

Europe Emigration Fellowship—Six Key Cities

In 1977 Brother Lee shared his impression after a visit to Europe:

“I believe that at the end time, before Antichrist comes, the Lord will shame His enemy by establishing a strong testimony in Europe. I am burdened that we would go to every country in Europe...The greatest need for our labor in the Lord’s recovery today is in Europe...The Lord’s second coming cannot be brought about by religion. The burden is upon us. I believe that one day through His recovery the Lord will gain a living testimony in every major city.” (*The Recovery of Christ in the Present Evil Age*, p. 27)



We would like to remind the saints of six key cities that were presented in the last semiannual training, which we are burdened to strengthen through the emigration of the saints.

Barcelona, in north-eastern Spain, is a city of 1.6 million inhabitants with 5.5 million in the greater Barcelona area. It is one of Europe’s busiest sea ports and hosts one of the most prestigious universities in Spain, the University of Barcelona, with 63,000 students. In total there are over 230,000 students. In 2008 the church in Barcelona took the ground with 20 saints, and today there are 40 saints meeting on the Lord’s Day and approximately 50 saints living in the region.

Brussels is the capital of Belgium and has a metropolitan area of 2.1 million people and 12 universities with 86,000 students, including many international students studying in Flemish, French, and English. It is a remarkably strategic city with major offices for the European Parliament, NATO, the United Nations, UNESCO, the World Health Organisation, and the World Bank. In 2000 the church life began in Brussels, and there are currently around 55 active saints in the church from 15 different nationalities.

Dublin is the capital city and largest city in Ireland with a population of 1.2 million people. It is home to 120,000 students in five major universities. Ireland, as a whole, is the youngest country in the European Union (EU). Since Brexit, it is the leading country in the EU with English as the primary language. Dublin is a major high-tech and financial center. The church life began in 2005, and today there are 40 adult saints and 22 young people. Twelve saints who are students currently attend nearby universities.

Lisbon is the capital of Portugal and has 545,000 inhabitants. It sits in a metropolitan area of 2.6 million people and hosts 14 universities with over 119,000 students. The city has both a long history and a modern infrastructure with a growing technology sector. There are currently 14 saints meeting regularly in Lisbon and a further 12 saints around the country.

Rome, the capital city of Italy, has a population of 2.3 million with 4.3 million in the surrounding urban area. The city has over 225,000 students. The Lord's table was established in 2012, and in 2015 a piece of property was purchased in the center of Rome for a meeting hall and is within walking distance from La Sapienza University with over 110,000 students. The church has met there since 2017 and has used it to host blending times and gospel trips. An apartment was also purchased in 2015, five minutes from the meeting hall and the university, and this home has been used to care for saints emigrating to Italy as well as for Bible studies, coordination meetings, and small group meetings.

Zürich, in northern Switzerland, has a population of 430,000 residents and nearly 2 million in the greater metropolitan area. It is a global, multi-lingual hub and home to 20 universities with over 60,000 students. A group of about 30 saints live in a nearby suburb called Regensdorf and regularly blend with the saints in the nearby churches.

Please bring these six cities to the Lord in prayer. For more information about each city, you can see the original reports at lordsmove.org or amanatrust.org.uk.

The Distribution of the New Testament Recovery Version

Brother Lee considered the Recovery Version “as the aggregate of the proper understanding of the New Testament...Today the proper understanding of the Bible has been collected in our writings in order for us to study, learn, and spread the divine truths.” (*The World Situation and the Direction of the Lord's Move*, p. 35)

Throughout the last six months there has been no reduction in the distribution of the New Testament Recovery Version. Bibles for Europe (BfE) continues to use online advertising to inform the people of Europe of this precious publication and to use the mail service to send it directly to their homes. Since the restrictions began across Europe in March 2020, over 77,000 Bibles have been sent via this route to the English, French, German, Polish, Spanish-speaking countries of Europe as well as English versions to Iceland and Sweden.

In the United Kingdom (UK) and Ireland, the Bible recipients are also able to request a Bible study, and currently over 1,250 have indicated that they would like to have a Bible study over the phone with someone. These ones have been called by 183 working saints from around the British Isles in addition to full-time serving ones and full-time trainees.



This map shows the distribution of these Bible studies across the UK and Ireland. As you can see, there are seeking ones throughout the major towns and cities of the British Isles. Some of these dear believers have joined us for more than 50 one-on-one Bible studies over the course of the year.

Since June 2020, the contacts of Amana Trust, Bibles for Europe, and Rhema have been invited to a monthly webinar series on the book of John, and an average of 160 new ones have attended each month. Many others have participated in online trainings and conferences and have begun joining

the online group meetings and church meetings.

In the French-speaking world, the saints have been initiating the same process, including the participation of the saints throughout the churches in carrying out phone Bible studies and the hosting of webinars. Currently, 45 have had at least one phone Bible study, and 64 saints from around the French-speaking world are participating in this labor. The saints have held their first seminar and 12 new ones attended.

As the people of Europe begin to emerge from restrictions, we are already beginning to enjoy visiting these contacts and inviting them to our homes for the first time where we can see each other face to face. There have been testimonies of real joy to see one another in person after such a long relationship by phone and online. We look forward to spending the summer traveling all over the United Kingdom to experience many reunions with our dear new brothers and sisters.

Very soon, another 250,000 New Testament Recovery Versions, in all the available languages, will arrive at the BfE depot in France. We are earnestly praying and fellowshiping to see how the Lord will lead us in accelerating the distribution of these nourishing riches through all the saints in Europe to the ones living, studying, and working around us.

An Update on Woodland Camp

Woodland Camp is situated approximately three miles from Bower House just outside of London. It is a facility that covers 17 acres including an area where the majority of the cabins and meeting facilities are being constructed as well as an area of woodland and ponds. Through the Lord's covering grace and the saints' continued giving, the work at Woodland Camp has continued steadily throughout the restrictions of the last year.

The entrance has been built and paved. The cabins on the east side of the camp have been built, including two-bedroom cabins with ensuite bathrooms and larger three-bedroom family cabins, all with balconies overlooking the grounds. Grass turf has been laid and the paths have been created. Inside the cabins, the beds and furnishings are being installed throughout the camp and include extra-long bunk beds and mattresses alongside desks and drawers. Each room has both an ensuite shower room and a separate ensuite bathroom. The larger family cabins have open-plan kitchens, dining rooms, and living rooms. They can be accessed through a covered courtyard area leading to designated parking and are large enough to receive a family or small group. In total there are 18 completed cabins, and this is sufficient to sleep around 150 people.



This summer we will very slowly and safely begin to have small events, and by the autumn we hope to have a series of weekend events for the saints and for the new ones we have been contacting. For now the guests will continue to meet and eat in the existing meeting hall, and for this purpose we have created additional covered dining and recreation space. Over the summer we will be constructing an additional meeting and recreation hall for 150 people. The foundation

slab has been laid and the steels are going up. From the cabins, paths are being laid to bring our guests down to a new viewing deck. From here they will be able to appreciate the ponds and the woodland setting and spend personal time with the Lord to pray back to Him all the riches they have enjoyed in the meetings.



This autumn, while events are taking place, we will complete the current phase of construction by building a reception and security building at the main gate. This will bring us to the end of our existing funds. Although by this time we will have a very pleasant facility in which 150 people can meet, eat, and sleep, there will still be major work left to be done. We have permission to build a further 12 sleeping cabins, but the first priority is to build the main hall. This will be a two-story building with meeting space, dining space, a kitchen, offices, and smaller meeting rooms to care for 350 people. This building alone, and the work associated with its construction, will cost at least £3 million or \$4.2 million.

We are rejoicing that this summer we will begin events at Woodland Camp. We are full of thanks to the Lord and to all the saints for their support and prayers. We look to the Lord for the way to continue developing this site for the shepherding and support of all the churches in Europe.

The Full-time Training in London

In March 2020, as the pandemic began to accelerate in the United Kingdom, all the full-time trainees who were able to safely go home were asked to do so. From there they completed the remainder of the term online. Those who were unable to go home remained at the training center within a very carefully protected environment. Office, kitchen, and maintenance serving ones moved on site to take care of them so that there was little direct contact with those not in the training.

Over the summer of 2020, further protections were put in place at the training center, and we were able to bring the whole training back on site from August 2020 until now. This consists of 43 trainees from 22 different nationalities. All arrivals to and departures from the training center have been accompanied by testing and periods of quarantine, and by the Lord's mercy, there have been no cases of coronavirus in the training during this time.

Many of the trainees and serving ones have testified that, although this time has been hard in some ways, in other ways it has been glorious. The trainees have appreciated being able to continue to spend this difficult time to pursue the ministry with one another in the classes and study times and to have companions with whom to pray and enjoy the Lord. Moreover, the strict quarantine rules throughout this time have led to much less illness over the last year.

The trainees have also been blessed with several wonderful opportunities for their gospel service. Weekly they have enjoyed packing and mailing Bibles to seeking ones around Europe and have participated in weekly phone calls to those who have gone on to request a phone Bible study. This has been a unique opportunity to experience the joy of shepherding someone one-on-one over a period of almost a year and seeing them grow and develop. The trainees have also continued to strengthen the campus labor in Europe and especially in London. Through video conferencing technology, they have been able to carry out shepherding appointments and join and serve in a variety of young people and student small groups, meetings, and conferences.

Since April 2021, the trainees have spent most of their Saturdays enjoying a morning of sharing and group times on the book *The Tree of Life*. These *Saturdays at Bower House* are broadcast via Zoom to approximately 350 saints and new ones who have signed up to participate. All these

ones were mailed a copy of *The Tree of Life* as part of their registration and all of those involved have enjoyed the opportunity to see a class of the full-time training being taught live and especially seeing the trainees responding to the sharing with short, exercised testimonies. As always, the new ones are very impressed by the consecration and pursuit of these dear young people.

On July 3rd, 22 of the current 43 trainees will graduate after these remarkable two years. We are very thankful to the Lord for their continued heart to be trained and the Lord's provision in bringing them through this time. May the Lord bless them in their future service and church life.

For more information about the six sites, the distribution of the New Testament Recovery Version, Woodland Camp, the Full-time Training in London, as well as updated reports from the geographical areas of Europe, please go to **amanatrust.org.uk**.