

# Country Support

*your opportunity*  
to partner with national leaders  
and ministries

Bulgaria 2016 Ministry Needs: \$23,000

Funding the **Bulgaria Country Support Account (CSA)** will help resource the following strategic initiatives:

- Translation and administrative assistance for ministries, projects, and programs
- Training events for pastors and church leaders
- English outreach events
- Youth conferences and training
- CSA promotional materials



FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

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Connect with God's heart for the world.

# Bulgaria



## Bulgaria

### Church-in-Formation

- Population: 6,924,716
- Evangelical Christians: 1.9%
- FM Work Opened: 2007
- Ordained Elders: 2
- Church Planting Projects: 1
- Missionaries: Al & Diane Mellinger, Chance & Dee Galloway (Associate/VISA)
- Overseer: David Carr

## The Free Methodist Church in Bulgaria

### Origins

Free Methodist work in the Balkans began in 1997 when missionaries Michael and Maria Long moved to Thessaloniki, Greece. From this strategically located base, the Longs traveled extensively in Kosovo, Albania, Bulgaria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia assisting with relief and development efforts, connecting with existing church networks, and encouraging believers. In April 2007, missionaries Al and Diane Mellinger arrived in Bulgaria to begin leadership development ministries. In 2015 the church was officially registered as the “Light and Life Church.”

### Present Ministries

In addition to the church plant in the southern Bulgarian city of Petrich, seven church planting projects have been started, primarily in Roma communities, including one in Skopje, Macedonia. Regular training events are held for pastors and church leaders, and a youth training conference is held each summer. A microenterprise loan fund, as well as a non-profit business New Start LLC, has been established to help provide employment possibilities. VISA missionaries Chance and Dee Dee Galloway are involved with establishing the St. John’s Home, a safe house for at-risk girls, as a part of the Set Free Movement.