

A Missionary's Journey

June 2010

The Elliott's Journey to Bulgaria



“So what are you doing now that most of your funds are in and you are waiting on the house to sell?” This is a question which we have been asked and which you might be wondering about as well.

We had completed our required training and had been reading books on church planting. Our support was nearly raised. Both of us have helped out at the MTW home office. We assisted our teammates, the Johnston's, pack up so they could move to Bulgaria. But what could we do to serve God right now? How could we serve? *1 Samuel 12:24, “But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.”*

The church was formed in the late 1700's. The original part of the sanctuary was built in 1830 with an addition constructed later. Over the last twenty years the church has fallen into disrepair. Paint is peeling, the landscaping is overgrown, the restrooms need upgrading and the well water has been tainted. The congregation has shrunk but they desire to reach out into the community and once again become a thriving church. Are we talking about a church in Eastern Europe? No, this church is right here in Northeast Georgia.

We first heard about Thyatira-Olney Presbyterian Church about a year ago. A small church located in a rural area, they had appealed to their sister churches for help in revitalization. Several members of our home church were helping them out and encouraged us to visit. With our love of history and anything antique we found ourselves drawn to this church whenever we were in town.

We have been cleaning out, cleaning up, throwing away, organizing and rearranging. We have been working with the congregation at Thyatira to revitalize this beautiful little church. Gary is now teaching an adult Sunday school class and Tammy is teaching Children's Church for the little ones. City water has been hooked up, plumbing updated, septic system installed; shrubbery trimmed and painting has begun. We have been busy putting our missions training to good use. *1 Peter 4:10, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,”*

In addition to all of this we are still contacting new churches. Our schedule has slowed down a bit as families are getting ready for school to let out and summer to begin. We still have a bit more support to be raised but we are confident that it will come in. The selling of our home is the only thing that is really preventing us from leaving. In the meantime our mission field is in Georgia.

Teachers needed!

Sofia Christian Academy, a classical Christian school enables us to serve Christ in Bulgaria by helping us fulfill our responsibilities to educate our covenant children. Take a minute and view SCA's new video:

<http://www.sofiachristianacademy.org/Video.html>

Prayer:

- The Johnstons as they get settled in Bulgaria.
- For Dal Stanton's back to heal.
- The Hershberger family as they return to the US on furlough.

Praise:

- We are currently at 98.26 %.
- Thyatira Presbyterian Church is under repair and is seeking to be a light in Jackson county and a strong witness in the local community.

Send financial support to:

Mission to the World P. O. Box 116284 Atlanta, GA 30368-6284 Account #12149

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