



RESO Spreading the Gospel in Southern Oltenia, ROMANIA

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2014

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RESO

*Spreading
The Gospel
In Southern
Oltenia*

PRAY

GIVE

GO

ROMANIA

*"There is such a
big harvest of
people to bring
in. But there are
only a few
workers to help
harvest them.
God owns the
harvest. Ask him
to send more
workers to help
bring in his
harvest."*

In my daily devotion for both my personal life and for team training in which I'm investing now, God helped me to deepen biblical values of Genesis. One thing that is repeated and somehow describes God's dream is to form a community in the image of God that grows and multiplies. Following this, the principle of extending and strengthening were better impregnated this November in my mind. Practically, this means to catch God's dream and to expand it into Dolj County, while we consolidate the ministry in Olt County.

These principles were confirmed by brother Sofrac, who encouraged me that even though I extend, to care, as well. Also, they were confirmed by the BIG team who gave our team advice in church leadership. And so I am in the tension of God's will, on the one hand to strengthen teams in Olt County, on the other hand to recruit a new team for the city of Craiova in Dolj County. This implies a greater workload, to cease to do certain tasks and ministries that I do now and a process of delegation to be done with wisdom and discernment and to stay dependent on God. I invite you to pray for me to know God's steps in this transition.

In November, God permitted me to fulfill one of my goals-helping missionary families and workers who do not have



steady incomes through the project: A Fishing Rod, Not a Fish. Together with Sweetwater Church of South Carolina, this became a reality (we had been planning it for a few months). Part of this project, also included other social cases from our mission area. Cows, pigs, goats and other animals have been purchased that will bring incomes to these families. Also, two greenhouses were built for two brothers involved to our ministry.

Besides this project, we had evangelistic events and many visits that served the same vision.

I have shared these activities in November to give you a reason to praise God and to show the importance of your prayer. I am sure that many of you are praying for us daily. I saw the fruit of your prayers so many times! Rejoice with us before the Lord for these blessings!



Berechet Octavian– Maruntei

In November, we saw God's guidance and how He directed our steps to be more effective in fulfilling our vision. As you know, our vision is to plant a church but we can't do this alone. Inspired by the example of the Apostle Paul who always worked with a team, in which the result was huge, we ask for your prayers for training a team of workers/missionaries in Maruntei. A verse of a song says, "Where there is only one, there is power, where are two the power is bigger and the enemy does not overcome." Pray that God will raise up leaders in Maruntei, who are passionate about human souls or pray that God may call leaders from other parts of Romania or abroad.

We pray that God would bring salvation into people's homes. In December, together with a group of children, we are planning a Christmas



program, where they will invite their parents and grandparents to hear about the greatest gift ever given to mankind. Pray that these people will receive the Gift into their hearts.

Opris Daniel– Coteana

My ministry in Coteana was focused in two directions: visits to brothers, including group meetings with them and visits and discussions with the unbelievers.

We helped Ionut and Ionela, who were recently baptized to grow spiritually, and in this regard I have encouraged them to make a daily Bible reading schedule and prayer time. We asked them to write in a notebook the chapter(s) they read and the verse that spoke to them in a special way. A joy that I have is that we began a prayer group during the week, Wednesday evening at 6 pm. My suggestion was well received by believers here. They also felt the need for prayer for their community. I visited a few people to whom I presented the gospel and I helped them with transportation, wherever they needed to go. We also took a few packages of food and clothing to families in need.

Dumitru Mircea– Corabia

This month The Lord gave me a new prayer. When I started the ministry in Corabia in September 2012, I asked the Lord to give me the people to bring to Him. In November 2014, God has added a new prayer to my prayer list: "Help me to be a good steward of the people who have been entrusted to me." Every Sunday our little worship space is full.

Early this month with Doug Droll and Nelu Sofrac, we had a special time of prayer covering an area of our town. We formed teams and we prayer-walked on four or five streets. We had the



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opportunity to help a few people with bags of food. Those who have been helped are living in difficult conditions. One of them is Dan Cenghetus. He is suffering from deep vein thrombosis, optic atrophy and 5 months ago



had 5 strokes. Every month

he has to buy medicine and take some tests totaling 196 lei (or close to \$56 USD). His family income is 424 lei (\$121 USD) per month. His wife, Ioana, comes to worship meeting, and at the last visit she decided to follow Jesus.



We continued to spread the Gospel two times a week by doing home

visits and talking with people on the streets. Cornelia began to teach the children Christmas carols.

George Serban–Stoenesti

This month we had some challenges concerning my wife's health; we had to go back to Bucharest for a medical intervention for her heart, but thank God that He was with us. Thank you for all your prayers.

In Stoenesti, The Lord helped us to have 2 events this month, through which we had the opportunity to expose men and women to the

word of God. We had an event for women and we invited women who came for the first time to our church. The meeting took place during the evening meal where women had the opportunity to relate and listen to the word of God. There were 50 women participating and at the end they showed themselves open to be visited and expressed their desire to attend church programs. A woman who came for the first time at this event, keeps coming every Sunday to the church program. Pray that the Lord would bring faith into her heart.

Then we had an evangelistic event in Stoenesti, where a large number of people had heard the Word of God preached by a professor of theology from the United States. We pray that the people who were there will not remain indifferent. May God work in their hearts and bring them, on His Way.

During the Thanksgiving event brother, Nelu Sofrac, preached the Word of God and at the end we enjoyed the fellowship with people who were present. I think many people like to attend the church program, but it is more difficult to make decisions to follow the Lord. We pray to the Lord for these people to open their hearts to Him.



In our community there is a family with four



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children. They don't have a heated stove or firewood, and they all live in one room. The walls of the house are ready to fall in and the roof is damaged. We tried to repair the roof. When we went to do so their neighbors came to help us. Pray for this family's needs for food, a stove and firewood to handle this winter.



Every Saturday we meet with young people and learn from God's

Word. Florin is making steps in discipleship and we are happy that he is willing to learn. He also has the desire to tell others about the Lord. Please continue to pray for Florin, Catalina, Liliana and Sara, that the Lord will continue to work in their hearts.

Alexe Costea– Comani

This November, we enjoyed the blessing of God upon the ministry in Comani. We continued to work spiritually and worked as much as we could for the construction of the church. Every Sunday morning, we met and we worshipped the Lord. Children are blessed every Saturday to hear The Word.

We pray that the Lord will transform their hearts. This month, we hosted a group of brothers from America. Along with them, we organized two major events, one for women and another evangelistic event where more than 50 people took part. Through our brothers, God blessed 3 families with goats for self-support.

We were impressed to see the joy of the people who wanted to work, but they didn't have anywhere to go.

Pray for Corina. Her husband is violent and



he is always drunk. Pray for the teenage group that we have. We started a Bible study with them and we want the Lord to put it in their hearts for a desire to know Him more.

We managed to install the heating system to the church building's first floor. Praise God! There is a lot of work to do, but we trust God will be with us until the end. Thanks to everyone who is praying for us.

Please continue to pray that the barriers that Satan has created in the minds of people to be pushed aside in Jesus's name.

Marian Stoica– Daneasa

We were glad to get home safely to see the church, friends and family again in Romania. We thank the Heavenly Father for our quick acclimation and for the power to get to back to work.

Our desire is to see people saved in Daneasa, and a church that seeks to do His will and live for Him there. With that being said, this past month I went from door to door to look for people willing to study the Bible. Pray that God will bring hunger and thirst for the Word in the hearts of people in Daneasa. Also in order to



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know God more, we started a Bible study group for families. Once a week, I meet with them to teach how to be a family that pleases the Lord. Pray for these two families who are eager to persevere in seeking the Lord and other families to join them.

In 2015, I want to use skits and pantomime as a way to bring the gospel. Please support me in prayer to know how to plan the project, as a tool to show the Lord's salvation.

Approaching Christmas, we want to thank the churches, collaborators and partners in Germany that sent gifts to the children in schools and kindergartens, but especially we want to bring the good news of the birth of Christ. Pray for each child who will receive a gift to be touched by the Savior.

Mariana Ileana— Hope for the Community Association

[HOE organization](#) from Holland has donated clothes, shoes, toys, furniture and other things to southern Olt County.



Needy people in 14 villages have received these goods. We tried to expand our involvement in Dolj County by starting with helping young

people in prison in Craiova. In partnership with a brother who makes missions in prison, these young people have been blessed with the clothes they need. We thank HOE organization for their constant involvement in this area.

Also, in collaboration with a team from America, about 140 families in the RESO area were evangelized to and were given food packages. Other families were beneficiaries of the project: A Fishing Rod, NOT a Fish. We are grateful to the team and the whole Sweetwater Church for their generosity and love.

Within the Afterschool program, 25 children have continued to receive homework assistance, English class and other educational activities. We thank all partners who contributed financially and materially to offer these children a snack for lunch and provide the conditions to grow intellectually. Pray for the association's needs to be covered, to continue the existing projects and to fulfill its mission. We need volunteers, social workers, collaborators and partners who share our vision and want to partner with us. Thank you for your prayers and involvement.

For more information: www.asociatiasperanta.ro

Dorothy Reid— [RESO kids ministry coordinator](#)

Personally, it was a huge blessing for me to have a team of youth from Ontario here for six weeks, and their





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team leader, Julianna Thompson, from my home church. They blessed me with their smiles and servant attitudes, whether it was ministering to widows, to children, taking puppies to the vet, washing a dirty van, visiting a shut-in or helping unload a transport truck of supplies. Thank you EBC Expedition team and may God bless and guide each one as you seek Him for your futures!

A special joy for Lidia and I with the Saturday children's club has been to see how they are taking to heart what we have been learning. This month's key truth was "I am being sent by Jesus to bless others and invite them to follow Him." We invited them to come and tell us of anyone they knew who was in need~perhaps an old person, a widow or a poor family.

They led us to a tiny, two-room mud house with 8 children and another on the way. They gave the family a couple of bags of handmade things the youth team had brought from a church in Canada. Then one Friday as I was leaving my building three children met me saying, "We found a lady living on the street. Come and see!" They led me to a place near the post office and to a woman lying on the cement with only some cardboard underneath. As the children talked to her they learned her name was Florina and the man she was with had beaten her and thrown her out of the house. She had been lying there for 3 days. The children prayed for her and we left, but because of their care and concern an hour later two of the cell groups that meet at the church also went to see her. They took something hot to drink and eat, talked with her, helped her stand as she could barely walk due to the pain, and called an ambulance to

make sure she got to a hospital and received help. Jesus could often be found among those sick, hurting and in need.

It is so encouraging to see children and believers at Hope Baptist Church who are following His example in this way.

Children up to Grade 4 also had a vacation this month, so Lidia and I took advantage of the opportunity to take some of our children on an outing.

First we visited one of our missionary families who had recently lost their newborn baby. The children brought flowers and fruit and prayed sincerely for this grieving family. Then we went to the city of Slatina for lunch and the restaurant staff surprised the children by offering them a free dessert.



While at the playground, after they had a difficult experience when some street children begin to kick, hit and antagonize them, we formed a protective circle and prayed for the children who were doing this. At that point one of the older girls said, "We won't do it anymore" and commanded the others to stop.

At club, we are learning a song called "He's able, He's able" that says in one verse, "He gave to His own the power to be a living witness." As we drove home I asked, "Was I being a living witness when I was angry and told the children I



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would call the police or were we a witness for Jesus when we stood together and prayed?"



Our children had clearly seen the difference and though it was a hard experience it also gave us

a chance to talk to them about how Jesus was persecuted and made fun of even when He had done nothing wrong.

Later at club, we looked at verses that talk about how to treat our enemies (eg. give them something to drink) and discussed other ways we could have shown Jesus to those children. Some children were very upset by the experience and don't ever want to go back to Slatina. Pray that Jesus will heal the hurt, help them to remember all the good things that happened, and give Lidia and I wisdom as we continue to teach and disciple these precious ones that belong to Him.

