

Sometimes the smallest gestures can make a huge difference. That's what the TREK team to Germany learned this past year while serving in East Berlin.

Every day on their way to and from the church, where the team was helping with construction, they would greet a group of refugees outside of a grocery store selling cigarettes. Knowing the society tends to overlook these people, the TREKers saw this as a daily opportunity to show kindness to the men. It started with a mere "Hello," but as their exposure continued, so did their friendliness. Soon their simple greeting turned into a full out conversation with one man surrounding his life and beliefs.

The man, whom the team nicknamed "KC" because of a necklace bearing these initials, is a refugee from India. Because of his status, he is not allowed to work in Germany nor take lessons in the language. As a result he is forced to do what he can to get by and make a life for himself in Germany.

KC has been exploring new religions since coming to Germany. The TREKers learned that he had been attending a Jehovah's Witness temple. As the team shared with him about what they believed and why they were in Germany, KC decided to check out the MB church. After attending the Evangelische Freikirche Berlin on a couple of occasions, he had a lot of questions. Though his German comprehension was low, KC sought to find answers and the TREK team responded with diligence and care.

Since their return to Canada, the TREKers continue to pray faithfully for KC and are in the midst of obtaining Hindi resources to send back to him in Berlin. God is in the process of transforming KC's heart, and it all started with "Hello." Join for the TREK team by praying for the salvation of KC.

The Next Step: You never know what kind of positive effect your actions might have on someone. Consider how you can be a blessing to strangers.

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." – Philippians 2:3-4

You can support the East German Church Planting Project by donating to MBMSI under project code C0038.

It started when twins Amber and Amanda Griffioen were standing on the streets of Phuket, Thailand singing praises to Jesus during the annual Chinese Vegetarian Festival. While their Buddhist neighbors invited the spirits to enter their bodies, the sisters sang of God's power.

Amber and Amanda took a bold risk to declare Jesus and fight against evil during the festival of spirits, and when they did they felt a shift in the spiritual realm. At the end of the week-long festival, God prompted the girls to continue to push back the darkness through praise. Every week they went to a park with their friend Duan and her daughter. They settled down on a mat, got out a guitar, and began worshipping God.

Something broke in the heavenly realms. Week after week people gathered on the mat, attracted to their ministry of worship. One tiny lady would come by every mat selling snacks. She would stop by Amber and Amanda and tell them, "There's something different about you." The sisters gave her a Bible and tracts to read. God touched the old lady's heart and gave her peace, and in the following weeks she was changed. She told Amber and Amanda, "I prayed to the one in the tract! He gives me peace! Every time I need peace I just pray to the one in the tract and He gives me peace!" Now she stands on the edge of the mat and calls people to hear about the God they are singing about.

Amber and Amanda have since finished their term with MBMSI and returned to Canada. But the ministry continues to go strong. Weekly Duan and her daughter set up a mat in the park and sing praises to Jesus. Recently the entire Operation 2nd Wave (O2W) team came around Duan and organized a day in the park to teach English and worship God. This event brought out Muslims and Buddhists who are excited to learn about Jesus and worship Him! God is doing something great, and it all began by singing praises to Jesus. Pray that these weekly gatherings would continue to impact the community.

*"Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his splendor is above the earth and the heavens."*

Psalm 148:13

July 2009



MBMS International
transforming lives in mission

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Summer Short Term Mission Programs</i>	2 <i>Mennonite World Conference</i> PARAGUAY	3 <i>Einer & Girlesa Zuluaga</i> PANAMA	4 <i>Ernie & Elfrieda Reimer</i> LITHUANIA
5 <i>Andrew & Olga Pritzkau</i> GERMANY	6 <i>John & Geri Ervin</i> WORLDWIDE	7 <i>Ben & Melissa Froese</i> GERMANY	8 <i>Tim & Denice Kuhns</i> BRAZIL	9 <i>Richard & Hazel Funk</i> AUSTRIA	10 <i>Greg & Becky Ouellette</i> THAILAND	11 <i>Jose & Esperanza Prada</i> PERU
12 <i>Global Program Team</i> Abbotsford, BC	13 <i>Trevor & Rebekah</i> RESTRICTED	14 <i>Andy & Carmen Owen</i> THAILAND	15 <i>Phone Keo & Chansone</i> RESTRICTED	16 <i>Kevin & Wendy</i> RESTRICTED	17 <i>Jen Schmidt</i> MEXICO	18 <i>Doris Goertz</i> JAPAN
19 <i>MBMSI Office Staff</i> Fresno, CA	20 <i>Christoph & Antonia Haegele</i> LITHUANIA	21 <i>Murray & Faith Nickel</i> DR CONGO	22 <i>Robert & Marlene</i> RESTRICTED	23 <i>Stacy Kuhns</i> MEXICO	24 <i>Ricky & Karen Sanchez</i> THAILAND	25 <i>Matt & Ruth</i> RESTRICTED
26 <i>Liana Penner</i> PERU	27 <i>Sandra Fender</i> THAILAND	28 <i>Jason & Andrea Edwards</i> BRAZIL	29 <i>Dave & Mel</i> RESTRICTED	30 <i>Phil & Carol Bergen</i> BURKINA FASO	31 <i>Mark & Amy</i> RESTRICTED	