

November 2009

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

It is the time to gather family around the table with a celebratory feast of Thanksgiving and to once again thank the Lord for another year of his gracious blessings upon our lives. As we all reflect on the goodness of the Lord, Cristina and I are especially thankful for each of you. Together with you, we have been able to help many families during this past year. At the first frost, many elderly will put on warm winter clothing and wrap up in the quilts provided by our partners. Men and women who battle family-destroying addictions now have a safe haven in which to recover and prepare for new lives. Growing congregations now have church buildings where the Word of God is taught and souls are being added to the Kingdom daily. New believers will approach the season of grace with reverence for God and hope for their futures. Our own precious children continue to regain their physical, emotional, and spiritual health. It is a great privilege to be used by God to touch other lives, and you are part of all we do in Eastern Europe.



*Many elderly will put on warm winter clothing provided by one of our partners.*

For the past five years we have been blessing orphans, the children of our national missionaries, and the poorest of children with new leather shoes for Christmas. A brother who owns a shoe manufacturer provides them for his cost of \$20 each. Last year 700 children received this precious gift. No longer do they spend the long winter months looking out the windows, but they can go outside in the fresh air like other children. Words cannot express the joy on their faces as they receive this gift of love. In the orphanage, children come and go. At the age of 14 they are forced to leave, but others quickly take their place. We fit the new ones with winter boots, knowing it is the first pair of new shoes they have ever owned. We cannot fill the void of family love with a pair of shoes, but it is a vital need and an act of kindness they will always remember. We give them the Good News of Jesus Christ as we help them lace up new boots, and that is a gift that will last into eternity. As you prepare your shopping list this year, please remember the orphans and the needy children of Eastern Europe and put a pair of shoes on your list.



*Children at the orphanage receive winter boots each year.*

In the village of Terebna in northern Moldova, a young congregation will spend our Thanksgiving weekend dedicating their new church building and praising God for this miracle. Two GMI-sponsored national missionaries were sent out early this year to begin evangelizing the 4,000 people in Terebna, who had not heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Gheorghii and Brother



*Evangelism in Rotunda, Republic of Moldova.*

Rubin joined them on 3 occasions for evangelistic meetings held in public areas. The first converts embraced the Good News and began holding meetings in their homes. Now we see the fruit of our early efforts. Since the Spring of 2009, the church in Terebna has grown to about 20 adults plus children. U.S. partners Roy and Terry Wanta from Wisconsin visited on a mission trip and the Lord touched their hearts to provide a building for this new church plant.

A beautiful property was located and purchased. There are two sturdy houses on an acre of land. A large garden and fruit trees flourish on the land. In the larger of the two houses, the interior walls have been torn down to provide a meeting room that will hold 100 Moldavians! It includes an ample children's room. The labor was donated by the congregation and believers from the sending church in Viisoara. We are seeking the Lord about how He would have us use the second building. The Wantas have been used to make a great difference in the Kingdom of God by providing a place where the church can grow and the Name of Jesus will be lifted up and glorified in three services each week. We praise God for them and for each of you. Please keep the new church in Terebna in your prayers as they witness for Christ in their village.

Last month we urged you to pray for our dear GMI-sponsored national missionary Nicu Bodea. The hospital would not schedule the surgery until the money was in their hands. God moved on the hearts of our partners who helped us meet that need. We are happy to report that he had a successful double bypass surgery and he is recovering well. Our spirits know no distance. Brother Nicu knows you were praying for him and it was a great encouragement to him as he prepared for surgery.

Our family is thousands of miles from America, but we celebrate Thanksgiving in Iasi. Every year we count our blessings sitting around the table. Children who have been in orphanages or foster care typically lack medical care. Ours were no exception. Three of our children were suffering from malnutrition when we got them and we are working through the after-effects. This year three of our children are in treatment for asthma and three had surgeries. We praise God for their healing and continual improvement in every area of their lives. They are developing a repertoire of worship songs so that they can minister alongside us at the elderly care center. This fall they helped Grandma Cazacu harvest her crops and enjoyed the atmosphere of the farm. They have added great joy to our lives.

You also add great joy to our lives. During this season of thanksgiving, we especially thank God for you and your faithfulness to contribute to this work and to pray for us. You are a tremendous encouragement to us. We pray for you every day and trust God to strengthen you through every circumstance of your lives.

*Ghiorghi, Cristina, Nicoleta, Hadassah, David, Leah, and Daniel Cazacu*



*US partners Roy and Terry Wanta from Wisconsin visited on a mission trip.*



*The property before remodeling began for the church in Terebna, Moldova.*



*The interior walls have been torn down to provide a meeting room that will hold 100 Moldavians.*