

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

Luxembourg

General Information

- Population: 524,853 (as of October 2012).
- Is a landlocked country in Western Europe. It is bordered by Belgium to the west and north, Germany to the east, and France to the south.
- It one of the smallest sovereign nations in Europe; having area of only 2,586 square 998 miles.
- It is headed by a grand duke and is the world's only remaining grand duchy.
- According to a 2010 Pew Research Center study 70.4% are Christian, 2.3% Muslim, 26.8% unaffiliated and 0.5% other religions.

Challenges

- Luxembourg is a secular state, but the state recognizes certain religions as officially mandated religions. This gives the state a hand in religious administration and appointment of clergy, in exchange for which the state pays certain running costs and wages. Currently, religions covered by such arrangements are Roman Catholicism, Judaism, Greek Orthodoxy, Anglicanism, Russian Orthodoxy, Lutheranism, Mennonites and Islam.
- According to a 2005 poll, 44% of Luxembourg citizens responded that "they believe there is a God", whereas 28% answered that "they believe there is some sort of spirit or life force" and 22% that "they do not believe there is any sort of spirit, god, or life force".
- In the 23 evangelical churches, worship is conducted in nine different languages, and only a minority has full-time pastors. There is still a great need for more Bible teaching, more Christ-centered churches and more workers to labor in these churches.
- A negative bias on the part of government and society, with the stigma of "cults". This bias makes state recognition, public perception and the renting of buildings difficult for evangelicals.
- Outreach methods. Over 80% of people live in urban settings. Door-to-door and street evangelism is frowned upon by society and the government; gentle and creative methods are much more likely to be effective.

Prayer

- Creative ways to reach people with the gospel.
- Pray for more evangelical churches to get started and for the government to recognize them as legitimate.

Reference

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luxembourg#Religion>
- <http://www.operationworld.org/luxe>