

# “Smart” Gospel presentations power Canadian missionary work



Germans love their cars, and Canadian Alliance missionaries Ralph and Ruth Shareski (Mannheim, Germany) are using the German-engineered Smart car as a unique evangelism idea. Their church, along with others across Germany is plugged into a cross-denominational evangelism project, ProChristmobil.



The plan? Use the tiny “Smart” cars as an attention-grabber and discussion starter. Shareski found that the plan immediately attracted interest and unearthed a spiritual hunger amongst the people of the southern German city of Mannheim. The Smart cars are all painted alike, carrying the slogan “die kleinste Kirche der Welt” (The smallest church in the world). The cars—seven of them—are driven to key public locations throughout the city—the main railway station, the marketplace and other gathering spots. “Heads turn as a row of seven of these cars drive together down the street and park,” Shareski says. The cars are driven by volunteers from the church who then stand beside the cars, ready and willing to talk to passersby.

“It is amazing how many people have a need to talk about faith, ask questions or are willing to have someone pray with them,” he adds.

Some times the cars—the smallest church in the world—group together and offer a “three minute

service” where individuals can sit in the car for prayer. Many actually stay longer, Shareski reports, with many praying to receive Christ. These individuals receive a New Testament and materials with information about churches in the area.

Shareski says the Smart car project served to get his own church people excited about street evangelism. One individual, Steven, began a conversation with one of the drivers and indicated the he already had felt the call of God in his life. The conversation led to Steven giving his life to Christ. He was invited to the Mannheim church’s outdoor service that following Sunday. It happened to be a baptism service and Steven not only attended, but went forward himself and was baptized.

“Please pray for this creative evangelism project,” Shareski asks. It will continue until next spring and is a launch pad to invite Germans to a nation-wide evangelism week in March. In all, ProChristmobil is targeting a total of 70 cars active in 70 German cities and towns over the next 40 weeks.

