



## **STEP 1** Seek God's direction and church support

After the CMLC, the first step for a worker is to prayerfully consider where God is calling them to serve. In this journey, the involvement of the local church is very important. The church plays a key role in ensuring the new worker has a solid foundation of spiritual and practical support. *CEF* encourages new workers to maintain a strong connection with their home church, as they will not only provide prayer and financial support but also a community that will walk alongside them in ministry.

*CEF*'s vision is to have 1,000 workers by 2032, and every new worker plays a part in fulfilling this goal. There is a great need for workers in several European countries\*, particularly in Turkey, Italy, Switzerland, Uzbekistan, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Britain, France and others.

## **STEP 2** Build a support team

A critical part of starting in ministry is building a support team—both in prayer and financial partnership. The typical budget for a worker includes living, ministry and travel expenses. In *CEF*, every worker is responsible for his own support and this support typically comes from family, churches and individual ministry partners. Our financial policy is: Ask God and tell His people. New workers are encouraged to invest time in building relationships with potential supporters, sharing the vision of reaching children and inviting others to join them in prayer and financial partnership.

## **STEP 3** The practical year—a preparation for full-time ministry

After building a support team, the new worker enters a practical year—a vital step in transitioning from training to full-time ministry. This period allows potential workers to apply what they've learned in a real ministry setting working alongside experienced *CEF* workers. The practical year is essential for helping new workers fully understand the challenges and the joys of full-time ministry. It prepares them spiritually, emotionally, and practically, so they are ready to step into their full-time role with confidence and trust in God. This year of preparation solidifies their commitment and gives them a clear vision for the ministry God has called them to.

## **STEP 4** Become a full-time worker

Once the practical year is complete, the new worker steps into their role as a full-time worker with *CEF*. This is an important moment, as they dedicate themselves to the ministry of reaching children with the Gospel. As full-time workers, they not only become part of a national mission but also have the opportunity within the fellowship to follow God's call and will for their lives. Together, we contribute to our European goal of reaching more than 5 million children by 2032. Every worker plays a crucial role in fulfilling this vision. However, the journey also requires ongoing faith, especially in trusting God for provision. Full-time ministry comes with challenges, including financial needs, but God's faithfulness remains constant. As the new workers serve, they witness how God provides—opening doors, meeting needs, and using them to impact the lives of children across Europe.

\*These are the top 10 countries based on the number of *CEF* workers per children in the country. For example, in Italy, there are approximately 8 million children and only 4 workers, meaning there are 2 million children for every *CEF* worker.

**Romania**

Difficulties can make us want to give up or make us pray more earnestly!

Thinking about Good News across Romania—county Olt, we certainly had many difficulties!

However, at the opening, when a volunteer from another county said, “I am here because I love the Lord and I love the children”, we knew that God had prepared a team for this important work.

When over 1,000 children came to one of the 45 5-Day Clubs and many listened attentively to the Word of God, we knew that God had made a way for them to hear too.



Use this QR code to see a video of Good News Across Romania.



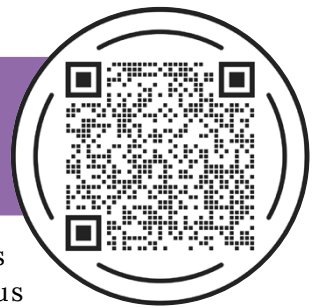
When children responded to the Gospel message, we knew that God was working in hearts.

When our hearts were filled with joy because of every answer to prayer, every booklet distributed, every life transformed, we were glad that it was hard. Not because it drove us to give up, but because it reminded us that it is God’s work and we cannot do it without Him.

**Bulgaria**

This year the project was in Lovech region, helping Andrey and Ani Radostlavovi connect with

Use this QR code to see a video of the ministry in Bulgaria.



the churches as an impetus for starting new children’s groups. Churches in this district can be very challenging to work with. It was very difficult for Andrey to make any plans, but God had another plan and despite all the obstacles and closed doors, God used him to touch the hearts of many children from 15 localities. Andrey shared how God led him—especially in the Bulgarian village of Izvor, where there is no church—to meet a believing woman. He told her about the project and she agreed to open her home. During the project, 56 children from eight villages gave their life to Jesus. Pray for Andrey and Ani, who have the task of continuing the work with these eight new groups of children and adolescents.



**SHARING OPPORTUNITIES!**

The printing and distribution of one million *Light* booklets across Europe is a major initiative of the Christmas Together 2024 project. Designed for children, the booklet will be printed in various European languages and distributed during Christmas Party Clubs, with the hope that every child receives one.

A short Bible verse, “He who follows Me shall ... have the light of life” (John 8:12), serves as the booklet’s theme, emphasising the message of hope and light in the Christmas season through the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This initiative aims to help children remember what they heard during the event and to equip them with a simple, yet powerful, Gospel tool to share the Christmas message with others in their families and their communities.

What a joy it is to share opportunities like the *Light* booklet that God gives us to reach boys and girls across Europe!

You can join with us through your prayers—and through your giving, too! You can read more about these encouragements and needs while prayerfully considering giving on our website: [everychildineurope.com](http://everychildineurope.com).

It is a great encouragement for the workers to see God provide through His people, and you will

be encouraged to see how your gift truly makes a difference!

Please pray specifically for God to fully meet the need on each project and look back on the website from time to time to see how your prayers have been answered, and rejoice with us, as one ministry partner who shared, “I know my gift can make a difference in child evangelism!”

Visit [everychildineurope.com](http://everychildineurope.com) today or scan the QR code to see how you can make a difference!



SHORTFALL

# A VITAL PART OF MINISTRY GROWTH



The Robinsons with the CMLC in Sibiu, Romania.

## Why is a Shortfall Coordinator helping at a CMLC in Romania?

I think this is a great question—one that I asked myself when Wendy and I were invited to act as CMLC Supervisors in Sibiu this summer. However, the answer became very clear as we served there, and even more so now, looking back.

We had the immense privilege of getting to know some of CEF of Europe's potential future workers. Individuals seeking God's call on their lives and wanting to prepare themselves for reaching the children of Europe with the Gospel. Seeing their names on a list, or in a letter, is one thing, but meeting them as individuals and families who are committed to the Lord is so meaningful. Being able to sit and talk about the challenges of raising support in countries where the church is small and not used to supporting workers full-time—and others who are living in a war situation—all made the need for Shortfall ministry so crystal clear!

Our new friends, the students at CMLC, were challenged about the need to trust God and seek to raise their own support—but there will be a shortfall and **if they are to be the new workers we have been praying for—the Shortfall ministry needs to grow.**

## How is Shortfall going in 2024?

**Asking God:** We continue to meet on the third Monday of each month, at 13:30 Swiss time for a 30-minute Zoom prayer meeting. Please use the QR code or go to [partners.cefeurope.com/signup/](https://partners.cefeurope.com/signup/) to sign up to receive an invitation.

**Telling His People:** We have seen more people begin to support the Shortfall this year. We are thankful for the Lord's provision for the 300 workers already receiving help. However, we need to see more people across Europe giving so that we can in faith take on **new workers**—our new friends—and the others who have trained in the five CMLCs across Europe this year. The need is urgent.

## Shortfall is a vital tool in ministry growth, so that more children can hear the Gospel.

This is a great opportunity to be involved in missions across Europe! Please contact me at: [harry.robinson@cefeurope.org](mailto:harry.robinson@cefeurope.org), if you want to learn more.

Blessings, Harry



Use this QR code to sign up for the monthly Shortfall prayer meeting.



For more information about the Shortfall Ministry and financial details, please visit [partners.cefeurope.com](https://partners.cefeurope.com) or use this QR code.



## Gifts for shortfall ministry can be sent to:

UBS AG, 8098 Zurich, Switzerland  
€ Account: CEF Europe (European Shortfall)  
IBAN: CH55 0024 5245 9257 2162 Q  
BIC: UBSWCHZH80A

FRANCE

# SPORTS OUTREACH



**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®  
Since 1937 Reaching children worldwide™

**onmission**

**onmission** is distributed three times a year free-of-charge by the European Headquarters of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*®.

Please designate your gifts "European Headquarters", quoting any specific project for which you wish your gifts to be used. Your gifts may be sent to any of the addresses mentioned. Thank you!

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Excess funds given for projects will be applied to those still lacking, unless the donor wishes otherwise.

**Office in Romania**

Lațcu Vodă nr. 36B, Valea Adâncă, Iași, 700317, România  
Tel: +40 771 671 424

**Office in Switzerland**

Lischmatt 2, 4616 Kappel, Switzerland  
Tel.: +41 62 387 30 10

Email: [info@cefeurope.com](mailto:info@cefeurope.com)  
Website: [www.cefeurope.com](http://www.cefeurope.com)

**USA:** CEF, PO Box 348, Warrenton, Missouri 63383

**Canada:** CEF, PO Box 165, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2G9

**Ireland:** CEF, 199 Templemore Avenue, Belfast BT5 4FR

**Britain:** CEF, PO Box 9281, Poole, Dorset. BH14 4FS

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**Editorial/layout:** Iulian Mangalagiu, Magdalena Piu, Brent Hautle, Tim & Sue Shirey.

THE CEF LOGO IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP INC.

An Olympic year and a wonderful opportunity in a country where 51 percent of the population are proud to be atheists! CEF France was there to ensure that children were not forgotten.

140 Sports-day kits were given out and 60 people attended the kit presentations via Zoom. Many churches organised one-day events, VBS programs, day-camps, and camps.

130,000 packs (containing the Gospel of Luke, the testimony of Eric Liddell and a children's booklet) were ordered from Revival Movement in December—thank you for this great gift! Some churches took advantage of the Olympic flame visit to their town to distribute the packs. Others distributed them near Olympic venues.

At the beginning of August, 22 of us (11 CEF workers and 11 young Irish people) travelled to Paris. First, several sports days were organised in churches around Paris; we were delighted to see about a hundred children attend.

Germaine shared, "You've brought about a revolution in our church! We never thought this day would be such a great success. It showed us it can be done, and that makes us want to do it all over again."

Then we went to parks in Paris and Wissous where we set up a series of wooden games for children and their parents. They also learned about three wooden items mentioned in the Bible: the manger, a boat and the cross. On the last day, around thirty of us took our rucksacks, 5,000 packs and a distribution plan for our town of Wissous with 9,000 inhabitants and not a single evangelical church—only the CEF national office.

We praise God for the proclamation of His Word, the good contacts with churches, and new prospects for summer 2025. The Lord gave us great opportunities through the Olympic Games in France.