During the past month Rosa Lopez, NCFI Regional Chair for Europe and two other nurses visited Christian nurses in Romania and Austria. She writes...

In March this year Emilia, a Romanian nurse who lives in Spain, traveled to Romania and took the opportunity to contact a group of nurses she had previously met in Cluj. She saw the need to encourage the group and suggested that I visit them, taking advantage of the trip planned to nurses in Austria who had requested a visit. Emilia was my translator during these visits.

In Cluj, Rodica invited us to dinner, when we enjoyed a pleasant chat. Two nurses from Cluj, Mónica and Dana, with whom we met previously, were commissioned with Emilia to organize the meeting. We had a time of praise and then made a presentation to the NCF group, and a training in the Saline Process (Salt and light in our workplace) of 4 hours, which was attended by more than thirty nurses. The teaching impacted them positively and encouraged us with a renewed vision of our mission as Christian nurses. We received many comments on the great blessing the training brought.

Emilia spoke with a pastor in Sibiu presenting the project to a Christian radio station and the Church, encouraging participation. Nurses, some doctors and medical students attended the session. The nurses were previously unaware that there was a group of Christian nurses and were so happy when I introduced NCF. The Saline Process training held there was two and a half hours.

The radio station that announced the event, also did an interview with us, when we were able to present NCF, its vision and Mission.

In Krems we had two meetings - firstly with women from the Church, where we gave training in how to visit the sick, and next day with nurses, when we reviewed the Saline Process course that we did the previous year, and gave a formation in Spiritual Care.

How exciting it was to see how God prepared every detail of our trip, each person with whom we have spoken and those who have lodged us in their homes. The results have exceeded our expectations and those of the attendees.

Rosa Marie Lopez

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In Times Like these

For such a time as this - Christian Nursing in a Troubled World was theme for the 12th NCFI PACEA Conference held in June this year. Words taken from the Old Testament book of Esther (4:14 NIV), was applied to nurses who face the challenges of a troubled world, as did Queen Esther in her time. Esther was challenged by the suggestion that she was chosen by God as his agent for just such as time as this. Throughout the program this ancient challenge became a modern one for Christian nurses.

The conference was aimed to equip and strengthen nurses and nursing students both spiritually and professionally for leadership and involvement in difficult times. Nurses from most countries represented had in recent times faced significant challenges, such as natural disasters, political upheaval, challenging conditions in nursing and health care, and opposition or restrictions to the expression of Christian faith. A selection of personal narratives by nurses highlighted those situations by telling their stories and testifying to ways in which God had helped them deal with the challenges.

After attending the NCFI PACEA conference in Taiwan I was encouraged to start up a prayer group in Hamilton! I was excited to find that there seemed to be a lot of interest. We have had one meeting so far and it was very encouraging to fellowship together and support each other. Luke Stevenson did an encouraging devotion for us about the importance of coming together, praying and walking in the truth. I am looking forward to the next time we can meet!

Emma Griffiths, Student Nurse

News from NCF New Zealand

Director & Manager needed for Institute of Christian Nursing

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