

# NEWS FROM AURORA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, VULCAN, ROMANIA – December 2017

I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day, longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy. For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well. For this reason, I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord ..... who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you. 2 Timothy 1 v 3-9, 13-14



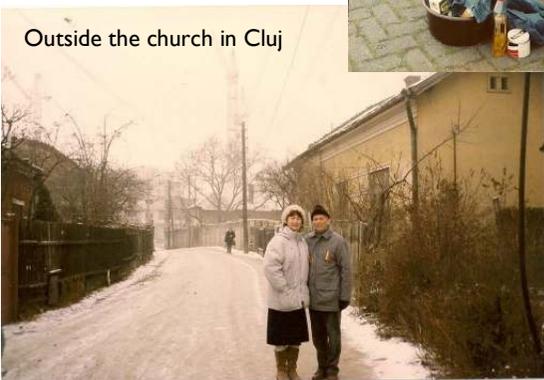
I have chosen the above passage, as Malcolm & Christine, who are the spiritual grandparents and parents of many in Romania, made their last visit to the country in October 2017. After 34 years of visiting, Malcolm felt God speaking to him about a year ago about passing the work on, and drawing to a close (for them) the work in Romania. Of course the work will still continue, and we have a good team of workers both in the UK and Romania to carry the work on and catch the vision. As in Timothy's writings referring to Lois and Eunice, we pray that the believers in Vulcan would have sincere faith in God and it would pass down many generations, retaining the standard of sound words.



← Packing the car ready for a trip to Romania



↓ Meeting an Army Officer at the border immediately following the revolution in January 1990



Outside the church in Cluj

## School Uniforms & Educational Supplies

Thank you to all who have been purchasing school uniforms and school supplies throughout the year, and also contributing to the school books fund, which we buy directly with the school. ACA were able to kit out 100 children ready for the new school year in September 2017. This is an on-going project throughout the year.

With a previous gift that had been left with Irene, we were able to help the state school in the village to buy a new colour photocopier, which benefits the whole school.

### Uniform Needs for 2018

- Boys black trousers 6-14 years
- Blazers for boys and girls 6-14 years
- Boys white/blue long sleeved shirts
- Girls – Blue and white check dresses aged 6-12 years
- Girls – Black trousers 6-14 years
- Girls white long sleeved shirts – 12-14 years
- Tracksuits for boys and girls any colour – 6-14 years
- Coats for boys and girls – 6-14 years
- Trainers and winter shoes sizes – 1-5 girls and 1-7 boys
- N.B. We do not need any more polo shirts at the moment.



The container received from Foundations World Wide in Australia, has been such a blessing, and there is still much to distribute. All of the items in the container were new. Blankets and teddies have been given out to poor families, in both Vulcan and the neighbouring village of Holbav. Some medical equipment has been donated to the local hospital. Jo & Ame have been visiting another poor village the other side of Brasov with aid.



### Christmas ShoeBoxes

Once again ACA were given the gift of approximately 6000 shoeboxes from Blythswood Care, collected from around the southwest and Wales. These gifts are such a blessing to all who receive and are used as an outreach to show God's love to many we would not usually have contact with. A special thank you to all the volunteers in Ilminster who checked each box, sorted and packed them into larger boxes, then loaded the lorry for Romania.



Every year the fellowship at Rora has given gifts to the 50 old people we have contact with in Vulcan and surrounding villages. Previously we used to make up boxes and send them from the UK, but as there is now so much available in Romania, the past couple of years we have collected and sent money for Miki to buy the items in Romania. Nelu & Miki along with some young people from the Pentecostal church in Vulcan, delivered some of the Christmas bags to the old people, they also sang to them. Some of these old people live high on the hills and don't easily have access to shops etc, and life is generally very hard.



### Canteen & Maintenance

The canteen continues to run well, feeding approx. 80 children and 20 old people every day. This is subsidised with food from the UK, which we receive from local wholesalers, and also funded by the sponsorship program. Nelu had recently raised the need to update the canteen, as a lot of the kitchen was in bad repair, especially the floor. He wanted to replace the old wooden floor with concrete & tiles etc. He mentioned to Irene that the costs would be £1900 for materials and £1000 for labour. A team of ladies from South Kent Community Church were staying with Irene at the time, and immediately gave the money to cover the materials, from love gifts that they'd received from their church. Isn't God good, 'before you call, I will answer'. We pray that God will supply the remaining £1000 for the labour costs. As you can imagine with old buildings, there is a lot of on-going repairs & maintenance to do, especially as work done initially would not have been up to a good standard. For a while now, the upper room roof has leaked, which affects all the clubs held there (kindergarten, homework, girls club, patchwork etc). Throughout the winter there are buckets strategically placed to catch the rain water and snow melt! Indeed the roofs on all the Association buildings urgently needed replacing. So we took a step of faith, trusting God for the finance and this major maintenance job was started in October 2017. Malcolm & Christine's personal house (Casa Betania) will be used more for visitors, coming to work with ACA, we are hoping to be able to develop it and put some more bedrooms in the roof. This will help a lot when there are visiting groups and not enough beds!!!

We are still trusting God that all the legal paperwork can be sorted regarding the land at the back of the property, with a long term view of building a new purpose built building there to house all the Association projects. Keep praying.



### Pentecostal Church

God is really blessing the Pentecostal church in Vulcan, and recently 6 people were baptised. What a special day. We praise God, and pray that God will really use these ones who have committed their lives to Him.

Thank you all for your on-going love, prayer and support. Paul & Anna will be visiting Romania in February, so will be able to give an update on all projects following that visit. We pray that you would know God's presence with you this Christmas time, when we celebrate God's greatest gift of all—His Son—Jesus.

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