

Christmas and New Year greetings from Albania!

As we move just past our 10th year marker, we are so very grateful for God's goodness and faithfulness through the years.

We are grateful to you too, for your interest, time, prayers and finance towards this great work.

Continue with us as we seek to reach out further.

# Merry Christmas Blessings Through out

Blessings Through out 2011

# Shkëndijë

## Up-Date

### July

#### 'RACE'

Shkëndijë partnered with C.C.C-



'Reaching Albanians Coming from Everywhere'; a two week summer beach project in Shengjin & Durres. Shkëndijë was responsible for the children's programs. In Shengjin we were able to do a 5 day open-air children's program in 4 different locations along the beach, attracting between 40 - 80 children each time. Many parents would gather too. In all, the project was a success and plans go a head for next year.

### August

#### Summer Camps

125 eager folk attended our two children's camps.



We had a team of 3 from Retford New Life, UK, that were a huge help for the first camp. We are grateful to all our camp staff and the helpers that came with the Children. Though our camps have been predominantly for churched children, we did see 36 give their lives to Jesus. A good number of them were from the village of Malecaj where we have done previous projects. We very much believe in the great results of camp ministry, despite the great costs involved; thank you to all who helped and sponsored the children.



### September

#### Special Outreach

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of September Rachel had her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday! An enjoyable evangelistic 'This is you life' event took place with 54 invited guests. The gospel was proclaimed in a low key form of testimonies, video clips and Interviews. Rachel Watson, who witnessed to Rachel 21 years ago, flew in from the UK especially for the event. A big thank you to everyone who helped to make it happen.



#### The Children's work - Shengjin

also started back in September, a week after the event. Things quickly got back in a routine and running well under Vali's supervision. This new season we see 3 new helpers on our young team. New Children are coming. We're teaching a series called '10 truths to believe'; basically it's the fundamental truths of the Christian faith. We hope to do some Children's water baptisms in the spring.

#### The mission's outreach trailer,

given to us 10 years ago by Bolton Pentecostal church, unfortunately had seen better days and was no longer road worthy. We saw the need to sell it and get what we could for it. We do want to replace it with something that will do the same job. Rachel will launch an appeal in January for a new mobile unit.

### October

#### Mission

A team of 9 from the UK



visited for a 8 day 'multi mission', serving & reaching the Shengjin community. The main task was to improve young children's life quality by doing some improvements at the local kindergarten, close to our centre. The team from Tunbridge Wells worked hard and in 5 days the entrance and play area were totally transformed. The mission entailed other tasks too. They left touched & challenged with Shengjin all the better because of their dedication & help.



#### New Youth ministry -Shengjin

We have been praying for a number of years for a youth work to start. Ines (17) one of our young helpers has risen to the challenge with the help and encouragement of Neil and Lucie Hutson in Durres and Egli in Tirana. We started with a monthly event from Oct to Dec. Numbers haven't been huge so far, but it's a start. Ines will start a weekly teen girls group in January and the monthly event will continue but at a different time in hope of better attendance

#### Blood feuds still happen

It is with sadness I write about the killing of a friend and godly man, Pastor Dritan Proroj, who fell victim to ancient blood feud codes. [Click link find out more.](#)

Reaching Albanian Children & Helping others do the same

Cont.....

## November

The English courses started back at the centre. Edlira, a local young lady is teaching the older children and adults, where as Rachel has taken up a teaching position again with the younger children, to bring in some needed funds.

Children's worker's training over the boarders in Gjilan, Kosove. Rachel was asked to do some training with the children's team of a church plant there. She'd like to see the training side to the ministry develop further and faster.

Major flooding in several areas of Albania. Many Albanian families were evacuated after weeks of heavy rain. Shkoder, only 45 mins. from our centre, is still feeling the effects. 100's of families have lost everything. If you would like to help, please contact us.

## December

### Christmas events

We had a number of events leading up to Christmas this year. A children's and youth Christmas evangelistic program, a children's Christmas party and something we tried for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in Shengjin; Christmas carolling in the community with some of the children. It was very well received as we went home to home



handing out free Scripture calendars and chocolates to everyone. A big thanks to guitarist Gerti who helped.

## *What's ahead?*

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of January Rachel will be flying the UK thanks to CCI; for their annual conference in Derby. This is linked to her work heading up 'RrKK' (an Albanian Christian Camping Network) with 3 others. Ten days later she'll be attending an annual Children's workers conference in Eastbourne. She hopes to visit some supporters in the short time between the conferences. She returns to Albania on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Feb.

Times of change ahead; Shkëndijë can't expand unless team expands! We need people. One hindering factor is due to the big migration to the 'Big city' –Tirana. We need to make Shkëndijë present amongst this wellspring of people and put some feelers out. As of January Rachel will initially be spending a day a week in Tirana; networking with key people from Bible schools, Churches and other organisations.

### Coming Up

- Several visitors booked in for the spring
- Christian Camping Network conference April 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Next Short term 'Multi Mission' is 28<sup>th</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2011
- Helpers needed for Summer Camp 2011
- Gap year opportunities: English teacher / IT + design / administrator / Children's and youth workers.

## Praise Points

- God's continued provision in these difficult financial times
- Safety and health on team
- Success of RACE and Camps
- Start of the Shengjin Youth work
- New children that are coming

## Support Details

### UK Contact

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Bank: Lloyds TSB  
Sort : 30-15-53  
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R.W Albania Acc

### USA Contact

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Bank: SunTrust  
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Rachel Wilson

UK gift aid forms can be printed off the website  
USA tax return receipts can be supplied via  
Oasis Christ Fellowship, Ormond Beach, FL

## Prayer Points

- For a stop to Blood feud killings
- Dritan's wife and Children
- Vali –Children's ministry
- Ines –Youth ministry
- Wisdom on future decisions
- New Staff and Volunteers
- Unity as team expands
- Mobile mission's outreach unit
- New Sponsors

## *Reaching Albanian Children & Helping others do the same*

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