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**REACHING ONE OF THE
GREATEST MISSION FIELDS
ON EARTH**



Greater **Europe** Mission
Europe Calling



Travels with Ted

I just wish you could be with me as I visit our missionaries and meet with Mission leaders throughout Greater Europe. What God is doing is so phenomenal!

Among last summer's many noteworthy events, one stands out—the heart-wrenching story of GEM missionary Yvonne Yates. Yvonne and her husband Richard were instrumental in developing this year's "one2one" ministry to Chernobyl cancer survivors.

For some time, Yvonne had been going through her own battle with cancer. As this year's one2one camp neared, her condition worsened. Her doctors advised her not to travel, and the airlines did not want her to fly either. But she persisted. She desperately wanted to share the hope she had in Jesus with the Chernobyl young people.

Through much prayer and special arrangements with the airlines, a fragile but determined Yvonne left Germany for the camp in Sweden. She arrived a few days before the campers, as final preparations were being made. She was eager to share her testimony with them—but, instead, the Lord chose to call her home the day before camp began. And so Richard was the one to tell of her glorious hope and anticipation of her heavenly homegoing. It was a powerful time of sharing that made a noticeable impact on the young Belarusians.

I am sharing Yvonne's story because it illustrates the incredible passion the GEM family has for the lost in Europe. I thank God for Yvonne's years of ministry. I thank Him, too, for your partnership in our vitally important role of teaming with European Christians to build the Church throughout Greater Europe.

Thankfully,



Young woman with cancer from Chernobyl nuclear reactor explosion has moment of peace at one2one camp.



Three Belarusian cancer survivors. The woman in the middle made a decision for Christ while at camp.



Rich Yates leaving camp to attend to Yvonne's funeral.

To the Ends of the Earth

By Jessica Malone

**MIO GESU IO CREDO IN TE / JESUS I BELIEVE IN YOU,
PER QUESTO ANDRO / AND I WOULD GO
DOVE TERRA NON C'E / TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH—FOR YOU—
TU SEI IL SOLO FIGLIO DI DIO / FOR YOU ALONE ARE THE SON OF GOD
E IL MONDO LO SAPRA / AND ALL THE WORLD WILL SEE
CHE SEI DIO / THAT YOU ARE GOD.**

I have this worship song, *Dove Terra Non C'e* (*To the Ends of the Earth*), tucked permanently into the front of my Bible. These words constantly remind me of all that I experienced during my recent four-week "vision trip" to Italy. All my fears were dispelled as I watched God's guiding hand perfect the details of this summer and of what He is ultimately calling me to, long-term. Montefiascone, perched high on a volcanic ridge against the backdrop of the blazing summer sunset and the rolling green hills, is the exact likeness of the vision God gave me when He invited me to join Him as "a worker in the harvest in Italy." I was in awe.

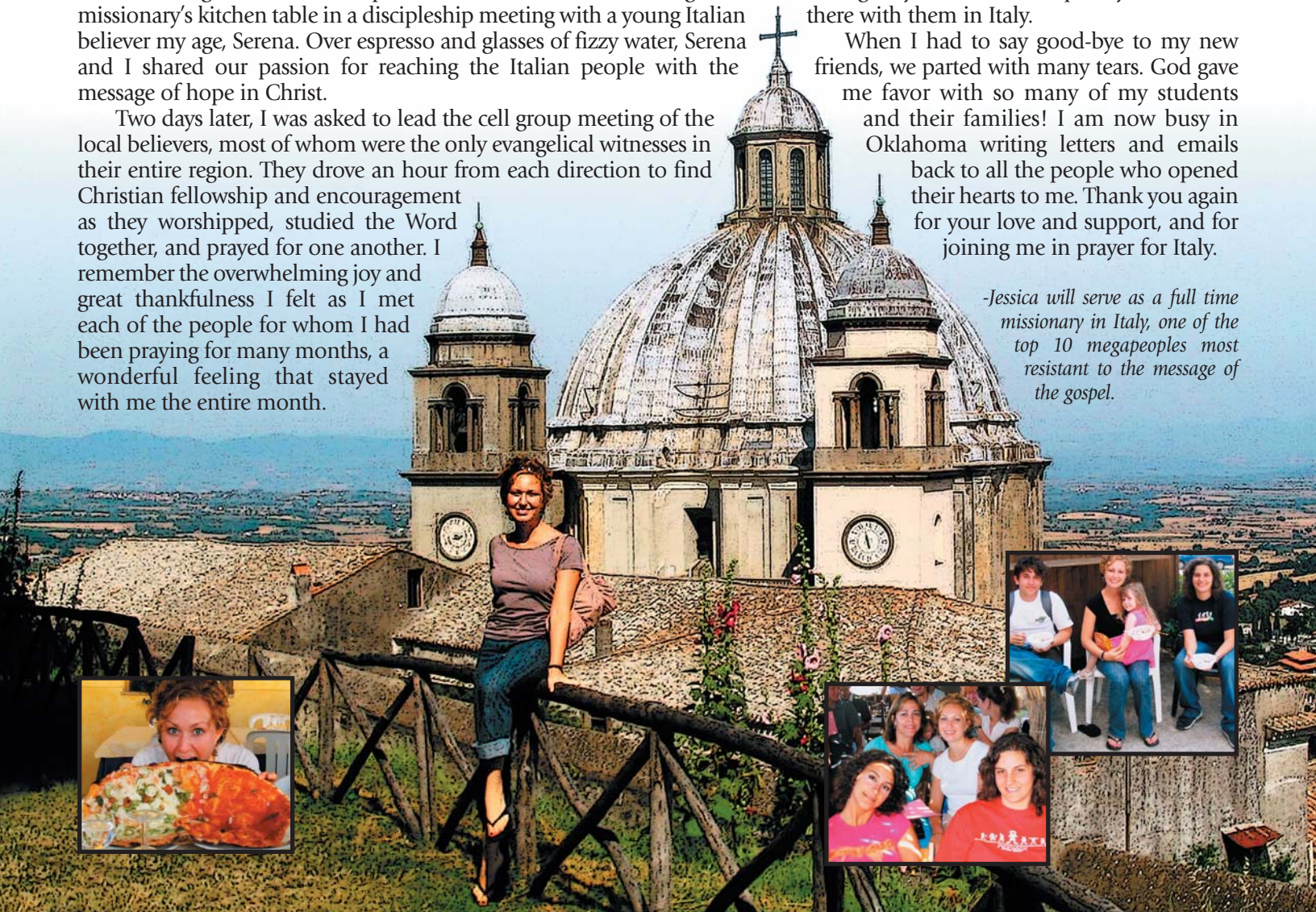
I didn't know what to expect from this trip. My first day in Italy, God challenged me to be a part of His vision. I was sitting at a missionary's kitchen table in a discipleship meeting with a young Italian believer my age, Serena. Over espresso and glasses of fizzy water, Serena and I shared our passion for reaching the Italian people with the message of hope in Christ.

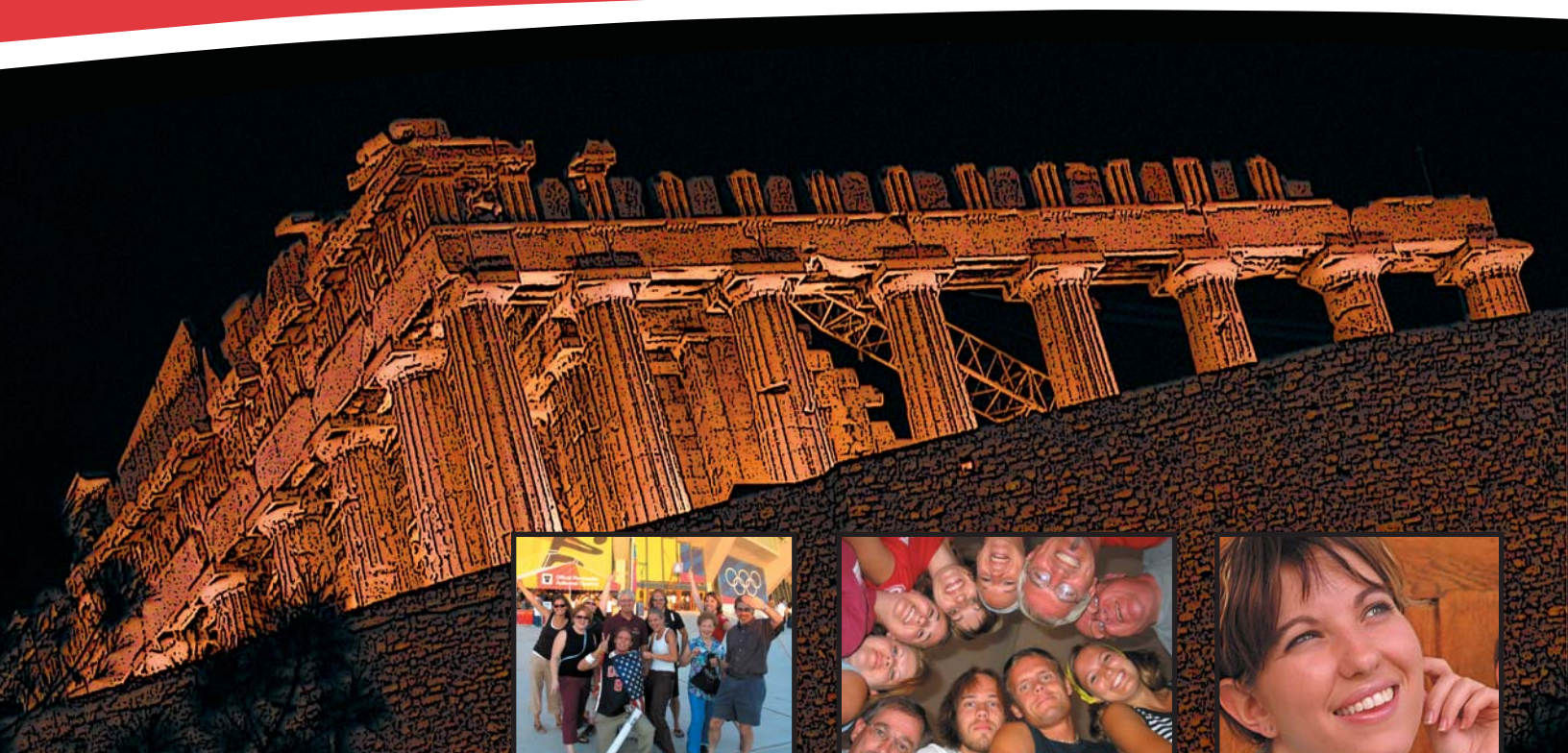
Two days later, I was asked to lead the cell group meeting of the local believers, most of whom were the only evangelical witnesses in their entire region. They drove an hour from each direction to find Christian fellowship and encouragement as they worshipped, studied the Word together, and prayed for one another. I remember the overwhelming joy and great thankfulness I felt as I met each of the people for whom I had been praying for many months, a wonderful feeling that stayed with me the entire month.

I had recited Paul's prayer for spiritual wisdom (*Ephesians 1:16-23*) in Montefiascone many times, but as I heard these same verses read in Italian one afternoon, the Holy Spirit prompted me to pour out my heart concerning His great love for each of the Italians sitting around me. Twenty minutes later, our eyes were wet with tears of joy and release as we had all been strengthened by the Word of God, bringing me confirmation of my calling; my heart felt completely "at home" there with them in Italy.

When I had to say good-bye to my new friends, we parted with many tears. God gave me favor with so many of my students and their families! I am now busy in Oklahoma writing letters and emails back to all the people who opened their hearts to me. Thank you again for your love and support, and for joining me in prayer for Italy.

-Jessica will serve as a full time missionary in Italy, one of the top 10 megapeoples most resistant to the message of the gospel.





Team members representing Greater Europe Mission...



...worked alongside teams from around the country and around the world – Texas, Mississippi, Scotland, and Brazil...



...enthusiastically sharing Christ's love by offering free water during the heat of the day, and inviting conversations in an atmosphere of puppet shows and musical entertainment during the evening.

Olympic Outreach

A Gold Medal Performance!

When thousands of people from around the world converged on Athens for the 2004 Summer Olympics, their presence provided unique opportunities for ministry. GEM missionary Bob Hill, from the Greek Bible Institute, played a key role in the "Crown of Life" program.

Despite obstacles in obtaining permits, the doors eventually opened, and Crown of Life began its outreach to the Greek people, the athletes, and visitors from many nations. The ministry soon developed a following and headlined on one of Athens' largest television stations. Program highlights included an interview with Olympic 2000 Triathlon gold medal winner Jonathan Edwards, pictures of an exhibit about the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul, and segments from the morning worship—all broadcast to 1.8 million people!

God's message was conveyed in many creative ways: Trinity Western University, from British Columbia, performed street drama that held people spellbound. First Church, located at the base of the Acropolis,

offered euro-style coffee and a concert of contemporary Christian music, along with a fantastic puppet team from Scotland. Athletes in Action handed out special-edition DVDs of a film about Jesus, allowing athletes from all over Europe and around the world to see and hear the Gospel. A special exhibit called "The Other Race" featured athletic metaphors and the writings of the Apostle Paul, along with racks of postcards and CDs for sale. More than 60,000 packets of Christian literature were distributed.

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize."

(1 Cor. 9:24, NIV)

The blazing Mediterranean sun provided wonderful opportunities to reach out to people in Jesus' name: Water kiosks were set up in six major locations, and 100,000 bottles of water were given to thirsty passersby. Many people asked who we were and why we were doing this, which often opened the way for meaningful conversations.

Undergirded by the prayers of thousands, the Summer Olympics proved to be a place of victories—the most glorious of which will be celebrated in eternity.

*"Europe's Christian growth rate
is the lowest in the world."*

Startling News

about the Most Influential Region on Earth

**FOR A GREAT DOOR AND EFFECTUAL IS OPENED TO ME,
AND THERE ARE MANY ADVERSARIES.**

1 Corinthians 16:9, NASB

What the Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinthians applies to Europe today. Paul was writing about his great opportunity in Asia Minor through Ephesus, the political and economic crossroads of his day. Europe holds that place of distinction in our time. When it comes to economical and ideological clout, nothing surpasses the whole of Europe.

But just where is Europe spiritually these days? We think of the countries of Europe as Christian nations because of its rich religious history. People are amazed to learn that Europe's Christian growth rate is the lowest in the world.

GEM missionaries are invigorated by the challenge. They are focused as they come alongside our European brothers and sisters to help them rebuild the church. Many exciting gateways for presenting the gospel are opening up through an emerging youth culture, Muslims pouring into Europe, reaching out to disaster victims and displaced populations of war torn countries.

It takes people, prayer and funds to keep up the momentum and encouragement for our missionaries. Currently GEM has about 300 missionaries serving across Europe and northern Mediterranean. There are openings for 500 more that could be placed on the field today. We have several hundred prayer partners and welcome anyone who wants to really hone in on evangelizing Greater Europe to join our Reach Europe Prayer Team.

Another important way to participate is checking the box to add a monthly donation to our Reach Europe—Strategic Opportunity Fund. These donations boost our missionaries' ability to open doors to present the Gospel all across Europe. In hundreds of places on an ongoing basis, Greater Europe missionaries are following in the footsteps of Paul who wrote in 1 Corinthians 9:22, "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."



*Enslaved by enlightenment? Europeans
reject the Bible and Christ as foolishness.*

Least Responsive Megapeoples

People	Country
1 Swedish	Sweden
2 Russian	Belorussia
3 Lithuanian	Lithuania
4 Polish	Poland
5 Georgian	Georgia
6 Serb	Yugoslavia
7 French	France
8 Irish	Ireland
9 Czech	Czech Republic
10 Italian	Italy

*Source: World Christian Trends, David Barrett and
Todd Johnson, Pasadena, William Carey Library, 2001*



Great Stewardship Strategies

Planning for Retirement?

Consider a Greater Europe Mission Deferred Gift Annuity!

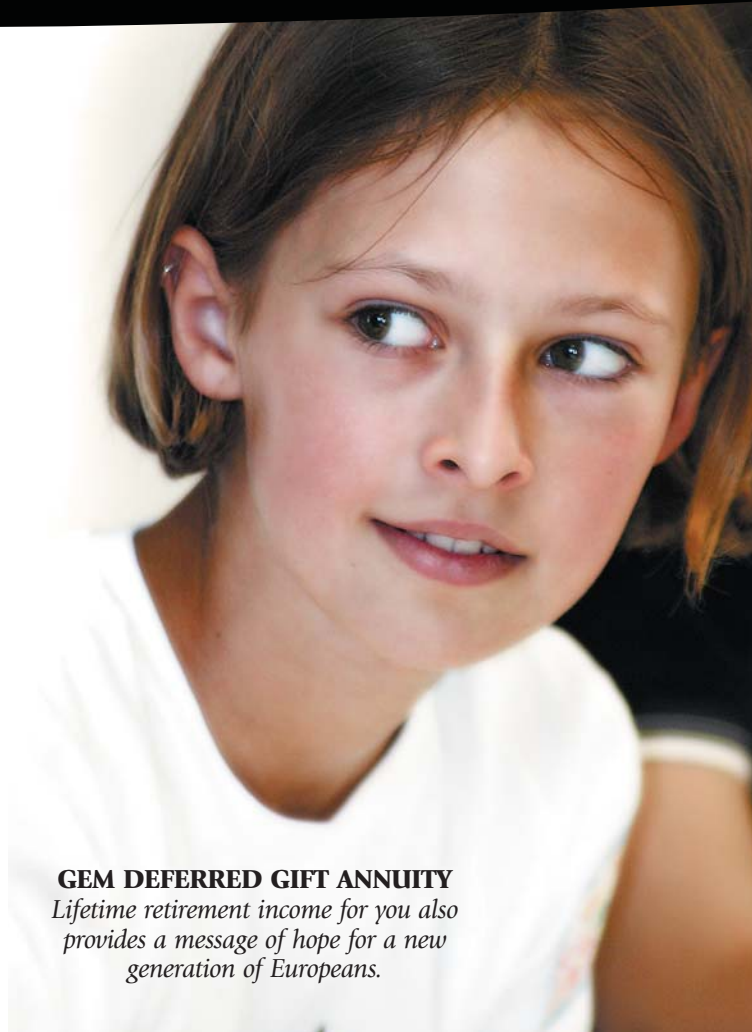
A GEM deferred gift annuity allows you to make a gift today while establishing a lifetime income for your retirement.

Example - Couple ages 66 and 65:

	5-Year Deferred Payment	10-Year Deferred Payment
Gift Annuity Amount	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Charitable Deduction	\$ 7,359	\$ 9,300
Annual Payout - %	7.40 %	10.30 %
Annual Payout - \$	\$ 1,480	\$ 2,060

Tax Free Portion of Annual Payout	\$ 629	\$ 670
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Lifetime payment estimate based on life expectancy	\$ 29,748	\$ 32,960
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GEM DEFERRED GIFT ANNUITY

Lifetime retirement income for you also provides a message of hope for a new generation of Europeans.

Thank you for your contribution to Greater Europe Mission!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Amount of Gift \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to Greater Europe Mission.)

☐ Please direct my gift to the "Reach Europe Strategic Opportunity Fund"
☐ One time ☐ Monthly

☐ Please direct my gift as a Missionary Contribution
Name of Missionary _____

☐ Please send my monthly prayer guide for Europe, "Prayer Communique"
☐ via email to this address: _____
☐ via regular mail (address above)

☐ Please charge this gift to my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card # _____ expiration date _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Cardholder's Signature _____



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Go to www.gemission.org for information on Electronic Funds Transfer, Online Giving, Wills and Estate Planning, and more.

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