

Letter from Romania (March 2018)

Dear friends,

After much deliberation and prayer, Ruth and I have decided that on account of the educational and vocational needs of our family, we will return home to Northern Ireland, in the month of May, DV. We see this as a necessary step for the sake of our children in particular. Rebekah, who has been homeschooled for the past few years, will begin studying for A levels in September. Adina, now nineteen, will finish her school education this May, in Romania and will require employment of some kind upon her return home. Joshua, who is now approaching High school age, will begin year eight in September.



It is our plan that Ruth will return home with Rebekah at the beginning of May, DV, to enable Rebekah to sit her final GCSE exams. Joshua, Adina and I will return a short time later. This will be a period of readjustment for us all and will not be without its difficulties, we know. We will appreciate prayer as we continue to look to the Lord for His guidance and wisdom as we take this difficult, yet necessary step.

It is our intention to continue visiting Romania for short periods of time, after our return; ie. to run summer camps and to carry out activities such as Christmas shoe box and scripture calendar distribution and perhaps, youth Bible weekends. We have discussed our intended plans with fellow workers and believers here in Romania, who understand why we believe this is a necessary step we must take.

As we approach the time whenever we will depart Romania, we realise that we will be leaving a small, 'fledgling' assembly, with young leadership. Those who make up the assembly are mostly believers, who are young in the faith. We covet your prayers for Vasi and Andi that they will be able to work closely together and be 'pillars' of faith in the little assembly in Gura Râului.

Every Monday for the past few years, we have conducted a Bible study for the youth of Gura Râului and Orlat. This is a work which the Lord has blessed; a 'seed planting' work as far as some are concerned, but for others it has been a 'root strengthening' work. Please pray that Andi will be given the spiritual strength, exercise and endurance to keep this vital work 'alive' and vibrant.

Recently, two young mothers from Orlat have shown a special interest in things spiritual. After speaking with both of them, they do seem to understand God's way of salvation. Both Andreea and Rodica claim to be saved and Ruth has been meeting with them each Tuesday for Bible study. Please pray for spiritual growth and development in the lives of these young women.

A few weeks ago, Cipi (Chippy) asked if he could sing before I began to preach the Gospel in Orlat. Taking a little bit of a risk, I offered him the opportunity and it was quite amazing to hear this lad in his early twenties sing words he had written himself; a message from him to God! He mentioned his sin and how he needed forgiveness; he mentioned the cross of Christ and thanked God for sending His son for him. I asked Cipi after he sang if it was from his heart and he said it was. ***That if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved! Romans 10:9***

Ruth and I again take this opportunity to thank you for your fellowship, prayers and care for us as a family. Please continue to pray for His work in the hearts and minds of men, woman, boys and girls of Romania, that He might..***open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God..Acts 26:18***

Yours affectionately in Christ, Jonathan and Ruth