

W5 on Missions

*My salvation and my honor depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.
Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts
to him, for God is our refuge.*
Psalm 62:7-8

Who... Barb Fuller

Barbara was born and raised in Halifax, NS, where she came to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as a teenager. She attended Acadia Divinity College and graduated with her Master of Divinity degree in 1994. She was ordained by Kentville Baptist Church in 1996. She served as Associate Minister of Christian Education at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church in Toronto for 8 years.

It was during a short-term CBV mission trip to Poland in 2003 that Barbara's long-standing interest in missions was re-ignited and her interest in serving the Lord in Eastern Europe affirmed.

Barb enjoys reading, walking, cooking, watching movies, and traveling. Her three grown children live in Canada: Josh in Vancouver; Marah, husband Daniel and their son Alejandro also in Vancouver; and Ben in Toronto

Where... Chisinau, Moldova

Moldova is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe, located between Romania to the west and Ukraine to the north, east and south.

Historically Moldova enjoys a favorable climate and good farmland but has no major mineral deposits. As a result, the economy depends heavily on agriculture, featuring fruits, vegetables, wine and tobacco. Moldova must import all of its supplies of petroleum, coal and natural gas from Russia.

Religion: Eastern Orthodox 98.5%, Jewish 1.5%

Language: Moldovan (official), Russian, Gagauz (Turkish dialect)

Government: Republic

Critics accuse the government of Moldova of having a poor human rights record, accusing it of interference with political freedom and of arbitrary arrest and torture.

When... Barbara Fuller was appointed as a Strategic Associate with Canadian Baptist Ministries in June of 2005. She works with Operation Mobilization in Moldova, in Eastern Europe, serving the national churches by:

- * training and mobilizing young people for mission and service
- * assisting with public relations for OM Moldova
- * training and member care.

What... Barb has been living in Moldova for two years, working with an international team to train young Christian leaders, and to partner with the churches in bringing the hope of Jesus Christ to the people of Moldova.



Barb Fuller

In her *August Prayer Update*, Barb writes:

“During the course of the summer we have hosted over 100 foreigners who have come for short-term missions. This week, for example, we have 9 teams of approximately 8-12 people each who are sharing the gospel and serving the churches in the villages of

Moldova. They are involved in various projects – everything from building playgrounds to visiting the elderly to running day camps for children. Our Global Challenge department worked tirelessly to organize all this and make sure that we had translators for every team, programs planned with the pastors in each outreach location, logistical arrangements for sleeping and eating here at the Chisinau base and training and preparing the teams for their cross-cultural experience. Although I am not out with a team for the whole time, I will be going to visit some of the teams during these two weeks. Matthew, our field leader; Silas, the program coordinator; and myself, as member care person; will each go and visit some teams to offer encouragement and to address any problems that may arise, and also to do some recruiting in terms of possible future involvement of some of the participants.

At the beginning and end of the program all these people are staying and meeting at our World Mission Training Centre. Praise the Lord, we not only have water but we now also have electricity hooked up! Please keep praying for the gas to be connected.”

Why... Barb tells a story in her *June Newsletter* about a child being dedicated to the Lord, not by his parents, but by his grandmother. The parents, like many others, have gone outside the country to work.

“More than 80% of the children who are in orphanages in Moldova HAVE parents: parents who have left them behind to go and work in another country; parents who are abusive; parents who are so overwhelmed by their alcoholism that they could/would not care for their own children; parents who are so poor they felt the best thing was to give their child over to the state. Our Relief and Development department is working, together with local churches, to open more and more Day Centres in the villages of Moldova. These centres provide a place where children can come after school to receive a hot meal, help with their homework, learn some Bible stories and receiving the loving nurture of Christians who seek to demonstrate the love of the heavenly Father. Our goal is to open 10 new centres this year and so far we have 4 running, 2 about to begin, another one planned to open in September.” Keep praying for Barb and her work.

Lorna McCain Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW