

# Rise Up!

**Euronews**

February/March 2009

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**Eurovangelism**

[www.eurovangelism.org.uk](http://www.eurovangelism.org.uk)

**“Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it.”**

*Ezra 10:4 (NIV)*

Stoyan Angelov lives with his family (pictured right) in Elhovo, a small town in the southeast of Bulgaria close to the border of Turkey. When he moved with his family to Elhovo four years ago to be closer to his parents, he went to a village called Boliarovo to preach and was told by the congregation of ladies (pictured right) that he was an 'answer to prayer'. So he stayed!

Today he works as a deacon for the Evangelical Pentecostal Church, travelling regularly to not one, but six surrounding villages to lead small churches in each. As you can imagine, to pastor the communities and preach the Gospel in six different villages, with a distance of about 35 kilometres between them is very time consuming, but there is nobody else to do it.

Alexander Vulkanov, Pastor of the main church in the town of Elhovo and overseer of the entire District of Yambol, approached Eurovangelism to tell us about Stoyan. Stoyan's story was told at a Eurovangelism Conference (2004), and some supporters decided to rise up to the challenge and support Stoyan in his ministry.

Today this link continues and Stoyan is empowered to serve the church in Bulgaria, knowing that there is always enough income for him and his family to survive. It has been fantastic



to read Stoyan's reports about these churches, to see his determination and perseverance when things have been difficult, and to triumph with him when new people come to know the Lord; at the end of 2008 three people were baptized in the village of Sharkovo!

On my visits to these churches, the respect and love the church members have for Stoyan is obvious and it is a real privilege to briefly enter into village life and share in the small church communities that meet. It is wonderful to know that Stoyan really is an answer to prayer to so

many people, all because we promised to support him and he had the courage to rise to the challenge!

Carry on reading to meet some of the other church planters and workers who, like Stoyan, have answered Gods call to rise up and are now working, to share the Gospel in their community.

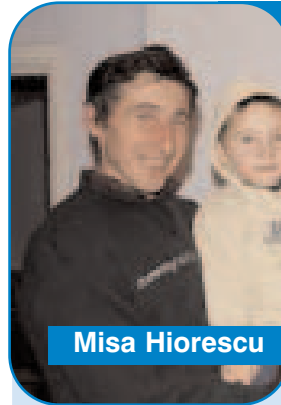


## Albania

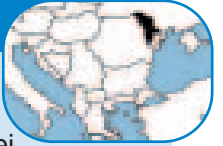


A gifted preacher with a heart for the youth of Bathore, Elton leads a church of over 100 women, planted in this shanty town two years ago. He also runs Alpha courses there.

**Elton Dautaj**



## Moldova



Misa leads the church in Pelinei and has a heart for the people in that village, visiting and caring for many of the marginalised in his community.

**Misa Hiorescu**



## Bosnia



Since becoming a Christian Ljiljana has been a vital part of the church in Banja Luka. She is a gifted evangelist and people naturally love and open up to her.

**Ljilja Banicek**



Lucian moved from his university town to the rural village of Badicu to plant a church. He sells honey and works the land for him and his family to survive, and is still in need of regular support.

**Lucian Tabac**



## Macedonia

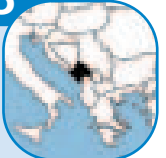


Preacher and teacher in the church in Veles, as well as two other small churches he has started nearby, Dragan does what he does because he loves Jesus and it's in his heart to tell others about Him.

**Dragan Manev**



## Montenegro



Called to Podgorica by God, Jovica planted a church despite fierce persecution; those who used to throw stones at his family have now become part of the church family!

**Jovica Bacvanski**



Tefik has established a small but growing church in Bitola, covered in prayer by his home church. His desire is to provide effective discipleship for the church members.

**Tefik Musoski**



Gifted administrator and full of compassion, Vera is becoming indispensable in Vladimir Cizmanski's church in Podgorica, especially in her regular visits to distribute aid to the needy.

**Vera**

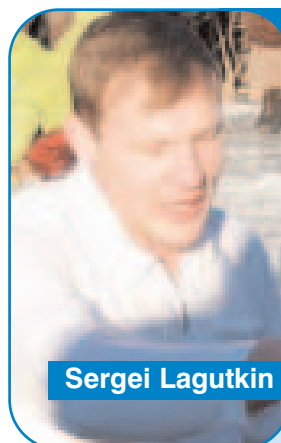


## Serbia



Maca enjoys travelling around Sombor to deliver aid to people in need; she also loves sharing the Gospel and amongst other things, helps to lead Alpha courses at the church.

**Maca Turner**



## Russia



Sergei leads a small church in the city of Astrakhan (southern Russia). Though small, the church is outward focused, aiming to help others and glorify God in all they do.

**Sergei Lagutkin**

***“We will support you,  
so take courage and  
do it.”***

**Look out for these eleven church leaders and workers as they appear in our Prayer Diary during the coming year! Why not join us and commit to praying for one of these men or women each month.**

There are many more people like those featured here; people who want to serve the Lord in Ministry. Many times, they may be the only Christian(s) in their area, called by God to preach the Good News and deliver the oppressed. For the people in the communities they are called to, the presence of somebody who so obviously cares can be quite literally, a lifesaver!

In many parts of Eastern Europe, unemployment is very high and so the possibility of gaining part time employment is practically impossible. In these scenarios, to work for the church can mean putting your trust in Him to provide all your needs. And where poverty is rife, the church tithes are often not enough to provide for a pastor.

**Committing to giving through a Standing Order means that we can offer support to more people like these. Could you or your church become somebody's answer to prayer?**

**To give regularly please complete the form on this page and send it to the address below.**



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**If you would like your standing order to be designated to a specific church planter or project, please telephone us on 0117 961 5161.  
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If you would like to make a gift to help the work of Eurovangelism, here are four easy ways:

- 1 By post** - complete this form and send it to  
PO Box 50, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 1EX
- 2 By telephone** - phone us on 0117 961 5161 to  
donate by credit card/debit card
- 3 Online** - please visit our website at  
[www.eurovangelism.org.uk](http://www.eurovangelism.org.uk)
- 4 Regular giving** - please see overleaf

Here is my gift of £   
for the work of Eurovangelism in Eastern Europe.

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If you would like to gift aid your donation  
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Please tick if you are not currently on our  
mailing list and would like to receive our  
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Please tick if you wish to receive an  
acknowledgement of your gift:

If the project or ministry for which any gift is received has already been fully funded, discontinued or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the Charity, the Board of Trustees of Eurovangelism reserves the right to use the funds for other similar projects or where most needed.



## Albania

*'We have just come back from our weekend away. Almost all 30 people present were touched by the Holy Spirit, most were in tears, some experienced great joy - God is so faithful!'*

- Pastor Hervin Fushekati, Tirana



## Bulgaria

*'We now have posters and invitation cards and already have four new churches planning to start Alpha courses! This is so encouraging, thank you for your help.'* - Peter Blaginov, National Alpha Coordinator



## Romania

*'We have planted a new church and are so excited, especially as about 70 people want to attend an Alpha course. We will also start another course at our church. We need prayer for the team, for those who will attend, and for finances.'*

- Elena Pascalau, National Alpha Coordinator



## Bosnia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia

The national co-ordinators of these countries have the vision to set up a combined "West Balkans Alpha Office", to be located in Novi Sad, Serbia. *'Together we are stronger and we believe it will be a great testimony*

*for Christians from countries that have been at war to work together.'* - Dusan Beredi, Chairman of the new West Balkans Alpha office



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reporting back



## Gift Catalogue Feedback

Thank you to all who bought gifts this Christmas from our gift catalogue raising over £13,000 help those in need!



This much needed gift of firewood will provide heat for many during the freezing winter months.



56 families will receive flour and oil to make bread, helping to provide for their basic needs.



As a result of your generosity, 28 weeks worth of hot lunches will be provided for elderly people this winter.



This gift of a pig for a family has proved to be very popular this year. The meat can last for many months, providing a supply of protein for families in extreme poverty.



This very popular, yet low cost gift of a children's Bible will bring joy to 174 children living in poverty in Europe.

Don't forget our gift catalogue can be used throughout the year  
- not just for Christmas!

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