

News from the Roussos

Athens, Greece • March 2020



The last few weeks amazing and wonderful things continue to happen in the Lord's work in Greece.

Speaking at the Athens Hilton ...

What a great privilege and a joy it was for me to be invited to speak at the Athens Hilton hotel during the 40th anniversary of "Hellenic Ministries" in Greece. I had the privilege to speak in an audience of 400 preachers, educators, missionaries, church leaders and many visitors from all over Greece. I spoke about the importance of evangelism and the way the Word of God has changed my life and how blessed I was to meet Costas Macris the founder of this philanthropic organization.

Costas was a great Greek missionary in New Guinea, Indonesia. He was one of the first white men to go and preach the gospel of Christ to the cannibals. I was 12 years old when I first heard him speak in Athens and give reports of how he was able to touch the lives of so many people in Indonesia.

His son Jonathan Macris is now the President of Hellenic Ministries. It is an amazing organization that helps in so many different ways people of all nationalities. They have medical missions, refugee ministries, Bible distribution, Leadership training and many more services.



Speaking at the Athens Hilton



Preaching in Athens



Harding Students are singing at the Glyfada Church



He is starting a new life



Praise the Lord

Baptisms continue

Last Sunday two more precious souls a husband and his wife were baptized into Christ at the Glyfada Church of Christ. They have two lovely children. This family has been attending our church for the last five months and they decided to follow the way of the Lord. It is amazing to see people who come from difficult backgrounds and countries to surrender to Jesus and accept the saving power of the gospel of Christ.

Last Sunday it was an amazing joyful day full of excitement and happiness knowing that this couple came out of darkness into the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Their two sweet children attend Sunday school and we do hope they will grow up to be faithful members of the church and followers of Jesus Christ.

Here is a message from Anne Boyd in Athens, Greece

Fridays - with Glyfada Church of Christ

Looking for a place where the door is always open every Sunday and Friday with friends, gathering to celebrate? Celebrate what? Christ, of course! In Athens, Greece, that's easy to find 5:00 - 9:00 pm... both Farsi, and some English speaking people.

Last Friday, sixty refugees fill almost every seat! (That's counting the ten children!) Oh, the questions being asked! What a joy to watch their faces as they drink in Truth while Dino explains from Acts 3 and 4, as well as John 4, that God loves them, that Jesus died for them, and lives again inviting us to follow Him...because He is the only way to God. I notice a tall, beautiful teenage girl sitting beside me. At first, busy with her old cell phone, but after awhile, that cell phone is no longer interesting. She is actually paying attention to Dino's lesson. Sitting up straight, a serious look of thinking, then understanding comes upon her face. Soon, she is a part of this, now and then looking at me, smiling, nodding her head.



Friday night Feeding the refugees



After baptism .. they rejoice

After the lesson, Dino leads us in practicing Greek. This Persian teen joins in enthusiastically responding with the rest of us when she knows a word! Her great moment comes when we are counting from 1 - 10 in Greek. She calls them out with a strong voice. When we reach ten, she victoriously throws her hands in the air like an Olympian champion!

But, wait...there's more...Dino hears two of the preschool boys shouting the numbers. Never missing an opportunity to show appreciation for others, Dino invites the boys to join him on the podium where the two boys skilfully lead us in counting in again Greek from 1 - 10! And, what happens with the mama...two seats to my right... a smile spreading across her face, pointing to one of the boys, she speaks to me for the first time, "My baby!" (We are connecting, slowly building trust... this is where it truly begins!)



Learning the Truth

It is Friday... following this uplifting worship service, we have dinner...for all 60+ of us! The local congregation provides this every week. OK, so some come for the “loaves and fishes.” Jesus fed all who came. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we feed without asking any questions. Every time, many linger to ask more questions. You may ask, “Where is all this leading?” Our response, “More than 200 have been baptised out of the 800 who have come to worship with us. We pray it leads to Heaven for everyone who has a heart for God and His Son.”

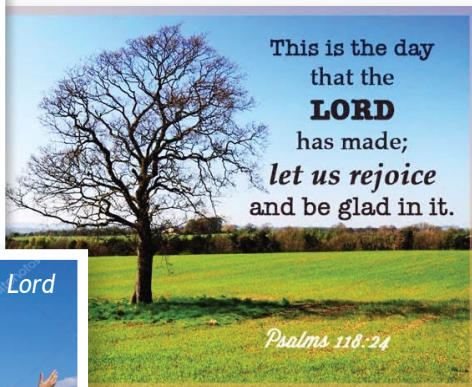
Ebrahim is growing to be a church leader.

Ebrahim is growing in his faith and developing to be a leader in the church. God is using him in many different ways. Now he attends “Sunset International Bible Institute” in Lubbock Texas. He is taking online courses and has already finished Apologetics and the book of James. Now he is taking Bible history.

During the week we meet to discuss questions from the Bible and pray. Then we discuss ways to help the work. Every Friday and Sunday he is translating from English to Farsi as I preach the Word. He speaks English, Turkish, Farsi, and now he is learning Greek. On Sunday mornings he also comes to the Greek church and sometimes he leads singing, prayers and every Sunday evening and Friday nights 5-6 he preaches in Farsi for the Iranians who attend our services. Please do pray for Ebrahim. He is growing to be a faithful Christian and an excellent servant of God. We hope that he would have a great future.



Ebrahim with Dino



Rejoice in the Lord

UBI changes Presidents.

The president of Ukrainian Bible Institute in Kiev Jay Dan Rogers whom I have known through the years since I have been in Ukraine many times to teach at the Bible school has resigned from his position and he has been replaced by Brandon Price.

Please pray for the new President and for me as I am making plans to return back to this great country and teach these wonderful people who are searching for the Lord.

Harding University students are in Greece serving the church.

We thank God for the students and faculty of Harding University in Athens. Every Friday nights they come to help and feed the refugees. On Sundays they assist in our worship with singing songs and we are having some of these young men to preach for us.



The Glyfada church

LST couples in Athens.

We are expecting two couples to come to Athens and teach LST. Tom and Alva von Heimburg at the end of April will teach for three weeks and another couple Keith and Tricia will come and teach for three weeks in May. We thank God for these wonderful Christians who are willing to come and spend some time with us and help our people learn English better and at the same time learn the Word of God.



Keith and Tricia Young

*LST team
Tom and Alva*



Family news.

Ashtyn is the oldest daughter of Nikki and Matt. She is a wonderful granddaughter and last week she turned 12 years old. We thank God for our family. Ashtyn speaks English, Greek and she is now learning Spanish. She loves to sing and organize events.

Thank you for your love and prayers.
Greetings from Debbie and the Christians in Athens.



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