

FALL 2024



TCM REPORT

“TCM brought a new meaning to higher learning, and I will never view education the same.”



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TIMUR'S STORY:

"I Found My Family"

In the last two years, I have felt very alone in ministry. But I found my family at TCM. From the short-term workers at Haus Edelweiss to the professors who have become mentors, the Lord has provided what I needed to succeed in ministry. My fellow TCM students have also been an encouragement as we face ministry challenges together from different places around the world. I am so grateful for how TCM has impacted me, my ministry, and my story.

After accepting the Lord at age seven, my genuine, full-life conversion happened when I was 15. I was attending a large conference for ministers and youth in my home country of Moldova. One preacher after another spoke to my heart at this conference. But I thought, "I

repented three years already, I don't need to repent anymore." I used to minister in this church, so a lot of people knew me. I didn't know how they would react if I came forward that day during the invitation, so I stayed in my seat. On the last day of the conference, I heard some pastors say they felt like the Holy Spirit was working, but there was something keeping people in their seats. As I sat there listening to the sermon, the pastor said, "I know there are some people here that think they know the Lord, but you have to step up and acknowledge that you've had some problems." The pastor was speaking to me.

I had been dealing with certain anxieties and doubts regarding my worth and my calling to ministry. I decided I needed to go forward. There was no music, so it was not an emotional decision—I felt like something was dragging me. The pastor saw me and thought maybe I was making an announcement. But I told him, "No, I'm coming here for repentance." I prayed into the microphone with a trembling voice. I was honest in my confession. That day I was forgiven.

After that prayer, the Holy Spirit broke loose! Ministers, pastors, and youth all came forward—nearly 200 people! There were so many people responding that the leaders of the conference didn't have enough pastors to pray with everyone. These people knew Christ before, but the Lord was working on their hearts and deepening their faith. It was magnificent!

After that experience, I wanted to be a youth pastor near my home in Moldova. But my pastor said, "You're too young and you aren't married, so you can't be a youth pastor."

I thought, "If there's no ministry for me here, then I'm just going to go into business in Lithuania." Well, COVID forced me to finish my business degree remotely in Moldova. I was depressed during that season because of the collapse of my plans, but God used a couple of people to bring me out again. They came and told me, "God's got something for you. God is in front of you. He is preparing the way. You don't have to give up. He has something for you."

"TCM has become my refuge, my rescue, a place of nourishment and encouragement."

A short time later, the Lord opened three different ministry opportunities where I could make a big difference. I wasn't sure if I could do it all, but my dad encouraged me to try. During this season of ministry I led a young men's Bible study, directed a Christian summer camp, and I served as the administrator of a culinary school for vulnerable girls. These amazing ministry opportunities that the Lord provided matched my passion for serving. It was exciting and fun. But I was not prepared for how difficult it would be. It was at this time, deep into the challenges of ministry, that a mentor connected me with TCM.

TCM has become my refuge, my rescue, a place of nourishment and encouragement. I think one of the most surprising things I have seen in TCM is servant leadership. In academia, people tend to be a certain way because "they're a doctor" and they deserve respect. But once I came to TCM I would hear professors say things like, "Oh, yeah, call me Rick."

"But you're a professor! How can I do that?" I quickly found that this style of leadership is normal at TCM. The professors, staff, and volunteers at Haus Edelweiss serve on a completely different level. We eat together and dry dishes together. When I found out that a pastor's wife is cleaning my room, I thought, "Wow, this is amazing!"

As a leader, I follow this same example of servant leadership in my ministry in Moldova. Sometimes those who work with me will see me taking the trash out and wonder, "He's the coordinator—doesn't he have someone else to pick up the trash and clean the toilet?" But I believe I need to be an example as Jesus was an example to us. TCM brought a new meaning to higher learning, and I will never view education the same.





This story of Timur is just one example of the hundreds of TCM students and graduates serving in dynamic ministries among their own people in Europe, Africa, North America, and Central Asia.

Your investment in this ministry turns addition into multiplication because TCM graduates take what they have learned and teach others to do the same. Timur is no exception. In addition to the ministries Timur is involved with mentioned above, he also serves as a professor in a mission school in Moldova.

Last month, Timur responded to another training request and traveled to Malawi in southern Africa and spent the majority of a month training local African pastors on topics such as Christian doctrine and practical ministry education. Please pray for Timur and the many other TCM students and graduates who are responding to God's call to repentance and have dedicated their lives to impact their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL OUTREACH

The Executive Leadership Team is pleased to welcome Tom Sears to the ELT as TCM's Vice President of Global Outreach. Tom joined the TCM staff in 2014 to work with Eric Clouse and David Wright in the development department in Indianapolis. Over the past 10 years, Tom has moved from Global Outreach Associate to Global Outreach Coordinator, to Global Outreach Director, and now to Vice President of Global Outreach. Tom leads TCM's fundraising programs and facilitates TCM's "Global Engagement Model," which is focused on expanding TCM's degree programs in Africa and North America.

Tom received his undergraduate degree from Johnson University and a Master of Arts from Johnson's Leadership Institute in partnership with Christ's Church of the Valley in Arizona. He is also proud to be a TCM graduate, earning his MDiv from TCM. Tom is currently pursuing his PhD at the University of Bucharest, focusing his research on the effect TCM's disciple-making leadership program has on leaders in our African cohorts.

Tom lives in Lebanon, Indiana with his wife Kelli and their eight children.

Please join us in praying for Tom in this new ministry role.

All my life I wanted to be a missionary. Growing up in a small, mission-minded church, my dream was to become a missionary because "that's what mission-minded people do!" Little did I know that the world of missions was changing, and the Lord was preparing a place for me at TCM – not on the "mission field" but back at home. I hadn't yet learned about the dynamic ministries like TCM that focused on training national leaders to reach their own people for Christ. The closed doors on the mission field led me to a place of full surrender to the Lord. Only then did He open the opportunity to travel back to my home state of Indiana to work for this incredible mission-minded ministry.

Over the past ten years I have had the privilege to share this dynamic ministry with thousands of individuals and churches and invite them to partner with this worthy cause. In my opinion, fundraising is one of the most



difficult and the most rewarding aspects of this ministry. Building and managing TCM's expansion projects in Africa and the United States has fueled my own tank and constantly supplies me with stories of how God is transforming lives through the disciple making focus of TCM's educational program.

My family has also grown over the past 10 years! I feel so blessed that my children have been able to experience TCM through visiting professors and other partners from around the world as they pass through Indianapolis. My prayer is that my children will also have a heart for the global church and live lives fully surrendered to the Lord, allowing Him to guide their steps wherever the Lord leads them.



THERE WILL BE FOOD...

...and maybe with a little taste of Hungary!

by Christian Witzmann

We are pleased to announce that Zoltán Tomasoovszky is our new cook at Haus Edelweiss. In this role, Zoltán will serve as TCM's Food Service Coordinator. He joined the team on August 1, 2024 and after one month of training and onboarding he took over the cooking spoon and full responsibility in the kitchen with Session 6 at the Haus.

Zoli, an experienced cook, grew up as the grandchild of a Baptist Pastor in the greater Budapest area. He is married to Monika, who is an elementary school teacher. Based on Jozsef Steiner's recommendation and due to Zoltán's culinary experiences, which includes serving six years as a cook at Word of Life Bible Institute in Hungary, we followed the Lord's leading and are again amazed how He provides and calls workers into the field. By the way, in the 90s Zoltán visited Haus Edelweiss and served as a youth group translator for a Hungarian church retreat.

So welcome back to The Haus, Zoltán! We look forward to the most authentic Hungarian Goulash the Vienna Woods has ever seen!





Sorin Badragan and Georgiana Moldovean, at the 2024 Doctoral Colloquium at Haus Edelweiss

1st Annual Doctorate Colloquium, June 6-10, 2002. Haus Edelweiss. Back row, left to right: Romica Iuga (Romania), Timotei Rusu (Romania), Mike Crull, Mihai Malancea (Moldova), Daniel Bagosi (Romania); Front row, left to right: Tony Twist, Eleanor Daniel, Ofi Bunaciu

Doctoral colloquium 2024



TRANSFORMATION THROUGH RESEARCH

by Victoria Bojonca

Research can be an avenue for transformation, not only for individuals, but also for churches, cultures, and countries. Consider Georgiana's work. At TCM's annual Doctoral Colloquium in August, Georgiana shared her research on the relationship between Christian faith and addiction recovery. She told of her personal experience with addiction and the passion she now holds to help addicts find hope and healing through Christ. Her research goal is to inspire churches in Romania to become more involved in supporting addiction recovery efforts. Furthermore, the credentials she will earn when she finishes her research will allow Georgiana to influence her country's public policy on addiction recovery. Demonstrating the effectiveness of approaches in recovery programs when God is included may open doors to faith-based addiction recovery programs in her country.

TCM's partnership with the Doctoral School of Religious and Intercultural Studies at the University of Bucharest provides a unique opportunity to stay involved with current issues through research on timely topics. The Doctoral Colloquium encourages practical research by providing a supportive academic environment at Haus Edelweiss. By supporting practical research like Georgiana's, TCM is helping fulfill the vision that every nation will have leaders who are impacting their churches, cultures, and countries for Christ. **Georgiana is building pathways to influence public policies in Romania that will serve the communities better, but most importantly, where the truth of Christ's transformational love will be shared with people struggling with addiction.**



THE GRIFFINS: A Short-Term Worker Story

by Tony Griffin

When my wife Pam and I were discussing where to spend our 40th wedding anniversary, a friend suggested going on a mission trip. What a great idea! We ended up celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary with volunteers, staff, and students at Haus Edelweiss. We couldn't ask for more!

Pam and I had both served at Haus Edelweiss before. We knew what to expect, and we were not disappointed. It is such a warm and comforting place. The presence of the Holy Spirit is easily recognized and encountered. Each day is filled with prayer, worship, service, and fellowship. What a great place to be with Jesus and think like Jesus!

One thing that I will treasure is my time spent at the dish drying table after meals. After one particular meal, I was surrounded by professors from several European countries, all discussing their studies, their countries, and their missions. It was delightful. In one instance, there was a professor from Russia, and one from Ukraine in the group. As they discussed their situations at home, there was zero animosity toward each other during this time of war between their countries. They were focused on Jesus, and what they can do to bring more people to Him. They were very willing to listen to and respond to my naive understanding of their countries and their missions. They allowed me to be a part of the discussion and made me feel a part of their team. Who would have thought that this farm boy from Missouri would be drying dishes in the middle of Austria having discussions about Jesus with European professors? Wow! It is an experience I'll never forget. When I considered the three of us, and the situations we were all going home to, I was very appreciative of them, and humbled.

TCM is awesome! They are so focused on spreading the gospel everywhere! Haus Edelweiss is an experience like no other and will always be remembered and appreciated. Our 40th anniversary celebration trip provided a glimpse of what being with Jesus and thinking like Jesus is. We are so grateful we took the recommendation from our friend. We can't wait to go back!

“Who would have thought that this farm boy from Missouri would be drying dishes in the middle of Austria having discussions about Jesus with European professors? Wow! It is an experience I will never forget.”



COMMEMORATIVE GIVING

IN MEMORY OF:

Janet Ashford
 Jeff Baker
 Howard Brammer
 Donna Junker
 Bob Meeks
 Judith Mennonno
 Billy Meyer
 Dwight Olson
 Ed and Dimp Spencer
 Joe Taft
 Dr. Robert Wetzel

DONOR:

Carolyn Dobbs
 Chuck and Dawn Baker
 Jeannette Crain
 Mike and DeEtte Junker
 Tony and Suzanne Twist
 Mary Reynolds
 Billy and Dorothy Meyer
 Jim and Glenda Buckley
 Dirck Spencer
 Willie and Susan Simms
 Tony and Suzanne Twist

IN RECOGNITION OF:

Phyllis Laskowski's 90th Birthday
 Jim and Dottie Meyer
 David Wright

DONOR:

Julie Rice
 Larry and Ada Johnson
 Stephan and Elaine Williams

EES IN MEMORY OF:

Dr. Robert Wetzel

DONOR:

Dennis and Karen Lindsay

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED STOCK

by Megan Herring

Whether considering an over-and-above gift to TCM's Engaging Every Nation initiative or your regular year-end giving to TCM, you likely think of giving cash first. For many of us, cashflow is tight due to the increased cost of living we have all experienced. Our heart for generous giving hits the reality wall of our cash flow. Jesus' disciples experienced this reality in Mark 6 as they faced the dilemma of feeding the 5,000 and again in Mark 8 with another group of 4,000. In both cases, Jesus multiplied a little to meet the needs of many.

One way you can let Jesus multiply a little to meet the needs of many is through gifting non-cash assets, such as the appreciated stock you own. Here are some benefits of giving stock.

Your gift of stock helps you steward wisely. In addition to the capital gains and income tax savings that help you manage your finances well, your gift of stock can also be a tool for stewarding a legacy of generosity. It opens the door for conversations with your

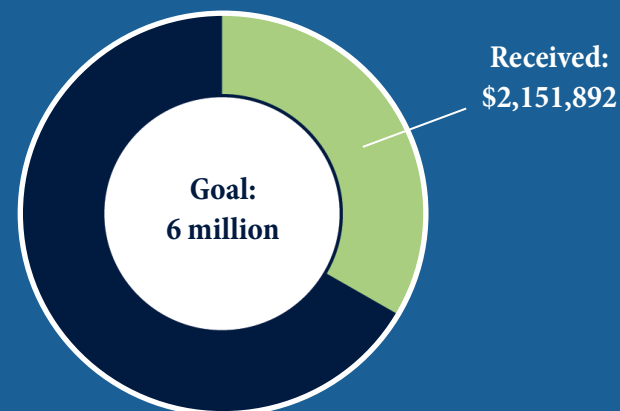
loved ones about your values, the importance of giving, and the ministries close to your heart.

Your gift of stock is a significant support to the work of TCM.

When you donate appreciated stock, bonds, or mutual funds, your gift can be up to 20% larger because you avoid the taxes you would have to pay from selling those assets and donating the cash. And, in many cases, it is a gift with little impact on your regular cash flow. Simply put, your gift is multiplied to make an even bigger difference for the Kingdom.

Remember, no matter what or how we give, Jesus always multiplies it to meet the needs of many. THANK YOU for your generosity to TCM. We are very grateful!

For more information about giving appreciated stock, contact Megan Herring at megan@tcmi.org.



ENGAGING EVERY NATION CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

TCM CLASSES

ONLINE:

Digital Leadership and Creativity in Ministry - Myron Williams
History of Christian Theology 1 - Sorin Badragan
Theology and Practice of Worship - Leonid Mikhovich
Christian Ethics - Meege Rimmel

HAUS EDELWEISS:

SESSION 7 | October 17-23

Theology and Practice of Worship - John Sarno
Advanced Research and Writing - J.K. Stevens
Introduction to Old Testament Studies - Konstantin Nazarov
Theology and Practice of Prayer - Pavel Coufal

SESSION 8 | November 7-13

Hermeneutics - Andrey Puzynin
Intercultural Studies - Mihai Malancea
History of Christian Theology 2 - Oti Bunaciu

IN-COUNTRY:

LATVIA (OCTOBER):

Theology and Practice of Worship - John Sarno

LIBERIA (OCTOBER):

Pastoral Ethics - Meege Rimmel
Research Methods - Wallace Kamau

CENTRAL ASIA (NOVEMBER):

Worldviews and Religions - Mihai Malancea

CZECHIA (NOVEMBER):

Homiletics - Rick Grover

GEORGIA (NOVEMBER)

Introduction to New Testament Studies - Konstantin Nazarov

HUNGARY (NOVEMBER):

History of Christian Theology 1 - Sorin Badragan

KENYA (NOVEMBER):

History of Christian Theology 2 - Oti Bunaciu
Servant Leadership - Rick Justice
Hermeneutics - Andrey Puzynin
Mission Theology - Mihai Malancea

TURKEY (NOVEMBER):

Introduction to New Testament Studies - George Bristow

U.S., PHOENIX (NOVEMBER):

History of Christian Theology 2 - Yulia Lubenets
Hermeneutics - Mark Moore

U.S., INDIANAPOLIS (NOVEMBER):

Hermeneutics - Sara Fudge



COME PRAY WITH US AT THE BOILER ROOM EXPERIENCE IN LEXINGTON, HOSTED BY TCM

In Matthew 7:7, we see Jesus teaching His disciples, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." This is just one of many passages found throughout the New Testament where Jesus encouraged and even commanded His followers to pray.

How should we respond? We should petition the Holy Spirit to work in power among us so that His will is done worldwide. People around the world are hurting and need to know Jesus. This will be our focus when we pray together at the Boiler Room Exhibit.

The concept of the Boiler Room finds its roots with Charles Spurgeon, the 19th century preacher and pastor of New Park Street Chapel in England. Spurgeon said his ministry success was due to people praying for him. When he preached, a group of prayer warriors lifted prayers from the basement, or boiler room, of his church. He once said, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if every church had a boiler room?" We agree.

Join us at ICOM to pray like Spurgeon's prayer warriors and see how the Holy Spirit moves in response. The Boiler Room Exhibit will be located near the center of the exhibit hall next to the TCM booth. There will be prayer exhibits, interactive stations, and a special prayer wall to post your prayer requests. We look forward to seeing you there, praying with you, and then watching expectantly for the Lord to answer.



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PRESIDENT’S OUTLOOK



Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.” Luke 13:18-20

Like the mustard seed that becomes a tree, TCM’s training efforts started small. But they were grounded in faith and nurtured through the prayers of many. And in the fullness of time, His fruit has flourished. All we can say is “Soli Deo Gloria!!!”

It’s long overdue, but we began digging through records and conducted surveys to find out what God has done doing “out there” among the millions. We literally did not know. But He did.

To date TCM has trained 11,331 leaders. These leaders have discipled 357,175 others and currently are discipling 81,640 more.

These numbers are His work. We hope you are blessed by reading

the stories and anecdotes included in this report about some of these prayerful, faithful, disciple makers.

And as our Engaging Every Nation Initiative continues, please help us “double down” to remain grounded in faith, fervent in prayer, and eager to bear ever more fruit. Let’s equip thousands more leaders making thousands more disciple makers who will in turn make thousands more.

All of us together impacting churches, cultures, and countries for Christ, expanding the Kingdom of God. Praying more, serving more, investing more in His work.

And crying out with heartfelt praise at His fruitful work through TCM, “To You alone, oh God, be the glory!!!”

Gratefully yours in Him,

Tony