

THE CRISTINOIU FAMILY

Ruben, Jordan, & Eva

serving God in

ROMANIA



April 2025 Update

Dear Faithful Supporters

The Christian life is a journey that includes both mountaintop victories and deep valleys. There are times when our hearts overflow with praise, and other times when we are humbled by sorrow and trials. Yet, through it all, God remains faithful. He walks with us, lifts us when we fall, strengthens us, and carries us through each season.

Our church recently entered another valley with the unexpected loss of a beloved member of our congregation in late March. Oli (pronounced *oh-lee*) was our gifted violinist. He and his wife, Olga, came to Christ and were baptized in 2022, and since then, they have been faithful, encouraging pillars in our church family.



Since Oli's passing, we've had many opportunities to spend time with his family, especially his adult children. In the midst of their grief, hearts have been open, and we've been able to share the hope of the gospel with them. Please pray that the seeds planted during these conversations will take root and bear fruit in God's perfect time.

Oli's death deeply impacted not only his immediate family and our church body but also many neighbors and friends throughout the village. His sudden homegoing was a sobering reminder of how brief and fragile life is. In the wake of his loss, several individuals have been stirred to reflect on their own spiritual lives. Some have returned to church while others have taken steps to get right with God. Even in sorrow, the Lord is at work, drawing hearts to Himself.

One especially encouraging outcome was the return of a married couple who, months ago, had been involved in a disturbance at the church that required police intervention and caused deep hurt within the church family. They have returned—humbled and broken. With sincere hearts, they publicly apologized and repented. We praise the Lord for this moment of healing and restoration. It's a powerful reminder that no one is beyond the reach of God's mercy. Please continue to pray for them, as the enemy is still seeking to discourage them with bad health, insecurities, and lies.



Amid sorrow and repentance, how fitting it was to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior. This reminder of hope, life, and victory through Christ became especially meaningful during our Easter celebrations.

Just before spring break, we had the joy of once again hosting the village school's field trip. The day was filled with outdoor games, snacks, and fun, but the greatest blessing was that Ruben was permitted to share the Easter story and God's plan of salvation. We were especially encouraged to see several Orthodox teachers listening attentively and responding positively to the message. Please pray that the truth of salvation by faith alone would continue to resonate in their hearts.



Resurrection Sunday was another great blessing. Many of our bus children attended, and this time, several of their parents came along to see the children's Easter program. It was a joy to see the church filled with families as they heard the message of Christ's resurrection through the voices and hearts of our children. Moments like these remind us that God uses even the smallest vessels to share His greatest truth.



Please also join us in praying for Romania during this time of political uncertainty. The upcoming presidential elections have been marked by confusion, especially with the recent cancellation of the first round of voting and the replacement of candidates. This has created frustration and instability among many Romanians. We are asking the Lord to bring clarity, integrity, and leadership that will allow for continued freedom to share the gospel and live out our faith. Pray that hearts would not be turned toward fear or division, but toward the true hope found in Christ.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your continued support and prayers. May the Holy Spirit continually remind you of the eternal impact your partnership is having in Romania. We are privileged to labor alongside you in spreading the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, not only here, but throughout the world.

Your Missionaries to Romania,

Ruben, Jordan, & Eva Cristinoiu



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