

Child Evangelism Fellowship



Doug Hamm was the speaker at the Treynor Optimist Club on February 8. He and his wife moved to Treynor in late 2012. Doug grew up in Kingsley Iowa and Jan in Northern Nebraska. They met at Grace University in Omaha. They both completed their degrees at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, with Doug graduating in Music Education and Jan in Nursing.

Doug said that his parents always talked about going on a mission, but his father completed medical school and by then the family had three small children.

Doug went with a mission team to Switzerland when he was in High School. He also read the book God's Smuggler, which inspired him to go on a mission. In 1989 he and his wife, with two children, joined Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) and moved to Vienna, Austria, starting a 20 year

mission.

CEF is in 185 countries. When the Hamms first moved to Europe, they thought they would be smuggling Bibles into countries. They moved to Yugoslavia in September 1990. Soon afterwards the civil war started there, so they had to go back to Austria. Their mission soon changed to a humanitarian aid mission.

The Hamms had two more children in Vienna, Austria. After the Civil War and the breakup of Yugoslavia, they moved to Serbia. In the end of the 1990s, war was beginning again. They left Serbia for a year and returned in 2000. At that time they did not recognize the country because it was basically a police state. They moved back to Austria in late 2000 because it was too dangerous speaking English, especially for their children.

CEF is a non-denominational organization. Doug estimated that they have 6,000-7,000 full time employees. They have a variety of programs and Sunday School teaching materials for children. They also sponsor Good News clubs in schools throughout the world.

More information is available about Child Evangelism Fellowship at cefonline.com.