

GOOD NEWS FOR ROMANIA



Dear Friends,

HAPPY EASTER FROM DAVE & KATH AND FRIENDS IN BARLAD, ROMANIA

Thank you all very much for your love, support and encouragement over these past months. The families that we support in and around Barlad are very grateful for all the food, clothing, shoes, vitamins and financial help over these past hard winter months. For the families in Dealu Mare, it was extremely hard when they were unable to get out of the village to get to the local town for over three weeks. This was due to the snow and then heavy rain which made the unmade road to the village unusable, even to the horse and carts! Fortunately, Claudiu had taken a good stock of food to the families or it would have been much worse! Claudiu and Ada continue to work tirelessly to help those families in need; certainly without the support of Good News for Romania, (GNFR), this would not have been possible.

A growing number of new families are coming to Claudiu asking for help, and unfortunately, a large number of these are families consist of one parent who is very ill, or has died, and the other parent is a heavy drinker, (they can make their own drink after harvesting their grapes). This inevitably leaves the oldest child in the family, often as young as 10 years of age, with the responsibility of keeping the family and home together. Claudiu and Ada help these families and encourage the children to come along to the Church in Dealu Mare each Sunday. Their time at the Church is one of fun and laughter, they learn about Jesus and they also receive a good healthy meal and food to take home. This time is also the opportunity of having time away from the family home to have some semblance of life as a child.

As most of you are aware, each summer, we try to send a group of children from these extremely poor families on a camping holiday in the mountains. All the tents, equipment and games are in Romania, and Claudiu and Ada, along with other helpers, give their time to organise it so that these children can have between 1 - 2 weeks of fun, laughter, fellowship and good food. Unfortunately, some of the teenage children will not be allowed to go on the holiday as their parents now consider them old enough to work in the fields during summer, so sadly, they will miss out. Because of this problem, Claudiu is planning to do a camping weekend in the village so that these children have a fun time too. Claudiu said that around 3 weeks ago, the children started asking, "Can we go on the camp again this year.....PLEASE? (va rog)?" We can't do this without YOU, so if you feel that you can contribute towards a child having a holiday, however large or small, please do get in touch. The cost for the holiday for each child will be around £45. Thank you!

As the cost of living is rising in Romania, our help is still needed. We always need financial help so that we can help the families to have basic foods and are able to keep a `roof over their heads`. Many of the homes are barely habitable, having no running water or heating, but to them, it is home and all we can do, is help in any way that we can. Claudiu says it is heart wrenching to see the families like this, but with the help from GNFR, it is a big encouragement and a fantastic help.

You may remember BOGDAN, he lived in a tiny apartment with his mum and sister and struggled with Mum Maria's illnesses and `not nice` people who live in the apartment block. We

have just heard that Bogdan is now living in a monastery and has settled very well. We are sure that Maria and Oana will miss him greatly, but must make living/sleeping arrangements much easier in their tiny home.

MARGARETA from Dealu Mare village has still not returned to her home. The family is devastated by her disappearance with her son-in-law and is still trying to come to terms with what has happened.

The ROSCA family in Dealu Mare continue to live in extremely bad conditions, and they now have yet another baby! Mum has not been in good health and has had to spend time in hospital; we just pray that with the help from GNFR, life will be more bearable for them.

For the BAGU family, their winter was much better than recent ones as they now have the whole house re-roofed thanks to GNFR. The family is now able to spread out in their home rather than 6 of them sharing one small room so THANK YOU on their behalf!

Many of the families have had bad health over the winter months and we have helped where we can. Claudiu and Ada have been wonderful even though they have not been without their own problems. Ada has been suffering from depression and has found going out very hard at times, and Claudiu left his job at the orphanage run by Germans as there were a number of people there who were very jealous of him and made his life quite unbearable. He has now got a job working as a construction manager on a building site, which is away from home, but he is praying that another job in his home town will come along. Last week he was approached by the orphanage directors again to ask him to go back as they now realise what a good worker he was. Claudiu has told them that he cannot go back while the people who caused him and Ada many problems, are still there. He waits to see what happens! He is a very clever man and has almost completed his law degree, working for this in his `spare' time. He ultimately would like to be a social worker and be able to help all the families in need as his full time job.

As always, all the families we support send their love and thanks to you all. We often ask Claudiu to get some treats for the children.....sweets, balloons, paper and pencils etc and the children are always thrilled!

If you would like any more information about our work in Romania, please don't hesitate to contact us and thank you again for your love and encouragement to US!
God bless.

Love

David & Kath Richardson

PS. FOR THOSE WHO LIVE LOCALLY, THERE IS A COFFEE MORNING/BRING & BUY AT OUR FRIENDS HOUSE - 38 WESTLAND AVENUE, BOLTON, SATURDAY 25th APRIL - 10am - 12noon. ALL ARE WELCOME!

PPS: If you would like to receive our newsletters by email, please send a message confirming this to the email address below – thank you!

David & Kath Richardson
1 Wythburn Avenue,
BOLTON.
Lancs. BL1 6BG

Tel: 01204841906
email: david@wythburn96.freemove.co.uk
Web site: www.stpetersparish.info then link
international –national ministry-GNFR