GLOBAL PARTNERS
amplifying mission

Most historians believe that the Albanian people are descendants of the ancient Illyrians. --which we see Paul mention in Romans 15:19 – *all the way around to Illyricum.* The name *Illyria*, which derived from the words 'I lirë' in Albanian, meaning freedom is the inspiration for the title of this newsletter. As the Apostle Paul laid down roots of freedom as did the many pioneers that followed him we prayerfully and eagerly look forward to the doors that God will continue to open in Greater Albania.

Kosovo - A New Horizon

Seeing Albanian leaders begin to emerge and take on an expanded role in the ministry in Albania has both excited our hearts and prompted our team to set our eyes on Kosovo as a possible location to re-deploy a portion of our team and launch a new work. Bordering Albania to the northeast, Kosovo is a culturally Albanian country in which ***95%+*** of the population identify themselves as Muslim. There are more than ten mosques for every evangelical church in Kosovo.

One recent scouting trip took team members to the towns of Kline, Skenderaj and Viti—towns without any evangelical Christian presence. Our hearts were moved as we drove through Kosovo, noting town after town with mosques, but no church. The team is actively seeking God's direction as we consider whom to send, as well as exactly where and when. There will likely be further exploratory trips in the months ahead with the hope of settling at least one missionary unit in Kosovo early next year.
Please join your prayers to ours as we ask for God's confirmation and guidance.

Caryl and Emilie with women in Viti

The crew that took an exploratory trip to Kosovo.

Aukerman family in Poland for an Alongside retreat.

Finishing up the roof project at the center

Family Vacation Time

Emilie and her language teacher, Enxhi

Women of Prayer *by Dawn Bishop*

"What will happen to the Women's Bible Study when we head to the States?" were my thoughts as the four of us gathered to pray after studying God's Word. Flora, Landa, Floresha, and I have never been together to pray. As these women began to pray, I could sense this was going to be different. They started with praise for all the things that the Lord has provided; then they began praying for each other, followed by crying out for the Lord to move in the neighborhood. As we finished, there was not a dry eye, and they all agreed this needed to continue. Landa spoke up and said,"Hey, why can't we each take turns in each other's home, when Dawn leaves." And everyone agreed! Then Flora spoke up and said, "Maybe when Dawn returns, we will have three groups!" Will you join these women in prayer? Pray for this movement to expand and bring transformation as only He can through faithful prayer.

Flora praying during the women's Bible study.

Stevens family on an exploratory trip to Bulqize

Heather spent one week in a village 3hrs from Durres for a re-immersion experience into culture & language.

Corey, working hard at the office

Emilie after her half marathon! We all wish we could be as cool as her.

Heather, Hannah, & Grace hanging out

Go and Make Disciples

The Albanian team of GOers (we who came to Albania) have longed for the development of disciples in the local people here in Durres. More importantly, we long for disciples making disciples who make disciples. Over the last two months, we have been taking some of our local believers through a training called Disciple Making Movements. We have had a great time learning from God's Word and learning practical ways to open God's Word with people outside of the church circle. It has been good to see believers come to grips with the idea that it doesn't take a degree or better knowledge of the Bible but simply courage and intention to share with others. One response from someone after the training was "Pray then Go, Go, Go, God says just Go and leave the rest to me"
PRAY *as we hope they look to apply it in their communities of influence.*

The DMM crew gathered together while Ani teaches.

Funding Needs

- Year of the Family Program is a program in which we engage the entire nuclear family in positive change to the family and community. This project needs funding in the amount of $2,000 dollars to continue.
- Ken and Dawn Bishop Support: The Bishops are in need of new financial support as they have had a significant drop in support.
- The Child Care Center program offers care for younger children of single or abandoned mothers while they work to provide for their families, keeping some of these children off the streets. This program is in continual need of funding.