

OPENING

Standing in the Gap *for Rotterdam*

170+	16,000+	25%+
NATIONALITIES	NEW NEIGHBOURS EACH YEAR	UNREACHED PEOPLE

OPENING

Yesterday our pastor preached from Ezekiel 22:30, where God says that He was looking for someone who would "stand in the gap" for His people. Even when things were going badly and consequences were coming, God was still looking for a way to bring salvation. He was looking for one person willing to stand before Him and plead for the people.

Moses is an example of this kind of person, someone who was willing to be taken out of God's book to save the people of Israel. As I look around in Rotterdam, I see many people doing going the extra mile. Serving God in the neighbourhood, sometimes under difficult circumstances, persevering and holding on. I am grateful for every person God has brought to this city to stand in the gap.

We are especially thankful for the newcomers who have recently joined our team. It is encouraging to see how God continues to send people to Rotterdam and to involve them in what He is doing here.

The work among the different communities in Rotterdam is needed, but it is not always easy. We need people to stand in the gap for Arabs, Turks, Moroccans, and many others. For some communities we already have people serving; for others, there is still a gap.

Would you pray with us? Pray for protection, perseverance, and strength for those already serving, and pray that God will raise up more workers for the communities where there is still a need.

> *"I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it ..."*
>
> - EZEKIEL 22:30



PRAYER POINTS

- Protection & perseverance for those already serving
- God will raise up workers for unreached communities
- New team members to find their place in the team

COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

Kurds · Turks · Moroccans · Arabic speakers · Somalis · Pakistanis · Iranians · Hindi Speakers

LOOKING BACK

A Year with Reaching Rotterdam

Bram Commandeur reflects on his internship



What brought you to Reaching Rotterdam?
I was a student at Cornerstone Bible College in Beugen. I have a heart for the Netherlands and long to see people grow in their relationships with Jesus. The potential for reaching immigrants in Rotterdam is great, so I took on the challenge. It is ultimately God who directs my footsteps.

What was your task?
A variety of tasks — street evangelism, helping in the social café with food distribution, and supporting a start-up community church in a poor neighbourhood. A nice, diverse mix.

Where did you see yourself grow the most?
I grew most in street evangelism. God also opened doors for me to practically stay in Rotterdam — it is not easy to find accommodation here. When the door opened it felt like a big confirmation that this was the place where I should stay. God is so good!

What was your biggest takeaway?
If you have a longing to serve God in a certain place, pray for it and go for it! It is important to work together with others, but even more important to work together with God. He will lead your way — I received that confirmation by often having lots of joy in what I did.

What is next? How can we pray?
I am in a period of decision making about my next step. I want to be used by God and am open for His leading. Please pray for courage, humbleness, and a heart open for God's joy and leading in my life.

Bram was a blessing to our team. We hope you will join us in praying for him as he continues to follow God's voice.

> *"If you have a longing to serve God in a certain place — pray for it and go for it. He will lead your way."*
>
> — BRAM COMMANDEUR

Three new workers joined this September



Jerry & Kit Ling
USA · HONG KONG · 26 years in mission

Married 25 years ago, Kit Ling is from Hong Kong and Jerry from the USA. Together they served the Lord for over 26 years, including 22 years in Turkey until the government suddenly removed them permanently.

After visiting Rotterdam and seeing the ministry, they were excited to join. They have a high interest in street outreach and trust God to provide accommodation in a city where housing is extremely scarce.

PRAYER

Good flat · All papers finalised· Health during all moving · Blessing on their host families



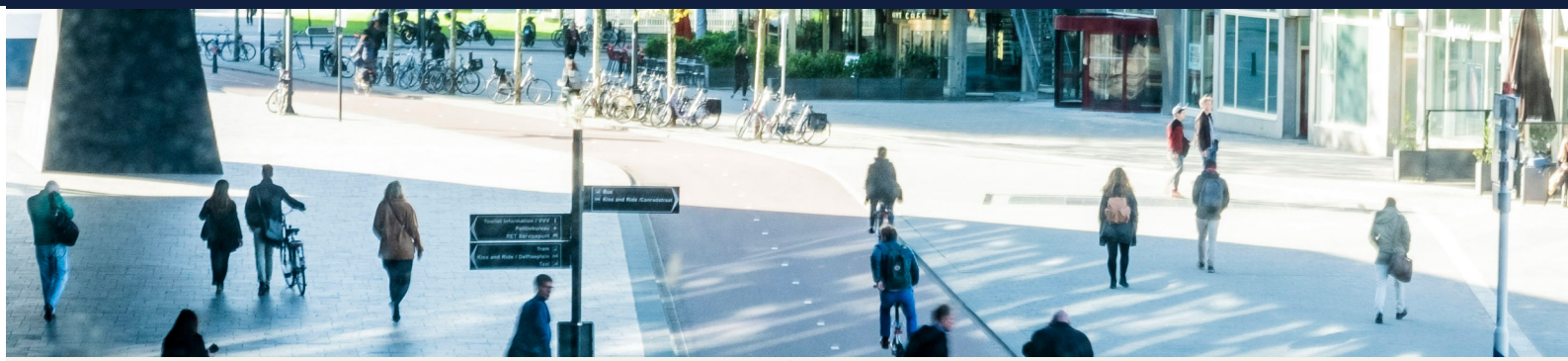
Soomin Hong
SOUTH KOREA · Women's ministry

Soomin gave her life fully to Jesus a few years ago and has followed His call since. She studied at Cornerstone Bible College and completed her training in June. She has served in children's, youth, and refugee ministry, including intercultural Bible studies at AZC.

With Reaching Rotterdam she will focus on women's work — building relationships with women from Muslim backgrounds and supporting prayer ministry among small groups of believers.

PRAYER

Good transition · Clear communication · Openings for sharing · God's guidance



MINISTRY UPDATE

Shine!

Coordinator: Kors Veldhuizen

Last year, Reaching Rotterdam began a new ministry - Shine!

Over the past year, we at Shine! - together with partners such as churches and missionaries - have held two outreach events focused on building connections. These events centered on reaching out in unity. We put together lovely packages containing the Good News of Jesus and invitations to church activities. These packages were handed out on the street, and we looked forward to meeting and talking with our fellow human beings.
It was truly wonderful to foster unity among Christians and to see that unity grow and be expressed as Christians from different churches and cultural backgrounds came together to share the good news of Jesus in various ways.
God brought together a part of His diverse body - the church - so that, filled with enthusiasm, they could proclaim His good news together. On the streets, there were wonderful conversations during which the gospel was shared, and sometimes we even prayed with people.

In the year ahead, we're planning new outreaches on the streets, but also exploring other places where Shine!'s mission can unite and support Christians in sharing the gospel.

We pray that God, through His Holy Spirit, will call and draw people through the work of Shine! and equally through the initiatives supported by Shine! May people come to know Jesus through this, for their salvation and for the glory of God.

> "God brought together a part of His diverse body - the church - so that, filled with enthusiasm, they could proclaim His good news together."
>
> — KORS VELDHUIZEN, COÖRDINATOR SHINE!

MEER INFO

https://reachingrotterdam.org/Shine

NEW INITIATIVE

Prayer Around the World

Coordinator: Bram van Erkel

Over the past season another new initiative began, we held a prayer gathering every month with people from some of the least-reached language groups in the city. We prayed with and for Turkish speakers, Arabic speakers, Kurds, Hindi speakers, Iranians (Farsi speakers), Pakistanis (Urdu speakers), Somalis, and Moroccans. Besides being a time of prayer, these gatherings also provide an opportunity to connect with people from these language groups. You get to know fellow Christians from different cultural backgrounds.

It is enriching to continually meet brothers and sisters from other cultures. You hear about the specific needs and concerns within a particular language group, and together we can carry these burdens. At the same time, we get to see something of the richness of God. He is a God of all cultures, and His desire is that people from every language, people, and nation worship Him together (Rev. 7:9). Together, we see and understand more of the length, width, depth, and height of God's fullness.

God brought Christians together, creating opportunities for people from different languages, cultures, and generations to meet. We were one around the cross of Christ and in prayer. It was very encouraging to hear from one another about what is happening within different cultural contexts. In the coming season, Reaching Rotterdam will once again organize "Pray Around the World" every month. Through prayer, we will "travel around the world," meeting people from different countries and language groups. Each month there will be a prayer gathering.

WE PRAY FOR

- Deeper connections between Christians across cultural boundaries
- Established churches gaining vision for least-reached groups
- Growing bonds within individual language-group communities

CALENDAR

Monthly — dates at https://reachingrotterdam.org/agenda

FINANCES FOR WORKERS

Co-labouring through generosity

Reaching Rotterdam's workers are sponsored missionaries — their income comes not from a salary but from the generosity of others. Have you felt inspired or moved by what you've read today? If so, consider donating to support the workers at Reaching Rotterdam.
Financing this work is co-labouring in reaching the unreached

GIVE TO REACHING ROTTERDAM

IBAN	NL98 ABNA 0426 839 536
t.n.v	Stichting WEC Nederland
note	Specify: Reaching Rotterdam
Web	ReachingRotterdam.org

Thank you for this much needed and practical help — and for joining us in the work of Reaching Rotterdam.