

January 2012

Greetings From Portugal!

It is my hope that all of you had a great holiday season. We were blessed to have our 3 children with us, Elise, Erika, and Michael, our new son-in-law, Timothy, and our daughter Elise's boyfriend, Nick. It was a fantastic time! It was hard to see them go! The icing on the cake was wonderful, sunny, and moderate weather throughout. This was a huge blessing as Portugal can be very rainy this time of year.

2011 brought many challenges and victories. Some of the Teen Challenge programs in Europe have lost some or all of their government support because of the economic crisis. This has been, and continues to be, a huge challenge. Here in Portugal, the TC Ministry has nearly 100 full-time workers. All of them have agreed to forgo salary until they are able to increase their income-generating projects — which are many. In other countries, drastic budget cuts are being implemented. In spite of these challenges, all of our leaders are at peace knowing that God will provide as He has for the past 42 years.

The victories were numerous. Several TC programs that were in crisis have made it through the difficult time and are in seasons of fruitful ministry. Several new street outreaches were started, most notably in Belgium. Most important of all, thousand of lives were touched and changed by the power of the Good News. We all continue to marvel at the miracles we witness on a daily basis.

I personally am thankful for all of you who have helped us continue our work here for 28 years. Each month when I receive the list of our faithful churches and individuals, I ask God's blessing on all of you. You are never far from our thoughts and prayers!

May God give you a blessed and prosperous 2012!

Tom Bremer
Eastern Europe Outreach, Inc.
Europe Teen Challenge