Church Planting & Development

your opportunity to partner with national leaders and ministries

Greece

Greece Need: \$ 24,500

Funding the **Greece Church Planting & Development** (CPD) assist with our partnership in planting churches, developing pastors and giving oversight to the work, including:

- Thessaloniki church leadership development
- refugee relief work and ministry
- travel expenses for ministry in Europe and the region
- CPD promotional materials





FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

PO Box 51710, Indianapolis, IN 46251 800-342-5531 • www.fmwm.org

Connect with God's heart for the world.



Greece

Church-in-Formation

- Population: 10,243,000
- Evangelical Christians: 0.50%
- FM Work Opened: 2000
- FM Churches: 1
- FM Membership: 71
- Ordained Elders: 1
- Conference Ministerial Candidates: 1
- Country Leader: Michael Long
- Overseer: Area Director Josue Fajardo



The Free Methodist Church in Greece

Origins

Paul Pappas was born in Greek Turkey but left for the United States when he was 14 to escape the Turkish genocide. After graduating from Asbury Seminary, he returned to his homeland in 1947. There he proclaimed the gospel, and five evangelical churches were formed. Fifty years later, in August 1997, his niece, <u>Maria Long</u>, and her husband, Michael, started ministry as the first Free Methodist long-term missionaries to Greece. In September 2003 a Free Methodist fellowship was established in central Thessaloniki, close to the spot where the Apostle Paul first preached to the Thessalonians. In 2012 the congregation relocated away from the city center to a former warehouse district.

Present Ministries

The Thessaloniki FM Church Anagenesis includes Greek members and over 20 other nationalities. Its primary focus is on sharing Christ with the thousands of Muslim immigrants seeking a new life in Europe. Since the 2015 refugee crisis in Europe began, more than 50 have been baptized, and other new believers are currently being discipled and prepared for baptism. The church team serves tirelessly at their meeting place in Thessaloniki. They also visit refugee camps, holding Bible studies and visiting homes.

Pray for:

- leaders of every language to step up to serve their language group
- resources and personnel to assist with the ongoing discipleship demand
- a new location for the church and ministry center
- a restart of the Greek ministry, which has been overshadowed by the outreach to Muslims
- Afghani outreach and expansion of Anagenesis NGO ministry



Michael & Maria Long