

January 2024 Update

Dear Faithful Supporters

Thank you so much for your faithful support, prayers, and love that you have shown us throughout 2023, and thank you especially for the extra blessing you give to our family around the holidays. Christmas and New Years are always very busy here in Romania and this year was no exception.

Through all of our outreach ministries in the area, such as our weekly Meals-on-Wheels, our bus ministry, and school supplies for needy children, it seems that now Ruben is a respected figure in the community. For the first time this Christmas the village's school director collaborated with us to host a Christmas excursion at the church for the kindergarten and grades 5-8. The children sang carols that they learnt at school and we were able to teach them a few of our hymnal carols and Ruben shared with the children the real meaning of Christmas; The birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We praise the Lord for all these opportunities He gives to us to share the gospel! Even though Christmas fell on a Monday this year, in Romania, we always go to church on Christmas Day. So Christmas Eve, Sunday morning we held our Christmas service and our teen's Christmas program and on Sunday evening we held our children's Christmas program for the kids in Santa Maria. Then on Monday, Christmas Day, we held our children's Christmas program for the kids in our church. Serval parents came to watch their children perform and heard the gospel at the church and in Santa Maria.

Then we prayed in the New Year the following Sunday night which kicked off our annual revival. It's when we meet at the church every night for the first week of the year. This year, our subject was the "Be attitudes" in Christ's Sermon on the Mount. This revival always helps us as a church to start the New Year off right and right with God.

We spent a few weeks in January in Romania before we left to come back to the States on Furlough. It was very difficult for us to leave our church and our people to come to the States but this time (if done right) is a time of growth for them as much as it is for us.



Eva's Kindergarden class singing carols at the church

Eva is very much enjoying her time in the States and seeing family







Moni teaching kids club with Sitter Raluca while we are on furlough

We didn't realize all that we do in ministry until it was time to find other people to take our place. We have a team of 15 people doing the work that my wife and I do. Please pray for the Brothers, Sisters, and teens who have stepped up in our absence and taken on the responsibilities of our ministry work.

Please also pray for us as we travel all over the states on furlough. Pray for our health and our safety. We have barely been in the States now for two weeks and yet we are already seeing God's goodness in His provision for us. We were in desperate need of a vehicle on furlough and we weren't picky but were having a hard time of it when the Lord kindly provided for us a Toyota Carny (Ruben's favorite car company). Praise God! He is so good to us!

Thank you again for all your prayers and support for us. We can't wait to see you all soon in person!

Your missionaries to Romania,

Ruben, Jordan, & Eva Cristinoiu

