

## Partner Profiles from Western Europe

A team from First Baptist Church of McKinney partnered with the Baptist Church in Ter Apel, Netherlands, October 8 – 16.



**Amsterdam**

I (Janice) led the team of three men and three women, ages 18 to 70. Arleatha Green, also from the McKinney area, traveled with us, and during the week, she visited four churches throughout Holland (Netherlands) performing Southern Gospel concerts.

In addition to Arleatha's concert, the Ter Apel church planned events for every day, including a women's coffee, children's party, youth scavenger hunt, "Gaither Homecoming" concert, movie night and discussion of the movie *Fireproof*, and an open house/art show. We also delivered a letter from the mayor of McKinney to the local mayor and introduced him to the church leaders. Home visits, radio interviews, and conversations at the church's booth during the weekly, outside market and at several senior care centers kept the team busy!

We spoke, sang, and labored along with the Dutch talking with as many people as possible about



**Coffee and Conversations**

God's love for them and that He has a plan for their lives. The church members introduced us to their friends and family, resulting in countless conversations and one decision to receive Christ as Savior at the women's coffee.

The woman who prayed to receive Christ was an Indonesian immigrant and from a Muslim family. She was brought to the women's event by a church member who had a long time relationship with her. The European Christians and churches are just now realizing the opportunities to reach the thousands of Islamic immigrants in their

countries, where conversations and questions can be had in relative safety. Many of those Muslims are curious, if nothing else, about the beliefs of Christians. Like the citizens from the former Soviet countries, they know that information has been withheld from them.



**Kade on the radio**

Our Dutch leaders Hans Hamer and Luuk Nieman, helped with the logistics of the project and the preparation of the church in Ter Apel. Hans took the FBC team on a tour of Amsterdam the day after we arrived. Luuk arranged for Arleatha's travel and participated with the team in Ter Apel on the last Sunday.

The church baptized a couple, both over the age of 80. There was another first for me: I cleaned out the baptistry which was located under the stage floor. (A cellar-type door opens it up when needed, and warm water is piped in.) What a special way to end a fabulous week in Holland!

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The men from the team with  
Han Hamer (center) and Luuk Nieman (far right)

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