

Jennifer in North Macedonia

January 4, 2024



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Reverend Linda Kusse-Wolfe with children from the Roma Education Project



“During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ~ Acts 16:9

We all need a little help from our friends sometimes. As I reflect on this past year, I am so thankful for the many people God has called to come and visit us, the new friends I have made, and the help the district and I have received.

Back in 2022, the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church elected to support me as one of their [partner missionaries](#). As a result, I have made contact with many new churches and individuals on the conference. One of them is Rev. Linda Kusse-Wolfe, a retired elder from Waynesboro, Virginia. In May, she came to get to know the people of the UMC in Macedonia and discover how the VA conference can respond in love to their brothers and sisters in Eastern Europe.

Linda and I spent six days travelling across Macedonia to meet people from different church congregations, visit two of our outreach ministries and explore some cultural sites. A highlight for me was the horse and buggy ride that friends from the

congregation in Murtino arranged. It was bumpy, but a lot of fun. I imagine we were the talk of the village for quite a while afterwards!



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We also got the privilege of meeting three clients of the Miss Stone Center’s Meals on Wheels program. It was humbling and joy-inducing to hear their stories of gratitude for the love and care they have received.

Lastly, we visited Julijana in Ohrid and got to visit with many of the children she works with through the Roma Education Project. The children grinned as they told us about school, how Julijana



Visiting with a client of the Miss Stone Center

helps them with their homework and about some of the special projects they have done through the center. Thanks to a special donation, we were able to bless each child with a new pencil case and some markers for the upcoming school year. One thing Linda kept asking over and over wherever we went was, "What would be helpful?" I really appreciated her humble example and her heart to listen to people share their needs. I learned a lot on her trip!

In addition to the Virginia conference, the Green Country District of the Oklahoma Annual Conference reached out to partner with me and the Macedonian district. In March, I got to spend time with their board members over a video call and tell them about our many ministry projects. They decided to fund the purchase of Sunday school materials for the children's classes on our district. This is a huge help and blessing to our teachers!

In September, Rev. Novica Brankov, one of our Methodist pastors in Serbia, came to help us train more youth workers. He held a two-day



Seminar for youth workers

workshop with lessons on having zeal, examining the strategy of Christ's ministry, and how to create an atmosphere of love in our youth groups.

Then in December, I had a video conference call with the UWF of the Raleigh Court United Methodist Church where I shared about Christmas traditions in North Macedonia. I had a wonderful time getting to know them. Later, they held a bake sale and raised over 400 dollars to support the work with children and youth! Hopefully, if all goes well, a team from their church will be able to come here to help with our children's camp this summer.

So many blessings this year, I cannot count! I am so thankful that the Lord puts us in a larger family, *His family*, so we can help each other and we can all be a part of the work He is doing around the world.

In Him,

Jennifer Moore

Working as a Team

In November, the members of the Commission for Work with Children and Youth gathered for our second annual team building event. We spent time praising God for the things He has done this past year and asking Him to guide us in our priorities for the coming year. We also spent time clarifying our roles on the team and strengthening our bonds with each other. Please pray God will expand our team and our influence!



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