

# SHOES FOR YOUR FEET

## 2015 YEAR END REPORT

**I**'ve always been fascinated by the armor of God. When I feel the press of the battle, I like to reflect on the powerful sword of the Spirit or the protection found behind the shield of faith.

But it is easy to forget the importance of good shoes. Have you ever tried to make progress in rough terrain...barefoot? With sharp rocks and hidden thorns forcing their way into your tender soles, you will probably come to a painful halt.

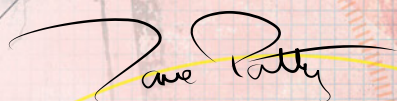
Good shoes change everything. The apostle Paul knew this when he wrote that our feet need to be "fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace." This item in God's armor allows us to not just hold our ground, but to actually advance.

The spiritual terrain is rocky in Central and Eastern Europe where the Josiah Venture team serves. Evangelical believers form just a small minority, and they encounter much spiritual opposition. In spite of that, the "gospel of peace" is making surprising inroads, bringing light to dark places, and transforming thousands of lives.

News from Europe has been filled with the refugee crisis and terrorist attacks this year. But during that same time you have helped us keep "good shoes" on the feet of young believers as they are advancing the gospel of peace.

Because of your gifts and prayers, the lives of thousands of young people have been changed.

Thank you,



Dave Patty, President  
Josiah Venture

## EQUIPPING YOUNG LEADERS TO FULFILL CHRIST'S COMMISSION THROUGH THE LOCAL CHURCH

### INVESTING IN YOUNG LEADERS

Did you know that some of Jesus' disciples were probably teenagers when he called them? Jesus invested in the next generation because he knew they could be motivated, shaped, equipped, and mobilized much faster when they are young.

In 2015, the Josiah Venture team equipped over 4,500 young leaders in 14 countries who are making disciples and reaching the lost through over 400 local churches.





# TWO YEARS OLD AND ALREADY A GRANDFATHER

Immediately after 16-year-old Jure trusted Christ, JV missionary David Bordner gave him a bold challenge. "Start praying right now for one of your friends who you want to accept Jesus – because you are the one who is going to lead him to the Lord."

Just believing in Christ demands a great deal of courage in the country of Slovenia, where there are less than 1,500 evangelical Christians. But in spite of opposition at home, Jure continued to follow Jesus – and prayed for his friend Žiga. A year later Žiga put his faith in Christ, and Jure immediately gave him the same challenge. In response, Žiga started praying for Sasha. After many conversations, and in spite of her rough background, early this fall Sasha put her faith in Christ. In just two years, Jure had become a spiritual grandfather!

Recently Sasha spent her entire 30 minute bus ride to school praying for one thing. "I don't know how to tell my friends. I don't have all the answers. But I want to tell others about God. Show me how and when." Leaving the bus, she opened the front door of school, took one step in and saw her friend running toward her. Out of the blue her friend blurted, "I have lots of questions about faith in God, can I talk to you about them?"

The powerful gospel is spreading in spite of darkness and opposition. Soon Jure could be a *great* grandfather.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Josiah Venture's Annual Donations and Revenues  
(2010-2014 Audited, 2015 Unaudited)

**\$11.25 million**

ANNUAL DONATIONS  
AND REVENUES

**\$10 million**

**\$8 million**

**\$6 million**

2015 TOTAL  
EXPENDITURES

**89% Program**

**8% Administrative**

**3% Fundraising**

## WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2016?

The Josiah Venture team has just launched a new three-year focus, with a goal to see "More people following Jesus on the discipling path." To accomplish that we will focus on three key goals during this next year:

### EVERY STAFF ON THE PATH

Since example is the best teacher, we want everyone on our team to be personally modeling discipling in powerful and consistent ways.

### REMOVE ROADBLOCKS, FILL IN DITCHES

What stops people on the discipling path? We will be identifying and removing those roadblocks, and filling in ditches by providing needed resources and training.

### FROM THE HARVEST TO THE HARVEST

The greatest potential for new workers is found in those who have trusted Christ and been discipled in JV ministries. We want to mobilize more of them into the harvest.

## EXIT TOUR

Exit Tour has the unique opportunity to go directly into high schools with youth speakers and a Christian band. Every young person they come in contact with has an opportunity to hear the gospel, and at the final concert students are challenged to publicly put their faith in Christ by praying out loud.

A year ago, Josiah Venture missionary Kevin Dickson told his team, **"Just sharing the gospel isn't enough. We need to always challenge them to immediately respond."**

This bold approach to the gospel has brought increased fruit. During the spring tour in the Czech Republic 55 young people made professions of faith, and on the fall tour this grew to 106 young people. In 2014, there were just five professions of faith. The harvest is ripe, and sometimes little changes make a big difference!



**"Thank you Opava for an incredible night! It was so awesome to see everyone having the best time. God is doing something amazing in this city..."** #exittour #opava #divineattraction #letitrise @corysimon



follow us @josiahventure

visit our new website [www.josiahventure.com](http://www.josiahventure.com)

**josiahventure**