

GLOBAL MISSION Frontline

STORIES AND NEWS FROM OUR PIONEERS | VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 4

**Reaching
Hearts in
Cyprus**





Befriending a Shoe Shiner

Yulian could barely feed himself from the money he earned shining shoes. He set up every day along a busy walking street in Nicosia, Cyprus. Most of his money went to buy cigarettes and alcohol. A decade earlier, Yulian had immigrated to southern Cyprus from Bulgaria to look for a job.

One day, Filip, a Global Mission pioneer also from Bulgaria, walked by and greeted Yulian, asking if he needed any help.

Yulian was surprised. No one had asked him such a question in a long time. It was nice to hear someone taking an interest in him and speaking his native language, but Yulian didn't answer the question and just offered him a shoe shine.

While Yulian shined his shoes, Filip told him that Jesus loves each one of us no matter

what situation we're in. The mention of Jesus grabbed Yulian's attention.

The next day, Filip returned and asked again if Yulian needed any help. Yulian was surprised the stranger had returned. This time Filip didn't need a shoe shine, so they



Yulian Jankov, front right, getting ready for baptism in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Cyprus.

just talked for a while and looked through the books that he brought. This became a routine.

Sometimes Filip read the Bible to Yulian, and eventually, the shoe shiner opened up about how he'd worked in construction after arriving with his family in Cyprus. He lost his job and was kicked out of his home for drinking. His family and friends had rejected him.

One day, Yulian led his new friend to the abandoned building where he slept. His bed was a hard floor. The sight brought tears to Filip's eyes, and they prayed together on the street.

Yulian felt valued and felt God's love through the pioneer's actions. It was at that

His family welcomed him back home, and now he tells everyone who will listen about his love for God.

point that he gave his life to God.

Although he'd drunk heavily for 35 years, Yulian decided to give up alcohol that day. And although he had smoked heavily as well, he quit a week later. His family welcomed him



Filip Dmitrov, left, and Yulian Jankov outside the headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Cyprus' capital, Nicosia.

back home, and now he tells everyone who will listen about his love for God.

Filip regularly leads a Bulgarian-language Bible study. Over three years, eight people were baptized through Filip's work, a significant number for a country where the Adventist Church has only about 100 members in a population of more than one million. He often spends his time mingling with people, getting to know them where they are.

Please pray for pioneers like Filip, who are sharing a message of hope with their communities. And thank you for supporting Global Mission!



Andrew McChesney
Office of Adventist
Mission

Global Mission pioneers are sharing the gospel and God's end-time message in many countries around the world. But they need your help! Please help keep their ministry thriving.

Ways to Give

ONLINE

Make a secure donation quickly at Global-Mission.org/giving

PHONE

Call 800-648-5824

MAIL

In the United States:
Global Mission, General Conference
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6601

In Canada:
Global Mission
SDA Church in Canada
1148 King Street East
Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8

Please remember us in your will and trusts. Visit Global-Mission.org/PlannedGiving or call **800.648.5824**.

THE NEED Cyprus

ADVENTIST MEMBERS:
109

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate

You can support the ministry of Global Mission pioneers and the establishment of Urban Centers of Influence that follow Christ's method in meeting needs, sharing the gospel, and starting new churches.

POPULATION

1.2 million

Pray

Please remember all our Global Mission pioneers and Urban Centers of Influence in your prayers.

Dear friend,

With the Annual Sacrifice Offering scheduled for November 14, I thought I'd explore the history behind this yearly church tradition. As I read the story, I couldn't help but have a strong sense of déjà vu. Here's why.

In the early 1900s, Adventist mission work was thriving. Missionaries were leaving their homes in great numbers, traveling to faraway places to share Jesus' love.

Then a pandemic struck, killing millions and plunging the economy into recession. Tithes and offerings dropped, and there wasn't enough money to continue supporting the missionaries. Church leaders were afraid they would have to recall them.

So, in 1921, they turned to the church members for help, asking for a special offering of sacrifice. And the people gave. More than 200,000 members donated nearly six days of their wages! Because of their generosity, our missionaries were able to continue their important work.

Now, 100 years later, our church faces a similar crisis as COVID-19 shatters lives and the economy.

As tithes and offerings decrease, the future ministry of Global Mission pioneers such as Filip is uncertain. These mostly local missionaries specialize in reaching the world's most difficult to reach people groups for Jesus. Living on a basic stipend, they follow Christ's method of ministry, mingling with people, meeting their needs, and lovingly guiding them through the process of becoming disciples. As they've raised new groups of believers, they've helped swell

the ranks of God's end-time movement. But they can't do it alone.

As history repeats itself, can we, as a church, repeat a heartfelt, sacrificial response to keep our missionaries on the front lines?

I know that many of you are struggling. Perhaps you've lost a loved one, your job, or your home. If so, my heart goes out to you. In your time of need, please know that your church family loves you and is praying for you. But for those of you who are able, I'm humbly asking that you prayerfully consider giving a sacrificial gift to support the ongoing ministry of Global Mission pioneers. Each donation, large or small, will help them continue to share the message of Jesus' love and soon return.

Sixty-six percent of the world's population hasn't had the opportunity to experience Jesus. Together, if we choose to repeat history, we can make sure they hear the good news.



Laurie Falvo
Office of Adventist Mission

“Global Mission is a spiritual and mission catalyst that allows the Holy Spirit to use people and plans to open new, exciting evangelistic work in unentered or little entered areas around the world! What a blessing it is through God’s power!”



—Elder Ted N. C. Wilson
President



GLOBAL MISSION

General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
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NOVEMBER

14

MARK THE DATE

ANNUAL SACRIFICE OFFERING



Prem converted his living room into a clinic. Now many of his former patients fill the local Adventist church.

Global Mission pioneers like Prem sacrifice much to take Jesus to the unreached cities, towns and villages around the world and to put Christ's method of outreach into action. Would you please consider making a sacrificial gift to support them?

The November 14 Annual Sacrifice Offering is a great time to make a special gift to support the work of Global Mission pioneers. If you want to help share Jesus with unreached people, write "Annual Sacrifice Offering" on your tithe envelope, or visit global-mission.org/mysacrifice.



GLOBAL MISSION

Global-Mission.org/mysacrifice