



Concerts... Concerts...



On Saturday November 14th 1998 a Bryan Duncan concert was held at «Palace» to raise money for Helping Hands. The benefit concert was a smashing success.

On Saturday June 26th 1999 Ron Kenoly will be coming to Athens to perform at a Helping Hands benefit concert! Details to follow...

New Program Plans

Soup kitchen continues to be an excellent avenue of outreach to the Kurds living in Athens. We have moved soup kitchen back to Saturdays at noon and are serving over 200 men each week. This fall we are looking forward to offering a meal to the families living at Pendeli camp as well. The plan is to go up to the camp each Monday, and offer a meal along with an evangelistic program. Each Thursday morning at the camp in Pendeli we will be teaching both adults and children English as we share the gospel with them. Two of our Albanian brothers have started a Bible study for their countrymen and are developing an outreach to Albanians in Athens. At present, they are doing one on one evangelism, giving away tracts and New Testaments in areas which are popular hangouts for Albanian people. We are offering English classes free of charge to refugees a couple of times each week. We are always looking for Greek and English teachers, but right now we don't have any Greek teachers and we would love to offer Greek classes.

Building Update!

We are still waiting and praying for the Lord to provide Helping Hands with the perfect building here in Athens. As our ministry grows and expands, there are many reasons why it would be a great blessing to have while building in which to serve God's people. We dream of a place where we could help to house the Kurds who are presently sleeping in Koumoundourou square. Also, there are far more men coming to soup kitchen than we can fit into our present facility. As ministries like the Albanian outreach, Lost Coin and language classes continue to expand, we need enough room that events can be occurring simultaneously. Right now, we are looking at a couple of buildings costing 50 million drachmas and over.

God is faithfully providing the money we are going to need. Right now, we have just over 40 million drachmas raised. Please continue to pray with us concerning raising the remainder of the money as well as locating the perfect building for Helping Hands.

Lost Coin Update

Over the months, God has placed it on the hearts of some members of Helping Hands to begin an outreach to prostitute women on the streets of Athens. While the ministry is presently very small, we are excited to see how it is going to grow in the coming year. Hopefully, the following story will give you a taste of the importance of this ministry, and the way that God is working in and through it.

It was so hot in Athens this particular Saturday night. Yet we were still out on the streets because we knew that the prostitutes would still be working, regardless of the heat. We had decided to bring small bottles of partially frozen water to the girls. During our prayer time before we hit the streets, we prayed that the Lord would allow us to meet the practical need of a woman on the streets that night. We are well aware that right now we have a little to offer the girls in terms of their practical needs, and although we know that will change as our ministry grows, we desperately want to reach out to them in tangible ways.

When we got to the Hotel, a place where we often spend a good deal of time, something rather surprising happened. Miranda, who generally scarcely speaks to us, choosing instead to sit off to the side feigning disinterest, came running down the stairs with great big hugs and kisses for us. She eagerly took the water we offered and immediately began to drink. We were pleased, but a bit confused about her enthusiasm. It was quickly explained to us by another girl. Apparently Miranda just arrived a short time ago from Albania and she doesn't speak Greek or English, which is why she often doesn't speak to us. That night, however was special. She had been so thirsty. Just before we came, she had gone upstairs to ask her matron for some water. Her matron had told her that she had no water, and rudely sent her back downstairs. As she made her way down the stairs, she saw us, holding our bottles of water! We were able to share, with translation, the story of Jesus and the woman at the well, and talk briefly about the love Jesus has for Miranda. Praise God for allowing us to meet a practical need that night.

This Christmas...

... Helping Hands will follow the tradition of sharing the meaning of the holiday by serving food for the soul and body. On December 20th, we will present a program at the camp in Pendeli where we will have a play, enacted by children, depicting the first Christmas. There will also be singing, literature distribution, a Gospel message, and practical gifts given to every person. On December 22nd and 23rd we will serve a meal, present a Christmas program, and distribute gifts at our facility on Menandrou.



Helping Hands is in desperate need of a computer and printer (to reduce our printing costs). If someone feels led by the Lord to make such a donation, please call us at 52.36.812.



WE WANT TO WISH EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!