



BAPTIST COURIERS FOR CHRIST

EST 1979

October 2025

A change of direction?



Don, Patrick, and Josh following the Sunday am service

by Joshua Stertz

Although I couldn't understand a word that he was saying, I was impressed by the young man as he recited in German (his native tongue) verse after verse from the book of Psalms. The goal given to him was to memorize and recite in front of the church four different Psalms of at least six verses or more without stopping. Watching this believer work through the verses and chapters in front of nearly thirty folks was a blessing to my heart. I recalled Psalm 119:11, **"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."** Throughout my life I have seen the importance of memorizing and applying God's word in a variety of situations. This church wasn't even in existence four years ago, and yet here we were in a rented space listening to this young believer articulate the word of God from memory.

Don (my dad) and I were on a survey trip to Stuttgart, Germany, spending time with the Jobways (a missionary family our home church has supported since 2020) preparing for the Stedfast for Stuttgart Scripture Distribution Campaign, which will be held there June 8-20, 2026. Stuttgart is a very affluent city, and Brother Patrick told us that region is the most prosperous in all of Germany. According to scripture, that will make many of the people there self-reliant. However, the gospel of Jesus Christ is to be taken to the whole world regardless of the reception. We must sow the seed of the word and allow God to soften the "soil" to receive it. The Jobways originally planned on planting a church in Frankfurt. After the Jobways were in the country a couple of years following their deputation, the Lord opened the door for some ministry in Leonberg (a small town just outside of Stuttgart). A Bible study was started there with several new believers, and as it grew, it became evident

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Please pray for the June 2026 Stedfast for Stuttgart Scripture Campaign.

A Special **NEED**

by Don Stertz

In our April newsletter I shared with you that Couriers for Christ took a team of seventeen people to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We worked with two churches that were about thirty miles apart, although both still in Santo Domingo. (This city has a population of over four million.)

I took half of the team, and the eight of us worked with national pastor Jose Manuel and his church. Pastor Jose started the church twelve years ago in his home. As the church grew, the small congregation saved money and was able to purchase a small piece of land and build a building. This task took them six years to accomplish.

During our week there our team of eight, along with at least that many church members, distributed over 11,000 books of Romans and an invitation to a Sunday morning service. That Sunday the auditorium was filled with nearly ninety people—a number of visitors with six trusting Christ as their Lord and Saviour that day!

Pastor Jose recently contacted me with the great news that the church has continued to rapidly grow, which is wonderful; however, he desperately needs more space especially for Sunday school classrooms. He said that they are averaging 25 to 30 children per service, and they have no place to teach them.

When they built their building they designed it so that they could add a second story which could be divided into classrooms. Pastor Jose said that for around \$6,000 they could purchase enough building materials to add that second story. (Building materials are less expensive in Dominican.)

Would you pray about this need and consider helping with any amount as the Lord leads?



Top left: Full auditorium on Sunday with no place to hold Sunday school for the children. Top right: Pastor Jose and Judy Manuel
Photos above: The rooftop of the auditorium where the addition will be built

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that God was moving the Jobways away from Frankfurt to plant their first church in Leonberg. God's hand has been in the details with saved believers in the city seeking for a good Bible preaching Baptist church to attend and the perfect rental building for the time being with lots of space for future growth!

We have a full team (36 Americans) signed up to minister in Stuttgart, Leonberg, and several smaller villages in 2026. Dad and I scouted restaurants, hotels, meeting halls for the evangelistic service, rental car companies, busy parts of town for distribution, and mailboxes. Why mailboxes? It is not illegal to stuff mailboxes in Europe, and we were excited to see that many of the mailboxes were outside of the buildings or in unlocked mailroom spaces. That will make it much easier to blanket the region with the scriptures that will soon go into production in churches across the USA that are actively involved with the BPS--Seedline ministry (long-time partners in ministry for the furtherance of the gospel).

Brother Patrick gave me an opportunity to share a powerpoint presentation with the church about our campaign, and Dad preached. We had multiple church members ask us a variety of questions about the outreach following the service. They were very excited that we want to help them reach their city with the gospel. More than once we were asked, "Can we help on your team?" Absolutely! As I Corinthians 3:9 states, **"For we are labourers together with God..."**

Even when things don't go according to our plan, if we are willing to surrender our circumstances, ministry, decisions, direction, and lives to the Lord, he will do amazing things in and through us! The Jobways did not see Leonberg and Stuttgart as part of their initial plan, yet God led them there and is doing a great work. It is a good reminder for all of us to reflect on Isaiah 55:8,9, **"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."** We truly can trust completely in the Lord to direct our paths and make the best use of the life that he has given us.



Top photo: Some of the precious believers we had the opportunity to meet and fellowship with during our stay

Above: Don with the Jobways while scouting mailboxes for scripture distribution

Inset: German brother quoting four selections from the book of Psalms

Right: Don preaching

Below: The foyer of one of the halls we scouted for the evangelistic service next year





Special Needs Fund

Often we report on large-container shipments of scriptures that we have the privilege of sending around the world. That does not mean that we are not interested in being used of God to do smaller special-needs projects. Throughout the history of CFC, we have helped with countless special-needs projects such as (but not limited to) children's Sunday school materials; hymn books; flannelgraph; discipleship courses; Bible study materials; and even smaller orders of Bibles, New Testaments, John and Romans, and tracts. When I say we I do not mean just the Couriers staff but each partner church across the USA and world that faithfully gives so that we can help these missionaries and national pastors when they reach out for help. We love being a channel of God's resources to respond to those requests. Recently we were made aware of a special-needs project for a restricted access nation. This need is for a region of that country where illiteracy rates are high and many people cannot read a printed Bible. Our contact shared that they could purchase audio Bible MP3 players for \$10 each. These are battery powered with the ability to be recharged with electricity or by sunlight. They require no internet connectivity to access the scripture, so they cannot be monitored or virus affected. Our contact asked for 50 units to begin distribution, but if this works well, he would like many more in the future. Please pray with us that these units can make it safely into the hands of saved and unsaved alike. Also, please consider giving a one-time gift towards the Audio Bible Project if you would like to help us get more of these into the hands of the needy.

You can send a check to Couriers for Christ, 3030 Witzel Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54904--Memo Line: Audio Bible Project. OR visit <https://couriersforchrist.com/donate/>

WYLDEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

3030 Witzel Ave.

Oshkosh, WI 54904-6599

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