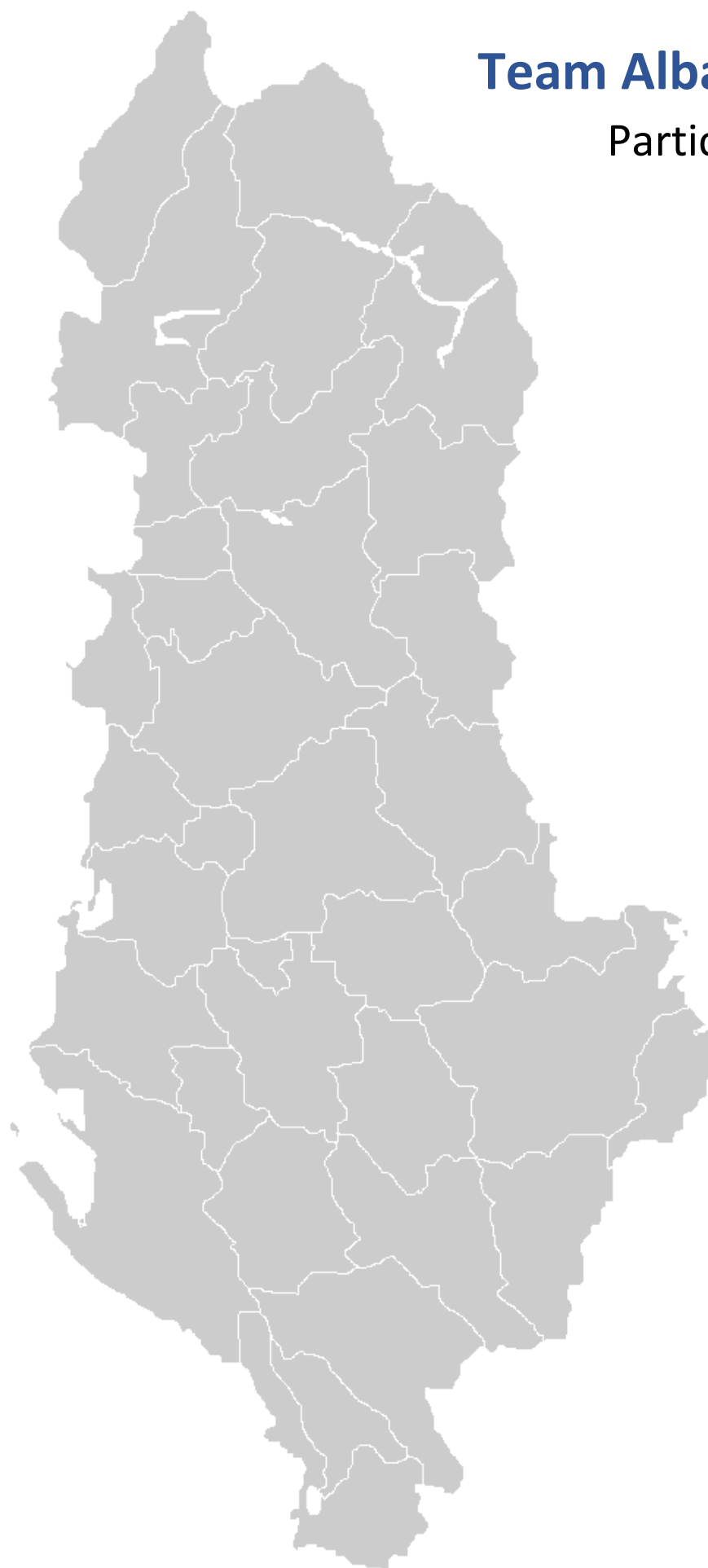


# Team Albania<sup>+</sup> 2018

## Participant Guide





Team Albania 2014



Team Albania 2015



Team Albania 2016



Team Albania 2017

## Welcome to the Team!

We are so happy that you are joining us in 2018 to share the Gospel and make disciples in Albania, Hungary, and Poland! We are confident that The Lord will use you this year to impact the lives of others, and we can't wait to get to know you over the next few months and see your spiritual gifts in action this summer. We are both inspired and humbled by your willingness to go on mission.

This is an exciting year for this ministry. For the first time we are expanding beyond the borders of Albania for our summer project. In addition, we are adding a new ministry area in the form of Regeneration Recovery. This team has been blessed to have seen consistent growth since its start in 2013. Here are some highlights:

- 2013 – Initial Team of 3 people went to Tirana, Albania for High School camp
- 2014 – Team grew to 10 for Tirana High School
- 2015 – Added a new city (Elbasan); Team grew to 20
- 2016 – Added a new ministry (Young Professionals)
- 2017 – Added a new city (Korça); Team grew to 32

For this year's summer project, we are taking 6 teams to 5 cities across 3 countries, participating in 3 distinct ministry areas, across a time span of 24 days. We settled with the name "Albania+" as a way to help people remember that, even though we may have different cities, ministries, or travel weeks, we are one unified team in the way we prepare ourselves, how we support each other, and in our mission. And as we proceed, we must also remember that success in this mission is not measured in numbers, but in faithfulness.

"So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything,  
but only God who gives the growth." – 1 Cor. 3:7

This Participant Guide contains much of the information we will go through in the coming months. Please keep bring it to the team meetings so that you can store any additional handouts. In the pocket of this folder is a personalized "business card" that is meant to encourage you to take ownership over this time. Your card lists information such as your team, your city, your ministry, your travel dates, and your team leaders' names. We have discovered that those who "go all-in" on this trip are the ones who get the most out of it, and who are the most effective over there as well as the most inspired when they return home. So... ask questions, get to know your team, and get excited!

— Team Albania+ 2018 Leaders

# Team Albania<sup>+</sup> 2018

## Participant Guide

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## Where We're Going, and What We're Doing

### Team Countries

#### Albania

Albania is a Southeastern European country bordering Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, and the Adriatic Sea. The country has a total population of about 3 million people and is about the size of New Jersey. Due to low job opportunities and antagonism toward its political/economic system, many Albanians have emigrated to other parts of Europe and the United States. Albania is among the poorest nations in Europe. The national language is Albanian (locally, *Shqip*), though many Albanians (especially younger people) speak English. Important moments in the history of Albania include invasion by the Ottomans in the 15<sup>th</sup> century (and the rebellion led by Skanderbeg), establishment of the modern Albanian state after World War I, and the fall of the communist government in 1991. The local currency is the Albanian Lek (code: ALL).



The Gospel first made its way to Albania through the Apostle Paul, who visited Albania as he planted churches along the Via Egnatia—the vital road connecting Rome to Constantinople (Romans 15:19). A visit by Titus to Dalmatia (modern day Montenegro/Serbia) is attested in 2 Timothy 4:10. Around the 17<sup>th</sup> century a large majority of the population was Islamized. After World War II, much of Eastern Europe (including Albania) was taken over by authoritative communism. In 1967, dictator Enver Hoxha outlawed religious expression, declared Albania the “world’s first atheist state,” claimed the only valid religion as “Albanianism,” and destroyed many Islamic libraries and Orthodox churches. Today, Albanians are very much open to talking about faith issues, in part due to backlash against the restrictive days of communism, and because those who identify as Muslim do so nominally.



#### Hungary

Hungary is a country of about 9.8 million people whose capital city is Budapest, a financial center of Central and Eastern Europe. The Danube River—which flows through 10 countries—is a chief geographic marker of Hungary, as well as Lake Balaton, the largest lake in Central Europe. Hungary borders seven other countries and is a largely homogeneous population.

Hungarian (*Magyar*) is the official language, and the local currency is Hungarian forint (HUF).

Hungary’s current borders were established in 1920 after World War I, when its imperial alliance with Austria was ended. After World War II, Hungary became a satellite state of the communist Soviet Union, until 1989 when it transitioned to a parliamentary, representative democratic republic. There is

no official religion in Hungary, though the constitution “recognizes Christianity’s nation-building role.” Like most European countries, the Catholic Church had a role in shaping culture, politics, and art. During the Protestant Reformation, most Hungarians adopted Lutheranism and soon after Calvinism. Historically, Hungary was home to a significant Jewish population. Most (perhaps 550,000) were either killed in Holocaust death camps or by Hungary’s fascist party during World War II. Dohány Street Synagogue in Budapest is the largest in Europe and second-largest in the world.

Hungarian culture is generally very skeptical and has been jaded by church abuses in past years. Many nations have attempted to conquer, suppress or impose themselves on Hungarian culture. Most students call themselves atheists or agnostics, and they have many logical objections to the gospel. As in other places, they need to see faith lived out and modeled for them to take it seriously. At the same time, Cru staff find that students are very open to discussing spiritual topics, and it is not difficult to initiate conversations that lead to spiritual talks.

## Poland

Poland is a country of 38 million people situated in north-central Europe. The capital is Warsaw, a city of 1.7 million people. The first Polish ruler, Mieszko I, lived in the 10<sup>th</sup> century and adopted the Christianity to unite the Polish people and gain favor from the Papal powers in Rome. So, interestingly, Christian religion has been present since the beginning of Polish statehood. In 1966, on the 1000-year anniversary of the “Baptism of Poland,” the communist government denied Pope Paul VI permission to visit Poland and declared the anniversary a celebration of the Polish political state.

Following the end of World War II, a communist government was established by the Soviet Union that lasted until parliamentary elections in 1989. Opposition from the communist establishment was led by a political force termed “Solidarity.” Changes that started in Poland precipitated a wave of civil resistance and popular opposition against one-party rule that swept across Central and Eastern Europe, including East Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, and Czechoslovakia. By 1990 a Solidarity candidate won the Polish presidency, and the Soviet Union collapsed a year later.

Poland was a religiously diverse country up to World War II, with substantial numbers of Jews, Protestant Christians, Orthodox Christians, and Catholics coexisting, a result of religious tolerance edicts going back as far as the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Today, Poland is one of the most religiously conservative countries in Europe, with polls suggesting that up to 87% of Poles are Catholic. Polish is the second-most widely spoken Slavic language, after Russian and ahead of Ukrainian. The local currency is the Polish zloty (PLN).



## Team Cities

### Tirana, Albania

Tirana is Albania’s largest city and the political, cultural, and economic center of Albanian life, and has about 30% of the population of the country. Surrounded by hills and mountains, the city is centrally located within Albania. Tirana was founded as a city in 1614, but the area has been continuously

inhabited since the Bronze Age. Important landmarks in Tirana include Skanderbeg Square, the new National Arena (due for completion in 2018), the Clock Tower of Tirana, Et'hem Bey Mosque, and the Lana River. Tirana has the third largest Orthodox church in Europe and is the site of construction for The Great Mosque of Tirana, which will be the largest mosque in the Balkans when completed. Cru Albania (or *Instituti Jeta e Re*) has its headquarters in the southeast section of the city, near the American Embassy.



### Elbasan, Albania

Elbasan is the third largest city in Albania (with a population of about 150,000) and is located an hour southeast of Tirana. Elbasan was the site of a 2<sup>nd</sup>-century trading post along the Via Egnatia and eventually became a Roman fortress-city. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Sultan Mehmet II built the Elbasan Castle as part of the Ottomans' ongoing conflict with Skanderbeg. The modern name derives from the Turkish *il-basan* ("the fortress"). During communist times, Elbasan became an industrial center. Today it is a university town and Cru has a strong presence there. The goal of Cru Elbasan is to establish the gospel in area high schools and to disciple university students. This year will mark the 4<sup>th</sup> year of HS camp for Albania+ team.

### Korça, Albania

Situated in southeast Albania near the Greek border is Korça, a small city with a population of 75,000. In part due to its proximity to Greece, Korça is very multi-cultural. Following the end of Ottoman rule in the region in 1912, the city was fiercely contested between the Greek Army and Albanian nationalists. It eventually came under the control of the French during World War I, who held the city and supported Albanian control of the city in order to hold off Austrian aggression along the Macedonian front of the war. Korça today is influenced by the cultures and religious backgrounds of Albania, Greece, France, and Turkey, and is dominated by Orthodox religion. Cru Albania does not have an office in Korça, but rather is partnered with a local church through the Cru Catalytic ministry. In 2018, Albania+ team will partner with Cru, a local church, and team of Hungarian Cru (with student volunteers) to host the HS camp.







### Pécs, Hungary

Pécs is a city of about 170,000 people built into the foothills and has at times been called a cultural capital of Europe. Today, it very much remains a cultural city. The University of Pécs is the oldest in Hungary. Although an old and very historic city, Pécs is very easy to navigate. Historically, the city has been Catholic, but like most places in Europe is largely atheistic. The biggest

spiritual need is manpower help in sharing the gospel and finding future student leaders. As a result, training/experience in evangelism and sharing the gospel is something that Cru Hungary needs more of, especially among the high school and university students.

### Southern Poland

At time of printing, the Poland team is still determining the exact city it will be visiting. Because the Poland trip is a retreat, the focus is less on building into a location and more about the people attending. The retreat will likely be in either Tylicz or Rabka Zdrój, both along the southern border with Slovakia.

### Team Ministries

#### High School

The High School (HS) ministry is the backbone of the Albania+ movement and a vital way in which Cru is impacting the lives of future leaders. During the summer, Cru staff in select countries have an evangelism-focused week (or month) in which the goal is to introduce high schoolers to the person of Christ. Then, once camp is over and everyone has gone back home or to school, those people are followed up by Cru staff for possible discipleship. The camp—known as “Ice and Spice”—is an opportunity for kids to meet new people (including Americans!), make friends, play games, listen to stories, and to be introduced to the gospel. It also gives Cru Staff and Cru volunteers (especially university students) the chance to train in evangelism and discipleship.

One of the biggest impacts that we have on people abroad—especially in Albania—is that we are spending our time, resources, and energy to get to know others. That is why coffee dates, table discussion, English camp, invitations to equipping talks, and the quality time that these afford are so effective. This summer we have 4 HS teams that are going to Tirana, Elbasan, Korça, and Pécs during Weeks 1, 2, and 3.

#### Websites

- Tirana: <https://www.facebook.com/RPJ-Tiran%C3%AB-379123586163/>
- Elbasan: <https://www.facebook.com/RPJ-Elbasan-1490219094566146/>

### Young Professionals

Young Professionals (YP; known in Albanian as Sotmëria) is a Cru Albania ministry that seeks to “organize seminars on integrity, ethics, bringing the experience of Albanian or foreign leaders who speak from personal experience.” It was started just a few years ago in 2014 and since then has really taken off!



Every month Cru hosts a seminar on a professional topic, which is attended by 50+ young professionals. Often, the talks implement some form of spiritual or Gospel-themed message. This brings opportunities for staff and volunteers to make contacts and invite people to coffee. Cru also organizes training events for the committed volunteers that help train them on things such as sharing the Gospel and praying effectively for their peers. Events typically occur at and around Cru Albania headquarters in Tirana.

Albania Team (Dallas) began partnering with Sotmëria in 2016, and every summer we send a team to help put on their big summer project. The project consists of two seminars during the week: one on a professional theme and one that is evangelistic. The professional seminar is pre-evangelistic and the second one is designed around the Gospel. There are many opportunities to meet young professionals and build relationships for sharing the Gospel. At the end of the week we invite the believers to join us for a retreat where we further equip them on sharing the Gospel and how to live the Christian worldview in the workplace.

**Websites:**

- <http://sotmeria.org/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/sotmeria/>

## Regeneration Recovery

The Summer 2018 trip to Poland will be unlike any that our team has undertaken. We will be introducing the Regeneration Recovery (Regen) ministry to Poland via a partnership with the local church and Campus Crusade Poland by conducting a 5-day country-side retreat with approximately 40 Polish Cru staff and individual participants. The participants are people who have requested help with their addictive patterns and struggles. The retreat will consist of teaching, small group discussions, sharing of testimonies, team building, and relaxation. The hope is that men's and women's small groups will be formed and remotely led by Watermark leaders in Dallas after the trip in September, after participants complete the Groundwork curriculum. The Regen team will be traveling to the city of [Polish city] during Week 2 of the summer projects.

## Cru in Eastern Europe

The national Cru groups in Albania, Hungary, and Poland are part of Campus Crusade for Christ International (CCC), a para-church organization committed to fulfilling the Great Commission in our generation. Cru originated in the United States in 1951, and Cru's desire for international missions is to develop local leaders who will direct Cru ministries in their respective countries. Cru launched in South Korea in 1958 and was in three countries by 1960. In 1965, Bill Bright published a booklet called "Have You Heard of the Four Spiritual Laws?" which today has been translated into over 200 languages. By the end of the decade, Cru was in 45 countries. In 1979 the Jesus Film Project produced *The JESUS Film*, which became the most-translated film in history (at 974 languages) and by 2007 had 5.5 billion viewers. By 1980, Cru was active in 114 countries; by 2013, it was active in 190.

In 1982 Cru sent its first teams of students to the Soviet Union and simultaneously launched covert projects in Eastern Europe. The fall of the Iron Curtain accelerated Cru's presence in those countries, including in Poland, Hungary, and Albania. Marek Wrzykowski, the current Area Team Leader of Cru Eastern Europe and Russia, was the first native Eastern European to lead Cru in the countries of the former Soviet Union when he was appointed in 2009. Marek was an engineering student in Poland in the

early 1980s when he was approached by the then-director of Cru Eastern Europe, Larry Thompson, an American. Over time, because of the government's focus on opposing political movements (such as Solidarity) and less so spiritual movements, it became easier to share the gospel in Poland. Today, the Eastern Europe and Russia area has over 1000 staff members and ministries in over 20 countries. Given the conflicts that Eastern European countries have had with each other, it is sign of maturity—and a testament to the effectiveness of discipleship—that the current Area Cru leader is a native.

### **Cru Strategy**

1. Win: Give every person the opportunity to clearly hear the gospel and offering every person the opportunity to make a decision to receive Jesus Christ.
2. Build: Help new believers grow in Christ-like character and become passionate followers of Christ.
3. Send: Send laborers to go and make disciples wherever God leads them, whether in the secular field or the mission field, at home or beyond.

Cru staff often partner with staffers from other countries to discuss evangelism strategies, share best practices, encourage one another, and become equipped through conferences, short-term mission trips, and even long-term assignments. In Eastern Europe this has resulted in much cross-pollination of ideas and good working relationships between country teams. For example, the Cru Hungary and Cru Albania team have a long-standing partnership that has resulted in growth and expansion of the High School ministry.

### **Cru Albania**

Ministry here began in 1991, right after the fall of communism in what used to be the world's only atheist country. In 1992, Campus Crusade for Christ sent its first group of staff and students from America to Albania. They met spiritually hungry men and women who were filled with questions about God, Jesus Christ, and the Bible. Within a year, hundreds of students had placed their faith in Jesus Christ and joined Bible Studies in their dorms.

In the fall of 1993, the first two Albanians joined full-time staff of Campus Crusade for Christ. Since then, through ongoing evangelism and discipleship on campus, tens of thousands of students have heard the Gospel, many have become followers of Christ, more than 100 are now serving as full-time staff. Today, there are more than 25,000 committed believers throughout the country.

In 1996, CCC Albania sent 5 staff on a short-term mission to Lebanon. Three years later, the Kosovo crisis presented another opportunity for Albanian missions. With a large population from Muslim backgrounds, Kosovo has been impacted with the Gospel like never before. Now, the Gospel is spreading from Albania to Kosovo to Turkey. Because of a common history of several centuries, there is a close affinity between Albanians and Turks, which makes it that much easier for Albanians to impact its surrounding countries for the Gospel.

Today, Cru Albania has seven distinct ministries located in 6 countries: Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Bosnia, and Italy. The 7 ministries include: University, High School, Executives and Professionals, Digital Ministries, Family Life, Church Planting, and Operations. We will primarily be serving with the High School ministry, which in just the last two years has expanded from Tirana (the capital) to four other cities, including Elbasan, where we will be going this year in addition to Tirana.

## Vision

We are trusting God that by year 2020, we will see spiritual movements everywhere, so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Christ. Albanians are being sent to bless others with the Gospel, especially Muslim countries, and by the year 2020, Cru's vision is to have 50% of our staff serving outside of Albania's borders.

## The Future

It started with a small group of Americans in the last decade of the last century. Today, once the only officially atheistic state in the world, Albania has become a missionary sending country. Today, there are over 100 full-time staff workers with Cru spread in 5 major Albanian cities and in 5 other countries outside of Albania. By the year 2020, the hope is that 50% of Albania Cru staff will serve outside of Albania. By God's grace, Albanians will be strategic in reaching not only the unreached countries of the Muslim world, but even old Europe. And now you get to be a part of this adventure in sharing the Gospel and making disciples!

- <https://www.cru.org/us/en/communities/locations/europe/albania.html>
- <http://www.albaniaccc.org/>

## Cru Hungary

Cru Hungary was started around 1972 by youths who had a desire to change the direction of their communist country. There are currently about 40-50 Cru staff (including spouses). Cru Eastern Europe is headquartered in Budapest. The current ministry branches of Cru Hungary include: Budapest High School Team, Budapest University Team, Catalytic Team, Operations Team, Digital Strategies Team, Sending and Receiving Team, and the Alumni/Young Professionals Team. Each summer there is a month-long English camp called "SpeakOut" that takes place at Keszthely, near lake each summer. Over the course of the summer about 100 staff (American and Hungarian) will undergo discipleship and evangelism. At the same time, nearly 300 students come through and over the week will be exposed to the gospel multiple times and in various ways.

- <https://www.cru.org/us/en/communities/locations/europe/hungary.html>
- <http://fek.hu/>
- <https://speakoutstaff.wordpress.com/>

## Cru Poland

Campus Crusade for Christ was registered in Poland as the New Life Movement in 1991 after the fall of Communism, although the history of its operation in the country dates back to 1976 when it began doing so covertly. In 1979, Campus Crusade began work among university students, first in Krakow and Warsaw, then in Poznań, Gdańsk, Wrocław, Łódź and others. Today, the New Life Movement, also known as MT28, works among students and organizes activities to help reach the greater Polish community (including families, students and teachers, athletes, businessmen, etc.) with the gospel message. The New Life Movement creates opportunities for joint missionary work for members of various Christian Churches. The Movement is not a Church, but an organization that seeks to help existing churches carry out evangelism, discipleship, and care for the surrounding community.

- <https://www.cru.org/us/en/communities/locations/europe/poland.html>
- <http://www.rnz.org.pl/index/>

# Albania+ 2018 Discipleship Trips

## Team Rosters

### Team Tirana HS

- **Tirana, Albania**
- **High School**
- **Week 1 – June 29-July 9**



Nicolas Arguello (Team Leader) *	nicoo.arguello@hotmail.com	972-805-6335
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Jenn Saucier	jsauce2012@gmail.com	402-669-3097
Katy Wood *	wood.katy@outlook.com	214-502-0756

### Team Elbasan HS

- **Elbasan, Albania**
- **High School**
- **Week 1 – June 29-July 9**



Matt Rial (Team Leader)	podneau@gmail.com	972-743-2855
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Chelsea Prettyman	chelsea-prettyman@hotmail.com	417-691-0720
Charissa Tran	chart831@gmail.com	469-929-8700

### Team Tirana YP

- **Tirana, Albania**
- **Young Professionals**
- **Week 1 – June 29-July 9**



Gordon Burgett (Team Leader)	gordon.burgett@gmail.com	972-275-9023
Mark Hapka (Team Leader)	mhapka@gmail.com	254-931-1838
Claudia Corona (Team Leader) *	claudiascorona@gmail.com	469-235-4788
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Lauren Horner *	Laurenshea7@gmail.com	214-710-0566
Sally Neeley	sally.neeley@gmail.com	254-537-2449



### Team Korça HS

- **Korça, Albania**
- **High School**
- **Week 2 – July 7-July 16**



Joseph Woodard (Team Leader)	j_woodard0307@yahoo.com	214-934-2383
Lucy Chang (Team Leader) *	lucychang@gmail.com	214-682-3739
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Faith Michael *	faithiemichael@gmail.com	214-909-7323
Katy Wood *	wood.katy@outlook.com	214-502-0756

### Team Poland Regen

- **Southern Poland**
- **Regeneration Recovery**
- **Week 2 – July 7-July 15**



Chris Hyland (Team Leader)	chris.hyland.ch@gmail.com	214-973-3004
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Lauren Horner *	laurenshea7@gmail.com	214-710-0566
Jose Lopez	jlopezc05@gmail.com	214-714-1836

### Team Hungary HS

- **Pécs, Hungary**
- **High School**
- **Week 3 – July 14-July 22**



Randy Valdez (Team Leader)	randy.valdez@outlook.com	210-632-5062
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### Team Support

- **Dallas, Texas**
- **Team Support and Discipleship**



Amber Hapka (Team Leader)	amber.hapka@gmail.com	972-740-0216
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## Team Leaders



### **Will Noll**

- *Director, Albania+ Dallas Ministry; and Team Leader, Poland Regen.*
- Responsible for overall ministry leadership, pastoral care, vision, leader development.
- Oversees relationships with key ministry partners, including Watermark, Cru Albania, Cru Poland, Cru City, and High Point Travel.



### **Lucy Chang**

- *Director, Albania+ Dallas Ministry; and Team Leader, Korça High School.*
- Responsible for overall ministry leadership, pastoral care, vision, leader development.
- Oversees team meeting schedule, equipping planning and teaching, travel planning, Watermark resourcing, and team communications.



### **Joseph Woodard**

- *Director, Albania+ Dallas Ministry; and Team Leader, Korça High School.*
- Responsible for overall ministry leadership, vision, and team development.
- Oversees participant packet, equipping planning, and team calendar.



### **Nicolas Arguello**

- *Team Leader, Tirana High School.*
- Teaches on equipping topics.



### **Marlie Austin**

- *Team Leader, Elbasan High School.*
- Oversees Albania-Dallas Connection Facebook page.



### **Sam Barrientos**

- *Team Leader, Hungary High School.*
- Oversees Cru Hungary partnership and planning.



### **Carrie Beckner**

- *Team Leader, Tirana High School.*
- Coordinates travel logistics (flights, passports, etc.) and tracks information.



### **Gordon Burgett**

- *Team Leader, Tirana Young Professionals.*
- Oversees Team Albania website, coordinates Cru accounts, and teaches on equipping topics.



### **Wes Chick**

- *Team Leader, Poland Regen.*



**Claudia Corona**

- *Team Leader, Tirana Young Professionals.*
- Coordinates forms and waivers.



**Mark Hapka**

- *Team Leader, Tirana Young Professionals.*
- Coordinates equipping planning and teaching.



**Amber Hapka**

- *Leader-at-Large, Team Support.*
- Coordinates T-shirt creation/ordering, snacks, and equipping/discipleship.



**Chris Hyland**

- *Team Leader, Poland Regen.*
- Oversees Cru Poland partnership/coordination.
- Teaches on equipping topics.



**Matt Rial**

- *Team Leader, Elbasan High School.*
- Coordinates team-building and special events.



**Randy Valdez**

- *Team Leader, Hungary High School.*
- Oversees Cru Hungary partnership and planning.
- Coordinates team-building and special events.



## Team Calendar

green = team meeting/event; red = process milestone; blue = in-country; black = 2018 events; purple = document milestone

MAR 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25 Team Mtg 1	26	27	28	29	30	31
APR 2018						
1 Easter	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Team Mtg 2	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Team Mtg 3	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
MAY 2018						
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Team Mtg 4	7	8	9	10	11 Mile Marker 1	12 Team Bldg Event
13 Mother's Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 WM Baptism	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Mem. Day	29	30	31		
JUN 2018						
					1	2
3 Team Mtg 5	4	5	6	7	8 Unashamed	9 Unashamed
10 Unashamed	11	12	13	14	15 Mile Marker 2	16
17 Father's Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Team Mtg 6	25 City Team Planning Done	26	27	28 Mile Marker 3	29 Tirana HS, Elbasan HS, Tirana YP (6/29-7/9)	30
JUL 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 Indep Day	5	6	7 Korça HS (7/7-7/16); Poland Regen (7/7-7/15)
8 "Big" Albania Team Dinner?	9 Albania Wk 1 Return	10	11	12	13	14 Hungary HS (7/14-7/22)
15 Poland Regen Return	16 Albania Wk 2 Return	17	18	19	20	21
22 Hungary HS Return	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Post-Celebration	30	31				



## Team Meeting Agendas

Team Meetings will be at 2:30 pm at Watermark. More details provided in future emails and meetings.

### Team Meeting #1 – Sunday 3/25

- Large Group
  - Icebreaker
  - Announcements – Vision Cast & Intro Leaders, Participant Packet, Calendar, Fundraising (Breakdown/Mile Markers), Team Policies, Passports & Plane Tickets, Cru Accounts, Website, Waivers/Forms/Insurance, Snacks, Social Media, Team Building Event, T-shirts, How to Memorize Verses, Team Meetings, Equipping/Testimony/Books, Q&A
- Team Time
  - Leaders Share Testimonies
- Team Picture
- Homework
  - Fundraising Letters Due to your Team Leader
  - Renew/Apply for Passports (as needed)
  - Book \$ Due
  - Read through *Albania+ 2018 Participant Guide*
  - Memory Verses
    - **Due next time – John 10:10, John 17:3**

### Team Meeting #2 – Sunday 4/8

- Large Group
  - Worship
  - Announcements
  - **Equipping – The Gospel and How to Start Conversations (Lucy)**
    - **HW – Start learning 4 Spiritual Laws**
- Team Time
  - Memory Verses
    - **Recite – John 10:10, John 17:3**
    - **Due next time – Rom. 3:23, Rom. 6:23**
  - Team Members Share Testimonies
  - *More Than a Carpenter* Book
    - **Due next time – Ch. 1-6**
  - Prayer

### Team Meeting #3 – Sunday 4/22

- Large Group
  - Icebreaker
  - Announcements
  - **Equipping – Albania Camp Culture & Eastern Europe Expectations (Joseph & Aldo)**
  - **Mile Marker #1 - \$1700 Due Friday 5/11**
  - **T-shirt Orders Due Sunday 5/6**
- Team Time
  - Memory Verses
    - **Recite – Rom. 3:23, Rom. 6:23**
    - **Due next time – Rom. 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-6, John 14:6**
  - *More Than a Carpenter* Book Discussion
    - **Discuss – Ch. 1-6**
    - **Due next time – Ch. 7-13**
  - Prayer

### Team Meeting #4 – Sunday 5/6

- Large Group
  - Worship
  - Announcements
  - **Equipping – Apologetics (Islam & Atheism/Agnosticism) (Gordon & Chris)**
  - **Mile Marker #1 - \$1700 Due Friday 5/11**
  - **T-shirt Orders Due Today**
- Team Time
  - Memory Verses
    - **Recite – Rom. 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-6, John 14:6**
    - **Due next time – John 1:12, Eph. 2:8-9, John 5:24**
  - *More Than a Carpenter* Book Discussion
    - **Discuss – Ch. 7-13**
  - **4 Spiritual Laws Workshop – Leaders only**
    - **Due next time – 4 Spiritual Laws Workshop**
  - Prayer

### Team Building Event – Saturday 5/12 from 12:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

### Team Meeting #5 – Sunday 6/3

- Large Group
  - Worship
  - Announcements – Itinerary, Packing List, Emergency/Cru Contact Info
  - **Equipping – Apologetics (Catholicism & Orthodox) (Mark & Nico)**
  - **Mile Marker #2 - \$2200/2700 Due Friday 6/15**
- Team Time
  - Memory Verses
    - **Recite – John 1:12, Eph. 2:8-9, John 5:24**
  - **4 Spiritual Laws Workshop**
  - **Team Specific – Start In-Country Planning**
  - Prayer

### Unashamed – Friday 6/8 - Sunday 6/10

### *Mile Marker #2 - \$2200/2700 Due Friday 6/15*

### Team Meeting #6 – Sunday 6/24 (Pre-Trip Meeting)

- Large Group
  - Games & Worship
  - Announcements – Itinerary, Packing List, Emergency/Albania Contacts, Travel Buddies, Prayer Calendar, In-Country Schedule, In-Country Team Picture, Etc.
  - Prayer
- Team Time
  - **Team Specific – Finish In-Country Planning**
  - Prayer

### *Mile Marker #3 - \$3000/3500 Due Friday 6/29 & Teams off to Eastern Europe!*

### Post-Trip Celebration – Sunday 7/29

- Large Group
  - Worship
  - Celebrate what God's done!
  - Prayer

## Special Team Events

### Team Building Event

Who: Team Albania+ 2018 (... everyone)

What: TBD

Where: TBD

When: Saturday, May 12, 12:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Why: To enjoy time dedicated to getting to know each other.

### Unashamed

What: Prayer, worship, service, and evangelism in and around Downtown Dallas.

When: June 8-10. Friday night starting at 6:30 pm to Sunday afternoon at 2:30 pm.

Where: C2K offices at Tyler Street United Methodist Church. 927 West Tenth Street, Dallas, TX 75208. Other locations throughout the weekend.

How to prepare: In past years Albania Team has done its own “Evangelism Explosion” in Uptown Dallas. This year we are partnering with Unashamed at Watermark, replacing our Team Meetings for the standard Unashamed trainings, and joining the larger Unashamed group for the weekend event. Much of the training and equipping that we will do to prepare for Albania is relevant to the training that Unashamed members experience.

#### Schedule:

##### **Friday**

6:30 PM Arrive at C2K for check-in, dinner, set up beds etc.  
7:00 PM Prayer tour  
10:30 PM Rooftop worship  
11:30 PM Game Night or bed

1:00 PM Break: Lunch, Showers, and Quiet time  
2:30 PM Evangelism in the City  
6:30 PM Dinner in uptown  
6:30 PM Share stories  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Worship in the park (Awaken)

##### **Saturday**

7:00 AM Breakfast & Devotional  
8:30 AM Service Opportunity (details on Saturday Morning)

##### **Sunday**

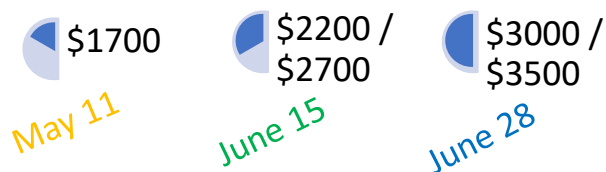
7:30 AM Breakfast & Devotional  
8:30 AM Alternative Worship Experience  
1:00 PM Lunch at C2K  
2:30 PM Debrief meeting

## Support Raising

### Fundraising Needs

- **One-week participants - \$3000**
  - Travel: ~\$1600-1800
  - Travel and in-country accommodations: ~\$500
  - Donation to Cru Albania for camp and other ministry needs: ~\$500
- **Two-week participants - \$3500**
  - Same as one-week participants plus extra in-country accommodations: \$500

### Fundraising Progress Markers



God is faithful and can be trusted to ultimately provide for our fundraising needs. We believe fully that He can use the fundraising process to teach each team member to trust Him, and to allow team member's friends, family, and colleagues to partner in the trip through financial support even while they can't personally attend. We also believe that He can use the fundraising process as a vehicle to win over the hearts of non-believers as they may hear the Gospel for the first time through the process.

For these reasons, we have a series of firm fundraising progress markers that each team member will be required to achieve to ensure that they are contributing an equal effort into the process.

The first progress marker of \$1700 will be due by May 11. Any team member that has not been able to raise the target amount in donations by this time will be asked to personally contribute enough to make up the shortfall.

The second progress marker of \$2200 for one-week participants (or \$2700 for two-week participants) will be due by June 15. At that point we will assess the progress towards the overall team fundraising goal and determine the amount of any total shortfall. Any team member that has not been able to raise the target amount in personal donations by this time will be asked to personally contribute enough to make up their proportional share of the overall team shortfall.

The final fundraising goal is \$3000 for one-week participants or \$3500 for two-week participants by the time the first team departs on June 29. This final incremental fundraising will be for the donation to Cru and participants will not be asked to personally make up any shortfall.



## Fundraising Process

We believe the Lord can use raising support as a “faith builder” in your life. So whether you’re able to fully support yourself or not, this is an important part of the process. Be ready to watch this process grow your faith and be encouragement to you and others. Have fun!

1. **PRAY.** Express your total dependence on our Lord. Enlist others to pray with you.
2. **MAKE A LIST OF PARTNERS.** Start with your community first and involve them in the process. How can they help you? Pray for other people to come to mind, including church friends, relatives, neighbors, anyone. Do not leave people off your list because you think they will not or cannot support you. You may even consider non-believers (consider it a chance to share Christ with them!) You may consider having several versions of your letter for different people.
3. **WRITE AND SEND YOUR LETTER(S).** See following pages for two sample letters. Consider both snail mail and email. Folks love getting hard copies of letters. It shows a personal touch. We’ll have a team magnet, so feel free to send that along with your letter. The magnet is great as a “constant reminder” on their refrigerator to donate and/or pray!
4. **KEEP TRACK.** Keep track of the funds you’re collecting.
5. **FOLLOW-UP.** Keep track of everyone you’ve contacted. Don’t be afraid to follow up with emails, FB or text messages, and phone calls. Many wait till last minute or simply forget. It doesn’t mean they don’t want to support. They need you to remind them!
6. **SAY THANK YOU.** Be sure to write thank you cards to everyone who is praying for or financially supporting you. This is important in creating and sustaining partnerships into the future and is simply the decent thing to do!
7. **GO.** Whew! After all that hard work, go and have fun on the discipleship trip!
8. **SHARE WHAT HAPPENED.** Your partners want to know what happened, so upon your return, be sure to send a follow-up report/email/letter praising God for all He’s done. Your partners have invested in you and our team, so we want to be good stewards of their resources by reporting to them what happened!

## Fundraising Resources

The following resources are at our disposal to help us get the word out about Albania+ 2018:

- Team Albania website (<https://www.teamalbania.org/>). Reference it in your support letter to inform people about our ministry.
  - Also, there will be a blog article on the site that is focused on fundraising.
- Leaders will be providing sample support letters, ideas for asking for support, and accountability around following your progress.

## Instructions for Supporters

All financial support goes directly to the Campus Crusade organization and is therefore tax deductible. We recommend requesting that donations be submitted by May 7<sup>th</sup>, the date of the first progress marker. That way if folks happen to miss the deadline, you can inform them that they can submit after as needed before the second progress marker.

Encourage folks to **Donate Online!** This is the fastest and easiest way to give, and your supporters will receive a tax receipt directly.

Online giving instructions to give to folks:

1. Go to <https://give.cru.org/XXXXXXX> (you will receive a unique # soon)
2. Click on **Give a Gift**. Select or enter the amount of your gift and choose **Single Gift** frequency.
3. Click **Add to Gift Cart**, and then **Proceed to Checkout**.
4. You will be prompted to fill out the page and provide credit card information to complete the process. The website is secure for credit card payments.

For folks who like to write **Checks**:

- Tell them to give or mail to you (give them your personal address)
- Make sure the checks are made out to “Cru” with **Your Name** and **Unique #** in the memo line. Donors will receive tax receipts.
- If you receive checks made out to your personal name, deposit those funds into your own account and write a check for that amount out to Cru. (Note that these donors will not receive tax receipts.)
- All checks should be mailed to:  
**Cru**  
**P.O. Box 628222**  
**Orlando, FL 32862-8222**

For folks who just want to give **Cash**:

- Similar to folks who made checks out to you, deposit those funds into your own account and write a check for that amount out to Cru, then mail it to Cru (see Florida address above). (Note that these donors will not receive tax receipts.)

Lastly, they can also donate by **Telephone**:

- Tell folks to call (888) 278-7233 to make a credit card donation by phone. Tell them to mention **Project XXXXXXXX – Your Name** to the Cru representative.

## Sample Support Letter (Short-Form)

Dearest Friend,

I'm excited to let you know about a trip I'll be taking to Albania this summer! It started with a chance meeting (perhaps a divine appointment?) with a couple of Albanians while serving at The Porch. After making some new friends, I joined a team at Watermark Church who through partnership with CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) will be traveling to Albania on a Short-Term Discipleship Trip. Our trip will be from **July 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.



### **Why Albania?**

This year (2017) marks the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of Communism and the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of war in neighboring Kosovo, which included the deportation of 800,000 Albanians and the mass genocide of Kosovo Albanians. Today, there is still a need for spiritual healing in Albania.

In partnership with CRU, we will be holding an English camp for students in Tirana, the capital of Albania. We will have the opportunity to teach English, play games, build friendships, have conversations over coffee, and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As some of you may know, serving with and supporting missions is never far from my heart, and so this is another opportunity to share Jesus Christ, equip and build disciples, and absolutely to encourage the local body!



### **How to Partner with Me**

First of all, please pray. We cannot do any of this without the power of Christ going before us, so please pray! Also, any financial support if you are able and willing to will be a tremendous blessing to us! **The cost is currently \$2500 a person.** You may give in these ways:

#### **Online**

Go to <https://give.cru.org/xxxxxxx>. Click on **Give a Gift**. Select or enter the amount of your gift and choose **Single Gift** frequency. Then click on **Add to Gift Cart**, and then **Proceed to Checkout**. You will be prompted to fill out your information and provide your credit card information to complete the process. The website is secure for credit card donations.

#### **By Telephone**

You may call 1(888) 278-7233 to make a credit card donation.  
Be sure to mention **Project xxxxxxx – Lucy Chang**.

#### **By Mail**

You may write a check made out to **Campus Crusade for Christ** and mail it to me at:  
Lucy Chang, 15590 Spectrum Drive #4822, Addison, TX 75001.

#### **Cash**

If you do not need or desire a tax receipt, you may always give me cash in person.

You may visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DiscipleshipTripToAlbania>  
And for more information on Albania, you may visit CRU's website: <http://www.albaniaccc.org/>  
Thank you again for your blessing and partnership. It means more to me than you know!

**Lucy Chang**

# Equipping

## First Things First

### Prayer

PRAY! Prayer is the foundation of anything we do. Enlist the support of others to join you in prayer for your trip preparation, your team, and your ministry. The most important thing you can do in preparation for this trip is to PRAY!

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” Col. 4:2

“Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thess. 5:17-18

Pray that...

- We will be equipped with every good thing to do God’s work (Heb. 13:20-21).
- All spiritual, physical, and financial needs will be met (Phil. 4:19).
- We will be pleasing to the Lord in everything (1 Thess. 2:4).
- We will be united in spirit, looking out for one another with love (Phil. 2:2-4).
- Our words will be full of grace and encouragement (Eph. 4:29).
- We will be flexible and content in all circumstances (Phil. 4:12).
- We will be filled with compassion, kindness, humility and patience (Col. 3:12).
- We will be completely useful to the Master (2 Tim. 2:21).
- Christ’s salvation may reach the ends of the Earth (Is. 49:6).
- God will be glorified and that His name will be made more famous because of this trip and the work of Cru in Eastern Europe and beyond.

#### *Pray for The People You Will Meet...*

- That the Gospel would be shared with many people—students and adults—perhaps for the first time and many would come to know the Lord. *Win.*
- That believers would continue to be discipled and grow in their faith. *Build.*
- That believers would have a “go” mentality, to share with others. *Send.*

#### *Pray for Cru Staff...*

- That God would encourage and provide spiritually and financially for the staff in Tirana and Elbasan and the rest of Albania.
- That God would continue to raise up more staff and send them beyond Albania.

#### *Pray for The Dallas Team...*

- That your co-workers and leaders would be used by God to share the love of Christ, encourage, and minister to the people we encounter on this trip.
- That God would continue the work He’s started in us, that we would continue to grow and be transformed more into His image.



## Spiritual Disciplines

The goal of the disciplines is godliness and spiritual growth. It's never meant to be an end of its own! Below are some spiritual disciplines that are healthy to the growing Christian.

“For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.” 1 Tim. 4:8

### Scripture

- “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.” Jn. 17:17
- “Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.” Joshua 1:8

### Fasting

- “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.” Matt. 6:16

### Silence and Solitude

- “Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” Mk. 1:35
- “Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near.” Zeph. 1:7

### Evangelism

- “But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.” 2 Tim. 4:5
- “Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’” Jn. 20:21

### Worship

- “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.” Matt. 15:8-9
- “God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” Jn. 4:24

### Stewardship

- “So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.” Rom. 14:12
- “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.” 1 Cor. 10:26

### Service

- “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Pet. 4:10
- “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” 1 Cor. 15:58

### Fellowship

- “But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called ‘Today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.” Heb. 3:13

## Your Personal Testimony

Be prepared to give your testimony in 30 seconds, 5 minutes or 30 minutes, situation-dependent.

### Why do we need a testimony?

1. We are commanded to be ready to give an answer for the hope that we have.
  - 1 Peter 3:5 – “... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”
2. We are commanded to witness to others.
  - Mark 16:15 – “... ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.’”
3. We are commissioned to witness to others.
  - 1 Thess. 2:4 – “On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests out hearts.
4. We should be concerned about the souls of those who are lost.
  - Matt. 18:12 – “...If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?”

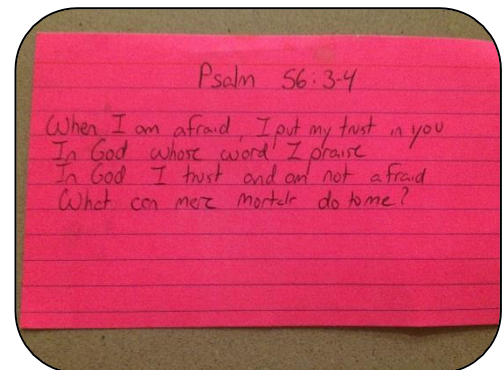
### The three-point approach

1. Before I received Christ... I lived this way. What did you rely on for security/happiness?
  - What did my life revolve around? What issues or things were important to me? What did I think of God? Of Jesus?
2. How I received Christ... Paint a “word picture” of salvation. How did you yield to Christ?
  - Where were you? Alone in your room? Driving in your car? At a church service? What thoughts went through your mind? What feelings did you struggle with just before your decision?
3. After I received Christ... These changes took place. How are you different?
  - Did you struggle with your faith? How did God answer prayer, or strengthen you in difficult situations?

## Scripture Memory

### Why memorize scripture?

- Jesus quoted scripture when tempted (Matt. 4:4)
- Gives us something to fill our minds with (Josh. 1:8)
- Remind self of Truth and who God is (Ex. 34:6-7)
- Encourage others (Eph. 5:19)
- Pray for others (Eph. 6:18)
- Share the Gospel (Rom. 6:23)



### How to memorize scripture

1. Read the verse aloud multiple times.
2. Write down on a note card with reference at top.
3. Memorize the reference and the first phrase as one part so your mind associates them.
4. Slowly add phrases until verse is completed.
5. Practice aloud.
6. Carry your note card with you to review in downtime.
7. Review regularly. Ask others to check you.
8. Word perfect is the standard. We want to confidently deliver God's Word!
9. Over-learn it. God's word is relevant eternally, not just for a summer.
10. Apply it to your life.

## Sharing the Gospel: The Four Spiritual Laws

### **Law 1: God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.**

#### God's Love

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16, NIV).

#### God's Plan

[Christ speaking] "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" [that it might be full and meaningful] (John 10:10). Why is it that most people are not experiencing that abundant life? Because...

### **Law 2: Man is sinful and separated from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.**

#### Man is Sinful

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Man was created to have fellowship with God; but, because of his own stubborn self-will, he chose to go his own independent way and fellowship with God was broken. This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion or passive indifference, is an evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

#### Man Is Separated

"The wages of sin is death" [spiritual separation from God] (Romans 6:23).

### **Law 3: Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.**

#### He Died In Our Place

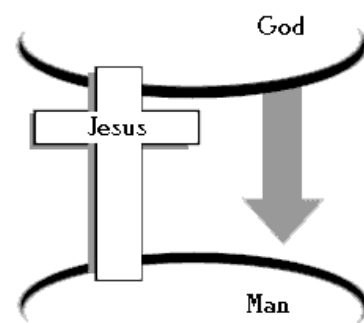
"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

#### He Rose from the Dead

"Christ died for our sins... He was buried... He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures... He appeared to Peter, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred..." (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

#### He Is the Only Way to God

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through Me'" (John 14:6).



**Law 4: We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.**

We Must Receive Christ

"As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12).

We Receive Christ Through Faith

"By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as result of works that no one should boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

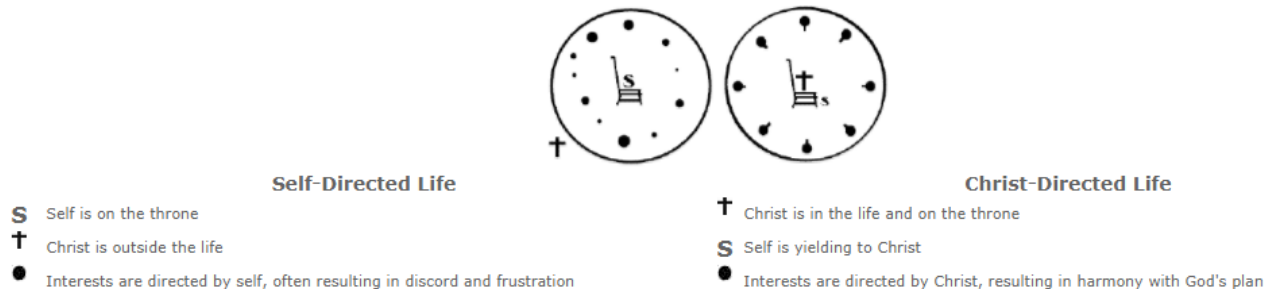
When We Receive Christ, We Experience a New Birth

(Read John 3:1-8.)

We Receive Christ Through Personal Invitation

[Christ speaking] "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him" (Revelation 3:20).

Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive our sins and to make us what He wants us to be. Just to agree intellectually that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for our sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an emotional experience. We receive Jesus Christ by faith, as an act of the will.



These two circles represent two kinds of lives: Self-directed or Christ-directed.

Which circle best represents your life? Which circle would you like to have represent your life? The following explains how you can receive Christ:

You Can Receive Christ Right Now by Faith Through Prayer (Prayer is talking with God). God knows your heart and is not so concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart. The following is a suggested prayer:

*Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.*

Does this prayer express the desire of your heart? If it does, I invite you to pray this prayer right now, and Christ will come into your life, as He promised.

## Gospel and Assurance Verses

### **Romans 3:23 – All Have Sinned**

<sup>23</sup>For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

### **Romans 6:23 – Penalty of Sin**

<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Romans 5:8 – Jesus Paid the Penalty**

<sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### **John 14:6 – Jesus Is the Only Way**

<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

### **Isaiah 64:6a – Righteous Acts Not Enough**

<sup>6</sup>All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;

### **Ephesians 2:8-9 – Salvation Not By Works**

<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast.

### **John 5:24 – Hear and Believe / Assurance of Salvation**

<sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

### **James 2:19 – Belief Not Just Head Knowledge**

<sup>19</sup>You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

### **John 1:12 – Must Receive Christ**

<sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

### **Romans 10:9-10 – Must Receive Christ**

<sup>9</sup>If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

### **1 John 5:11-13 – Assurance of Salvation**

<sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know you have eternal life.

### **Ephesians 1:13 – Assurance of Salvation**

<sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

### **John 10:28-29 – Assurance of Salvation**

<sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.

### **Romans 8:38-39 – Assurance of Salvation**

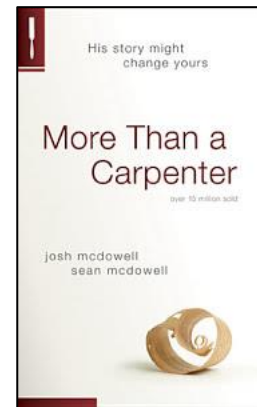
<sup>8</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Team Reading for Albania+ 2018

### More Than a Carpenter

This year we will be reading *More Than a Carpenter* by Josh McDowell. This book gives a broad apologetic for the Christian faith—focusing on Jesus’ claims—and is used by Cru. The benefit of MTAC is that it is widely translated. The book is known in Albania by the title *Lord, Liar, Lunatic*.

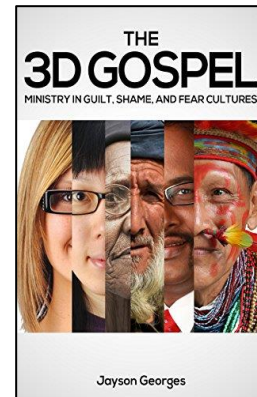
1. My Story / 2. What Makes Jesus So Different? / 3. Lord, Liar, or Lunatic? / 4. What about Science? / 5. The Challenge of the New Atheism / 6. Are the Bible Records Reliable? / 7. Who Would Die for a Lie? / 8. What Good Is a Dead Messiah? / 9. Did You Hear What Happened to Saul? / 10. Can You Keep a Good Man Down? / 11. Will the Real Messiah Please Stand Up? / 12. Isn’t There Some Other Way? / 13. He Changed My Life



We will discuss MTAC in small groups during Team Meetings #4 and #5.

### The 3D Gospel

In addition to MTAC, Team Leaders will be reading *The 3D Gospel: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures* by Jayson Georges. This book gives an overview of how culture can affect how the gospel is understood and received, focusing on paradigms of (1) guilt/innocence, (2) shame/honor, and (3) fear/power. This perspective is useful because it helps us to better understand how the cultures in Eastern Europe view/hear and respond to the gospel. Although this book is required reading for Leaders only, Team Members are also encouraged to pick it up. It’s a quick read.



### Discipleship Goals

Our goal is to move every person closer to Christ, whether they are a student attending summer camp, a working professional, someone attending recovery ministry, or Cru staff and volunteers. When in doubt, we can remember these simple questions: (1) who is this person? (2) Where are they spiritually? (3) How can I encourage them where they are in their faith? Remember that discipleship is a process.

1. Get to know the person.
  - a. Pre-evangelism.
  - b. Step 1: Their name. Family, school, hobbies, movies...
  - c. “What do you want me to know about Albania/Hungary/Poland?”
2. Determine where they are spiritually.
  - a. Use questions to clarify/confirm. Be skeptical of claims to faith.
  - b. “Do you believe in God? Who is God?”
  - c. “How did you come to that conclusion?”
  - d. Do they put their faith in works, the work of Christ, or both?
3. Challenge them to know God better.
  - a. Is it important to know God? How could you get to know God better?
  - b. It’s okay to ask questions that are a little pressing or might feel a little awkward.



# Travel Guide

## Team Policies

### **Dress Code**

You will find that Eastern European culture is heavily influenced by American/Western culture. You may notice that some teenagers will be dressed in clothing that may be considered less than appropriate (i.e. low-cut shirts, short shorts, etc.). This may be a sign this teenager is not a believer or is a young believer. View this as an opportunity to love and engage without judgment. However, please do not contribute to this with your choice of clothing and cause any stumbling or confusion. If you are not sure an outfit is acceptable, don't pack it.

#### Ladies

- Do not show cleavage at any time; Cover bra straps, no spaghetti straps, no mid-riff shirts or shorts that are too short; Tight clothes are not appropriate; Pants, capris, or shorts past the length of your finger tips are appropriate; For church, you may wear what you typically wear, or a dress or skirt is fine too.

#### Men

- Must wear shirts; Shorts are fine; For church, you may wear what you typically wear; pants or collared shirts are okay.

#### Young Professionals Team

- We recommend packing at least 2 outfits that are "business casual" so that you will blend in with the professionals when you go out for dinner (when they typically are dressed as for work).

### **Staying with Your Team**

While traveling and in-country it is important to let people know where you are going if you are not with your team. Due to the nature of our ministry types (HS, YP, Regen) and locations (urban centers), the pace of a day's activities can seem routine. However, we need to remember that (1) we are in foreign places and (2) not everyone who we meet is part of the local church community. There is much flexibility in this, but we want you try to stay with the team—Dallas team, Cru staff/volunteers, or local church—and tell your leaders if you intend to go outside the routine.

### **Alcohol/Drugs/Firearms**

Drugs and firearms are prohibited. We have decided as a team to refrain from consuming alcohol during the duration of the trip, as to not cause confusion for the rest of the team, staff, and certainly the students. We appreciate your cooperation with us in this!

### **Relationships**

We encourage developing healthy relationships with others who are a part of this ministry. However, please abstain from pursuing romantic relationships with other Team Members leading up to the trip, and the same applies to our Eastern European co-workers (Cru staff, volunteers, etc). The motives of a person you've just met in an international setting may be complex and not clear. This is not limiting

what God might be doing *after* the duration of the trip. If you have any questions, please ask your team leader. Under no circumstances should Team Members pursue romantic relationships with students or attendees of ministry events.

### **Students Who Want to Come to the USA**

There is a chance that a student may ask you for help/sponsorship to come to the USA for study, etc. As a volunteer church ministry we are unable to aid such requests. In addition, we do not want to feed others' possible idolizing of Western/US culture. If asked about this, seek wisdom with your team members, Cru staff, or community at home.

### **Facebook**

Feel free to use Facebook as a tool to help you connect with students and Cru staff. (Just know that you will get lots of friend requests!) Not only can Facebook be useful in helping you to remember names and faces—as well as to communicate during the week—but this is also a way that you can maintain contact beyond the trip. You can think of it as an opportunity to continue to engage, encourage, partner, and disciple!

### **The Stipend and Personal Money**

You will receive a stipend of local currency when you arrive in Eastern Europe. This is meant to provide for your cash needs over the week—mostly meals and coffee/beverages. Also, the stipend is for use in spending to take students out for meals/coffee. Often, you'll end up in a large group of students/staff and the bill will be sizeable. It's okay to alternate paying an entire bill to make things easier.

This stipend is provided through the funds that came to Cru through the fundraising process. Because we have been entrusted with these monies, we should be wise in how we spend our stipend. Do not spend it on extraneous things or souvenirs (you can bring your own cash for that). Also, do not outright give money to camp attendees or people you meet in-country.

We recommend you bring an additional \$100-\$200 in small American bills for your own personal use. You may use these in airports or exchange for local currency. You may also use your debit or credit card, but please take note of any foreign exchange or transaction fees, and notify your card companies before traveling. Do not bring anything valuable that is unnecessary.

### **Traveling in Eastern Europe**

#### **Physical Condition & Prescription Medications**

If you are prone to health problems, we recommend a physical examination before traveling. Medical identification (tags, bracelet, card, etc.) must be carried by anyone with chronic illness. If you take prescription medications, bring enough to last the entire trip, and if you have special needs (such as a medical condition, food allergies, or other special requirements), please tell us before your trip. All personal medication should be in your carry-on luggage.

#### **First Aid and Medications for Personal Needs**

Feel free to bring band-aids, first-aid ointment, anti-diarrhea, pain, or stomach medication, prescription medications, sleeping aids, feminine hygiene products, or traveling medicine.

## **Water and Food**

You may eat items purchased out and about in coffee shops or restaurants. Do not drink straight from the tap, but water offered from the staff or in restaurants is fine. Most water you drink will be from bottled water. Remember, water in Europe comes “with gas” (carbonation) or “without gas” (or “still,” regular water).

## **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is required for traveling to Albania. It will be covered during the fundraising process. Insurance is approximately \$7 / day, so for 12 days, it will be approximately \$84 dollars. There is another \$25 for a background check, which is also a part of the Cru process.

## **Registering with the US Department of State**

You may consider registering with the US Department of State’s Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. Benefits of doing this are to receive important information from the Embassy as needed and to help the US Embassy, friends, and family contact you in case of an emergency. Website:

<https://step.state.gov/step/>

## **Internet Access**

Wifi will be available at almost every coffee shop you go to—as well as your hotel—so you will have access to the internet, email, Facebook, and any app (like GroupMe) that just needs wifi. Please keep in mind that such connections are not secured.

## **Team Communication**

While traveling overseas, most Americans do not have access to normal cell phone service. We have found the following to be helpful while traveling in Albania:

- Wi-Fi. Take advantage of free Wi-Fi in coffee shops, restaurants, and your hotel.
- GroupMe. We will be setting up GroupMe chats (for each team) to allow team communication before, during and after the trip.
- Travel buddy. We will assign a partner (or two) to help keep track of, especially while we’re traveling. Don’t get left behind!

## **Your Emergency Contact Information**

We have asked each of you to provide a couple of emergency contacts and their information (such as a parent, community group member, friend) so we have that in case of an emergency.

## Tips for the Trip

- Go with an attitude to serve. It's not about you. It's about the mission of God!
- Be proactive. Take the initiative in approaching students, being friendly, and developing relationships. Be proactive in helping the Cru staff/volunteers, students, and the team.
- Always be prepared to share the Gospel or your testimony, the love of Christ, or simply be willing to engage. You're there as an ambassador for Christ!
- Model cooperation, a servant heart, and graciousness in your relationships with team members and nationals.
- Avoid criticism. It's foolish to form an opinion without knowing all the facts.
- Listen to and respect your team leader. This helps everybody out!
- Remember that traveling is tiring and may require an extra measure of grace.
- Don't offer any money to anyone while in Albania without guidance and approval from a Cru staff or team leader.
- Leave expensive jewelry at home.
- Don't leave cash, jewelry, or other valuables in checked luggage.

## Country-Specific Travel Tips

### Albania

- Go with an understanding that Albanians are more relationally driven than Americans who tend to be more time-driven. Be prepared for some lateness (such as waiting for your coffees appointments).
- Always watch where you are stepping while walking to make sure that you don't step into an open manhole or on unstable ground. Albania does not have the strict building codes that we have in the States.

### Hungary

- In Hungary, when people write their names or introduce themselves publicly, they typically use their last name first.

### Poland

- <https://ordinarytraveler.com/poland-travel-tips>
- When you greet someone, it is customary to do so with two or three air-kisses on alternate cheeks. Refer to people you don't know well as "pan" (Mr.) or "pani" (M'am).
- If you are invited for a meal to someone's home, prepare to eat a lot! You may be asked several times if you are still hungry. And in some homes, it is expected to take off your shoes when you enter, but it's not a rule. The best thing is to ask.
- In terms of topics of conversation, World War II, communism, religion, and relations with Germany and Russia might be touchy subjects to some. Approach with caution.
- Also, knowing basic phrases in Polish might come in handy. Lots of people speak English, but don't expect that to be the case everywhere.

## Packing List

- Bible, Journal, Paper, & Pens
- Passport and Color Copy of your passport
- Camera (or your phone as a camera)
- Personal Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, feminine products, etc)
- First-Aid, Medication, and Prescription Medications
- Personal Water Bottle (you can buy bottled water there, but your own may be helpful)
- Travel Pillow for the plane (optional)
- Clothes (see Dress Code)
- Comfortable Shoes and/or Sandals
- Sunglasses and Hats as desired
- Small Bills for exchanging money to buy personal items or gifts, or for use in airports
- Debit and/or Credit Cards (call your credit card companies first!)
- Candy or other American goodies to share with the students! (no chocolate – it melts!)
- Non-Perishable Snacks (like granola bars, nuts) for traveling or if you have a special diet
- Adapter (to charge your phone and other electronic devices) – *highly recommended*
- Converters or Transformers (for hair dryer or electric devices) (probably not necessary)
- Hair Dryer with a European outlet plug (optional – girl, you are beautiful!) (Helpful guide: <http://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/world-electricity-guide.html>)
- Texas Night preparations
- A Great Attitude!

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