

D E C E M B E R 2 0 0 5

REMM

NEWS FROM THE ROMANIAN EVANGELISTIC MEDICAL MISSION

MINISTRY UPDATES

CHRISTIAN KINDERGARTEN

The REMM board recently approved the use of the large orphanage building for a Christian kindergarten beginning in the fall of 2006.

The children still at Josef's House are living comfortably in the front portion of the property to reduce costs. This change has opened up the larger building for new areas of ministry to the community.

Please pray as REMM organizes and plans for this new ministry.

MEDICAL CLINIC

We are grateful to announce the medical clinic's name will be changed to the Dr. Thomas E. Williams Mission Center, in honor of our late REMM president. We will also be updating the building with a new heating system and electrical wiring.

Please pray for the medical ministry, the teams serving from this place, and for the people in Romania that need the care of a trusting and caring physician.

Bundles of Love

*God's heart of love for the human race
was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger at Bethlehem.*

As you read this letter, packages are on their way to the 39 children REMM supports through Josef's House and the foster care program. In these packages are 39 individually chosen Christmas outfits for the children to wear on Christmas day and at other special times during the winter season.

Although it is just an outfit, it represents the individual attention and care that REMM provides for the children in their keeping. These gifts allow these children to feel special on a day that, given their circumstances, could be very ordinary and sad.

The challenges of caring for abandoned children and paving the way for their

future is never easy. Each day presents an opportunity to change a child's life and turn the tide of poverty, loneliness, hunger, and hopelessness into a wave of love, security, and a chance for a better life.

The faces of abandoned children in Romania say "Love me, hear me, hold me, play with me, ease my pain, find me a family, make my life better." These are the needs that Christ calls us to address and that REMM continues to find answers for.

It is your prayer, financial generosity, and your partnership with REMM that make it happen. Thank you for having the courage to care for these little ones and for all that God is doing through REMM in Romania.



Dear Friends of the REMM Ministry,

At this special time of year we are so grateful for so many gifts from God. We are very thankful for your friendship and faithfulness to our ministry. We are especially thankful that the Christ child came. God became man to reach mankind. He reigns in us through no good merit of our own. It is for this, that we celebrate the season.

We pray that you may know His peace this Christmas.

Love—Peter & Ana Lucaciu

Agape Ministry

Not only is REMM providing for abandoned children in their care but the ministry also provides for many poor families in the region. If any of you have visited Beius and have had the opportunity to travel on an Agape run, you have been blessed!

Poverty continues to be a very serious problem in Romania. Many families are in desperate need of food, clothing and other supplies that are necessary for basic living.

REMM has enabled many families to stay together as a family unit because of their support. This support is known to have prevented some parents from

abandoning their children.

REMM is blessed to have Pastor Johnnie as a facilitator of this ministry which meets the needs of approximately 100 poor families in villages outside of the Beius area. Johnnie continues to be a faithful witness to the Lord as he delivers the supplies to the needy families and ministers to the families spiritually by praying with them and caring for them. Johnnie has a huge heart for these people and is gifted in ministering to



their needs.

Delivery of these desperately needed items is an on going challenge as transportation and gasoline costs are high and the roads are difficult.

Please pray for the agape ministry and for Johnnie's health and safety as he continues to bless others in this ministry. Please also pray that the families receiving this support will come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior.

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SHORT-TERM MISSION REPORTS

As you know, there are many short-term mission teams that travel to Beius at different times during the year. These teams serve the ministry in a variety of ways, including Vacation Bible School in the local villages, spending time with the children at Josef House, ministering to children and teachers in the public schools, helping with Agape runs, and much more.

We want to share two testimonies from teams that visited Beius in the last year. We are so thankful for their encouragement to our ministry and the people of Romania.

-TULSA, OK

by Jenette McEntire
from First Presbyterian Church,
Tulsa, OK; August 2005

My heart had been in Romania for a while. But it wasn't until this summer that the rest of me was finally able to make the trip. My husband's cousin adopted a son from Turnu-Severin nine years ago. The stories we were told of his state institutional "care" put a special burden on my heart for the orphans of this country.

The Lord answered this long-felt burden with a spot on our church's travel team to work with the ministries of REMM, specifically helping in the orphanage.

To be able to simply hold these kids, sing songs about Jesus with them, or spin them in the air was a delight I can not begin to express. Even more than that, to know the children are in this safe place, being cared for and loved—and not just in a human capacity, but with the very love of Christ—brought a deep joy to my soul. It's a real picture of what God has done for each of us, adopting us as His own sons.



But, my vision of God's hand at work in Beius went far beyond the walls of Josef's House. I saw the love of Christ at work in the gypsy community where we helped Peter deliver roofing materials so a family could have a home this winter. I saw

the love of Christ at work in the faces of the kids in our VBS programs and in the Sunday worship services we participated in. His love names and permeates the Agape ministry, and is felt at The Bridge where so many ministry events and gatherings are given the space and atmosphere they need to flourish and grow.

The burden on my heart is still there, but it has been transformed into a burden of hope—that I'll be able to go back soon, that the ministry of REMM will continue to be blessed, and that the work of Christ will be brought to completion in the lives of all this ministry touches.

-WASHINGTON DC:

by Lisa Wink
Team Leader from The
Center for Christian
Statesmanship; Washington,
DC; August 2005.

A few months ago I was sitting in Starbucks on the hill thinking about what an incredible blessing it would be to take a group of Capitol Hill staffers to Romania so that we could minister not only to the poor, but also to the government. After much prayer and encouragement from a friend, I took a step of faith to ask people to join me in taking this mission trip. I told the Lord that if six people said yes, I would go! A week later, we had a group of 10 buying tickets to Budapest, Hungary.

What happened during our week

in Romania was a fulfillment of the vision HE gave me that day in Starbucks. The Lord gave us great favor within the government of Romania!

Peter Lucaciu, with the help of Paul Negruț from Emanuel Bible Institute, organized a seminar for our group to host "Christians in public office." About 40 government officials came, including Senators and Mayors. Our presence was the catalyst needed to draw the attention of many Christians and non-Christians to come! Little did we know what our Lord would do this day—and how much it would mean for the future of Romania. The officials arrived and listened intently as we shared about our government and how many believers we have in Congress, how many Christians are working on the hill and why it is important to have Christians serving in governmental positions.

The government in Romania has 12 parties, and Evangelicals are represented in many different groups. Peter and Paul told us that we witnessed a major event in Romanian history that day! It was the first time for many believers (in different parties) to talk and pray together. After the

day was over, they spoke about hosting a conference for Romanian teenagers next summer, with a goal

of encouraging many to run for public office! The presence of God was strong in that place, with persecuted Evangelical Christians

asking God for faith, not fear, to infiltrate the government. The doors are wide open now for us to continue to minister to those in government in Romania. Our desire is to take more teams, including Christian members of Congress, to minister to Romanian Evangelicals in this way.



FUNDS SUPPORTED BY YOUR GIVING

Here are just some of the things your money is used for when you support a particular fund:

JOSEF HOUSE

- **Wood for heating** this winter
- **Preschool tuition**, i.e. learning materials and lunch
- **Transportation costs**, including driver and gas, to and from preschool

FOSTER CARE

- **Training and certification** of prospective foster home care givers

- **Placement in a private, Christian foster home**
- **Ongoing care for 22 children** within a family environment

THE BRIDGE

- **Youth outreach events** at the coffee house, including recreational equipment and Bible study materials
- **Evangelism** in the heart of the community

AGAPE

- **Food packages** (sugar, flour, oil, pasta, etc.) for approximately 100 needy families
- **Transportation costs** to deliver packages, including driver and gas

FINANCIAL GIVING

During this special time of year, the REMM ministry asks you to prayerfully consider giving to support the many needs being met in Romania. Together, we can meet the physical and spiritual needs of those REMM ministers to. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of many.

Please consider supporting REMM on a monthly basis or increasing your support for the coming year. Giving any amount will make a difference in what we are able to do. *(Electronic giving is now possible. Please see information included with the newsletter.)*