

THE WALENT STREET JOURNAL

Fall 2007 edition



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Ministering in
East Germany



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Dear Friends and Partners,

We send you heartfelt greetings from Dresden, where fall weather has turned the city just beautiful. We have been busy with outreaches, hosting a construction team from an A/G church in Kentucky and getting ready for the upcoming Church Planters School. That's why this edition of *The Walent Street Journal* didn't get out the beginning of October. But now we want to bring you up to date with new developments going on here in East Germany (Saxony).



Different tools we use in church planting... Here a tent crusade to reach the city.

God is birthing new developments in Church Planting

Church planting - what a concept! It deals directly with the creative power of our Lord, in bringing new life into this world. Just as a family grows and is blessed when a new child is born into the family, so too, does the family of God grow when new churches come into being. This



We use pantomime to tell the story of Jesus..... or dance.

is a very deliberate act, where the mothering church consciously declares, "we know that new children can be a challenge - they require time, investment, nurture and a lot of prayer! But it is a worthy and blessed investment, because through it new life and lives enter the body of Christ; those lives learn to become followers of our Lord; and those followers learn to invest themselves into the same body bringing the process full circle."



..... reaching the kids through kids ministry with puppets telling the story.



Here in Saxony, our Pentecostal movement has been in existence for about 80 years. During the first forty years this region experienced God's move, and a number of churches were birthed, and in some cases real revival broke out with many conversions. During the last decade of the communist era, and on into the time after the Berlin Wall fell, church planting became sporadic at best, to almost non-existent. Churches were becoming "stiff" in their way of thinking, "tired" in their expression of seeking God, and "old" in their view of the future. Until 2004...

In February 2004 the Elim church in Dresden (Pentecostal church), at the age of 78 years, decided to take a step of faith and bring a "daughter church" into this world...right across town in the city section known as Gorbitz (you've heard of this in past newsletters). This act of faith, combined with the success of the new daughter church sent shock waves throughout Saxony - many were saying, "what's going on in Dresden?" The next year, 2005, this same mother church took another step of faith to bring another daughter church into this world in the city of Kamenz (where Steve co-pastors). As this daughter grows, so also are eyebrows around the region being raised...."what is God doing here?", is what we hear.

Second Church Planting School starting up

Our church planting initiative here in Saxony, which is coordinated by Steve, will start their second Church Planting School on October 27, 2007, with six new church plants - new children being brought into this world!! Our mother church here in Dresden will mother her third daughter church in four years starting January 2008. Our daughter church in Dresden-Gorbitz is presently mothering her first child (at the age of 3 1/2!!!) in another section of



Dresden (Prohlis). We also have new churches being planted in Taucha, Lauchhammer, Neugersdorf and Eibenstock. We have coaches / mentors for each of these new plants, to help guide and direct these young planting teams. We are excited with all this new life the Lord is bringing to us!! We realize that the responsibility is great, but we also know that we are right in the middle of God's will and heart.

The graduates from the first Church Planting School.

We thank you for partnering with us to make sure these new churches become strong and vibrant witnesses and blessings in their communities. We try to build a support structure around each church plant and planter with the purpose of helping them 'be' a success for God's kingdom. Through your partnership with us, this structure or network is made stronger, spreading the weight of the challenge across many shoulders and hearts. Please know that you - who you are and what you do, is appreciated by us and our German colleagues. Please realize that God is blessing you already for standing with us.

What a joy it is to serve Him together!!

Steve & Christina Walent

Please join the Walents in prayer & praise:

Praise God for the many new church plants God is birthing here. Pray that they will grow and become vibrant testimonies of God's grace.

Remember to lift Pastor Frank Stenzel from the young church in Weisswasser up to the Lord. He is recovering from open heart surgery following a heart attack.

Ask the Lord to work in our existing churches that need renewal from the Lord. They need God to renew their vision and make them aware of His purpose for them so they can touch their communities.

You can help us pray for the American Dollar to gain strength here in Europe. We cannot remember it ever being so low and that puts a financial strain on all missionaries in Europe. God is able to change that!

Earnestly pray for the 7 church-planting teams that have signed up for the Church Planting School; that the Lord will equip them and strengthen them during the school.

Remember to ask the Lord to send more workers into His harvest here in East Germany. Much more could be done if we had more workers to share the load. Pray that the Lord would call and that those called have the courage to say "yes" and go.