

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

OPENING SPEECH: "GETTING THE VISION CLEAR"-CHRISTIANS IN EUROPE OUR COMMON CALLING" LEVENTE HORVATH

- common prayer
- speaking: Henk Jochemsen- Introducing the conference
- “Why we would like to have this conference together with our partners?”
- We want to encourage, support and help each other in a challenging time like the one we live in
 - we see a need and an option to help
 - organized help for those, who see and those who need it
 - being a church for Jesus Christ in a world like this, we live in
 - have a developed healthy social life and society
 - cooperation is an aim
 - inviting Levente Horvath to present his speech
- speaking: Levente Horvath
 - greeting people
 - father of five kids, married for 31 years
 - “How can you balance your rational and alternative time?” –It’s hard, you have to do it carefully
- Discerning God’s Call- Purchasing, Gifting, and Inheriting: alternative methods of exchanging with a “Christ-Body Awareness”
 - love is blind against wisdom
 - we have to encourage each other’s heart and become a community living in wisdom and knowledge to reach our aim
 - wisdom consists God’s call
 - other callings are calling, but they have to be smaller when God is calling
 - the first calling has to be His
 - people have been based on these three methods
 - since Old Testament times, the Judeo-Christian understanding of practicing fellowship among God’s people has been based on *distinguishing* between three ways of exchanging goods: purchasing, gifting and inheriting
 - these three ways alternate between each other
 - a gift always reminds us about the person we received it from
 - inheriting works in other ways: an inherited thing is not an object you give further
 - the stage on which we are living tells us the story of how the kingdom of God invades the church and the world
 - we belong to God is space and time
 - we can gift each other in Jesus Christ’s circle and it’s a great act
 - in the body of Jesus Christ we have to be aware of two rules:
 - the vertical dimension corresponds to exchanging goods
 - And the horizontal one corresponds to exchanging goods via gifting
 - we have to be able to separate these two dimensions
 - let the Kingdom invade both church and society
 - the Holy Land was given to the twelve tribes as an inheritance/promise
 - we have to have room is us for others, this needs to be larger for others towards us

- we need to conquer the Promised Land
- we want you to know, Brothers, about the power and generous love of Jesus
- imagine the Master left to gain a Kingdom of himself, he came here and succeeded
- Jesus says: "Be brave, invest and don't be afraid to do your business until I come back"
- God said we need to protect each other's dignity as brothers and sisters
- Interdependency instead of co-dependency
- Jesus came to set free the addicts
- Conclusion: "What is our common calling?"
- The blood of Jesus was given for you and the body of Jesus was given to you!
- Any questions, statements?
- A thought from a lady: we have to keep in mind during this conference that a lot of Muslim brothers and sisters are lost.
- we assist and collaborate in showing love
- the aim is to build a church not only in Europe but in other parts of the world
- "In social work do we have to accept to work with addicts or a prisoner, or are there any other jobs for them? Everyone should accept them or just others?"
- "You'll find peace and good feeling in giving love and help for those in need, but it is not a duty"
- "I am working with addicts and sometimes I treat it with humor, it helps"

"COOPERATION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST: EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNT"
-OLEKSANDER MALOV-

- Greeting people
- Full presentation available on e-mail
- "This presentation is not that emotional as the first one, is more theoretical"
 - Mr. Malov takes part in the organization since 1998
 - Paradox: There are no reasons for Ukraine being a poor state....but it is still poor
 - The climate is good, it seems that the country has a lot of population, there are no natural disasters, but the country is still poor and people fear to visit it
 - General mentality in: Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Bulgaria, and Greece.
 - General mentality- what about religious roots?
 - Their mind sets are formed in different way thanks to different religious views
 - states with prevalent poverty level and low human rights/freedom indexes
 - "People's beliefs"
 - Different traditions: West vs. East-in regards of "sacral" part of life and daily-"normal life"
 - "Low quality" of nation/people
 - CORRUPTION- someone fight against it, other accept and live further with it
 - Christians in West: depth of faith; culture of giving; result of giving
 - Christians and church in Ukraine: low depth of faith (poverty mentality- "I have nothing, rich people should give, but not me"); low culture of giving (people avoid talking about it); the is money in Ukraine (people only give to what is important)
 - Ownership= the goal is in mind, everything starts there
 - the real problem of most of the people is "Who I'm identifying myself?" "What is my identity?"
 - I was alone, now I'm accepted by a group of people (church), I'm responsible for those people
- now
 - being part of the church community can have real good advantages: for example those in need are helped-homeless people got finally a home

- looking for the right people with a right project aimed for identity and belonging
- no project with an identity aim and belonging is important, forget them
- ENJOY!
- listen to the front-liners, they will lead you
- keep on going
- do not invent problems where there are no problems
- remember: there are problems which are beyond your power and control-work out for a good solution
- “I was preaching in the church, when a drunk man came and after I finished, he asked me, to show him the “guy” who is responsible for his life and the situation, he lives in.”
- “Those, who are defined for eternal life, will fight for it, even if they went through the worst situations of their lives. You can’t and don’t have to spend millions of euros on those who don’t have an aim”
- Central message: “What are we doing? Am I busy to change the things in the right way or am I helping the right things to go on without me caring for those things.”
- We have addressed some problems at their roots, we should start to correct them in order to be able to do good.
- Nobody speaks about the good things reformation should have brought us
- “If you say we can solve the problem of people to know Jesus, are we going to be able to convert them?”
- “You can’t force them to come to church, they will blame you after a while for bringing them in a place they might not like. Preaching and helping them is an option, but they will not always follow your “commands”. Try to lead them.
- “In our language there are next to each other the Christian language and organizational language, however they belong to other groups and there are totally another identities. What is common between them?”
- “When it’s real, it comes up naturally. It’s upsetting, that sometimes this factor does not pop up instantly.”
- “I have to say that this is a big issue and stops people from coming to church. One of the thing is people say “I’m already a Christian, I go to church twice a year, I don’t have any other obligations”. My question is how can we aim to get people come more times and listen honestly?
- “The solution I see: I’m praying for the priest. Start praying for the priest in the Orthodox Church for being converted. Depends on his preaching if people come or not. We have a lot of kind of religions and churches, we have to start to form a unity in towards to be able to convert people.”
- National identity, no matter if you are Ukrainian, Slav or something else.
- “First of all, we should make the opportunity of young to visit and experience new things not only in East, but in West to. At our church community we have a 15 years old agreement with Holland. We send people there to visit families and spend time with them. Most of the people or families sent there for a visit, probably came home and tried to change something in their lives, because they say people living in harmony, peace and organized homes for example. The main thing is that if we want to have that mentioned identity and mentality change, we have to be able to accept other things that we are used to.”
- “One of the most important thing is trying to lead those in need and helping them to get a bright vision of their possibilities even if they went through the worst situations. Leading them when it is needed can lead to great things”
- Thank you for attending, paying attention, being here, thank you for your questions and remarks!

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

COMMUNICATION AND PROMOTION OF OWNERSHIP OF DEVELOPMENT AMONG CHURCHES, NGO'S AND GOVERNMENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE

we are seeking together guidance of God for our future work.

Roundtable Participants Oleksandr Malov, Maja Hristozava, Vitalie Pupazan, Jan Migchels, Natascha Gendi

First question. Ownership of development in EE, what is the issue?

1. Natascha: I heard from the speakers, there is an issue, but it is not a big one. Most of the people managed to work in the project, in terms of responsibility, it has shown a huge progress in a good way. Main thing that is missing is the change of mindset of people. They do not cooperate in every way.
2. It is necessary not to accept the situation as it is, we have to go because Jesus wants us to keep going. I had the capacity to step back and watch them, I could explain 3-4 times to people, at first I was not on my place, could not react the way I do now.
3. I came to realise The ownership question is about who owns the mission and vision of the process to ownership. We are looking to redefine ownership, we must be committed.
4. Vitali: How was the partnership till now? I see a organisations that are kind of stuck at some time, and not too many people talk about the future. Each partners tries to deal with the problem, but we need to agree to a resolution to resolve together in the future and do not look back in the past.

Question: I heard today and yesterday about ownership and communication. The real issue, I believe is with the communication.

- In my presentation yesterday I provided an insight that we need to find the *right* people, those who have the spirit for going further and changing the „area“ next to me. I usually spoke with them, when they are seeking for help, for donors. For a man it is bad to touch a woman, but I say it is bad to touch a foreign mind because this can also be limiting in what we want to achieve. We would like to choose the people who should and could do the work properly. It is all about the right people.
- When you want to make a goal to reality, you need the structure to make it work. We are trying to make a structure out of nothing, this is a problem, we don't need to focus on that first. The direction is to find the right person first, then the rest.
- If we find the right person, for example: we find the right jeweller, he starts working with the „structure“ and through this he becomes an architecture, then we have to find the right jeweller again.
- I hear very negative opinions about bureaucrats.
- We don't make reports because we have papers to fill, we make reports because we go there and see the progress.
- You do have good people in your organization, but do you choose the good people for the organization?
- I've worked with the church based ministry, we as an organization, we've been doing things, but there were things that they had to do themselves. The pastor, elder people, who runs the ministry

. Bureocracy is too time consuming and we do not want to lose partners, because they go elsewhere where they find it easier to make do.

- A lady, who makes the reports speaks english, makes the report but does not even check the progress in person.

Question: Why do pastors do everything? We should know how to teach people on how to make professional reports.

- Reporting is the steering wheel.
- Don't touch foreign money, what is foreign money?
- Period when west came to east, wanted to help and didnt ask for reports.
- From 2014 we ask them to make reports, the pastor told us that we will lose all of our partners because of the bureocracy.
- I want to summerize, the church does not have the capacity to do the reports, teaching etc., the Dutch should help in that, financing and making the capacity to fit. Necessity for funding.
- Recommendation: Capacity building for administration.

Second question: What does this mean for our work

The church is for faith, for Christ. But the church is also a fundraising for our work.

Vitali. Churches with NGO. The problem with the church is the money. If everything is made transparent, we could see properly what happened in the last years and people could see what happened.

We have thousands of NGOs, who are doing excellent work but they are NOT CHANGING the people's mindset. The only institution can change the mindset is the Church. NGOs can never change the mindset of people, only the church can.

React, pastor: if the organizations and ngos work together with the church. I have many contacts with ngos who are not christians, and have no results. Jesus inside makes the result. I would never separate these two. The gospel should help in physical and spiritual level.

When it comes to change the mindset of people, the church is not enough. In this case the organization as a support to the church, together, with professionals and the church can change the mindset of people.

Church is used in two different things: Beliefs and organization. Secondly the church has – and functions as - a model for the community. I think that the church is in a good way in relationship with organisations. The church at all cost should be included.

Lesson learnt: We have to avoid being on our own

Recommend: outline the specific steps, the issue

- What i've learnt, when you want to change your behaviour, make a step forward, next to the step you always do. Leave your comfort zone.