



Bethany House News

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A Home For Orphaned Children in Romania



Fall 2008



Helping orphaned, poor and abandoned children along with their families

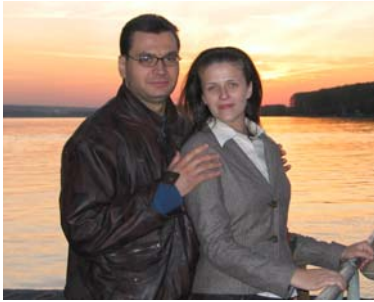
Catalin and Danut

In May we accepted two young boys into our family at Bethany House. They are Catalin, aged five, and his younger brother Danut who is three. They are two lovely boys who have fitted well into the house and they are very happy here. Our girls also enjoy having them running around the house, ...most of the time.

Although Bethany House has been established as a home for girls, it seemed right for us to take in boys on this occasion. The boys' parents had divorced and the authorities ruled that neither was not sufficiently capable of raising them. Therefore the boys were taken into state care and placed in the orphanage at Perisoru. The authorities called us, and we agreed to take them into Bethany House because we can offer them much more support and individual attention than can be provided by a large state orphanage. **After seeing them it would have been very hard for us to say no, "we cannot help them". What would you have said ??** We also took the boys because they had only been in state care for a very short period of time. It is much easier for us to have a lasting impact for good on younger children, than it is on older children whose personalities have been shaped by years in state institutions. Currently the boys are a little bit behind most other children of their own age, but we are confident that we can resolve this and that the boys will have a bright future. We can also ensure that the boys are kept together, which we all believe is very important for them. If the boys had stayed in state care at Perisoru, they would possibly have been adopted by different Romanian families because it is very unlikely that a family could have been found that was willing and able to take both boys. There are countless beautiful brothers and sisters that never get adopted and end up living their entire childhood in state orphanages for that same reason.

Jesus said, Let the little children come to me

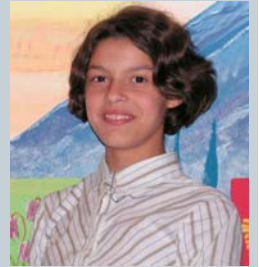
Arrivals and Departures



We thank God for the arrival of Marius and Alina Tudor. They are a Romanian couple who have come to minister with us at Bethany House. Alina is trained as a jurist and Marius as a teacher. He

also spent three years at Bible school. They both worked in Spain, but felt that the Lord was calling them back to Romania for full time Christian ministry. While in Spain they met Anita, a girl who worked with us for many years and is now a missionary in Israel. She put them in contact with us, and we corresponded by email for a time. They arrived in June and the arrangement is working well. We really feel that they are partners with us in our work here rather than just staff. They help us a lot in running the house and the children really like them. They also have a real missionary spirit and are eager to see many people come to know the Lord in Calarasi.

One of our girls, Stefania as been able to be re-united with her mother after a long seperation. Stefania came to us from the Perisoru state orphanage about five years ago. The cry of her heart was to go to be with her mother, but no one knew where her mother was and she hadn't seen her in at least seven years. We asked the police to help us find her and it took them two years of looking, but they were eventually able to locate her. We found that her mother's situation was far less than ideal, but Stefi went to live with her on a trial basis. At the end of this period we all agreed that the best solution for Stefi was to be re-integrated with her mother. Nearly all the children that come to us long to be with their parents, but most understand that it's not realistic which is why they are with us. Please continue to remember Stefi in your prayers.



The difference between a house and a home is warmth.



Receiving two brand new furnaces from Ferroli Romania

In Romania, the price of food, fuel, electricity, natural gas and other necessities continues to rise rapidly and this places a large strain on our finances. **Last year our winter heating bills were horrendous!** We calculated that it would be much less expensive to heat the house using two wood burning furnaces, than to use natural gas. After many prayers, we telephoned the national headquarters of Ferroli, a large international company that produces furnaces, explaining to the Sales Director about the work of Bethany House, and asked if we purchased one furnace from the company whether they would be able to provide the second one for free. 'Buy one, get one free deals' are almost unheard of in Romania; even asking was very bold as we had no relationships with anyone in this company.

The Sales Director told us to leave the matter with him, that he would call us back; amazingly he did! By the grace of God and the good will of a couple top executives, the Ferroli company was able to donate two brand new top of the line furnaces to Bethany House! Thank You Lord!! We have also received a couple of donations of firewood.

Could you please consider sponsoring an item below to help us to complete the installation before winter?

We need to install the furnaces and purchase:

Two metal doors -	\$240 each
Miscellaneous water pipes and valves	\$250
Exhaust pipe	\$350
Antifreeze	\$225
Insulation	\$200
Miscellaneous items	\$150
Truck load of firewood	\$580



An average winter in Calarasi Romania...Burrr

Perisoru Outreach

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. James 1:27

Again this year, a team from Hope Community Church in England came to partner with us in an outreach at the state orphanage in Perisoru. We spent a week together living at the orphanage with the children, who vary in age from about three up to around twenty years old. Each day started with a worship session on the orphanage grounds, followed by various art and craft activities, such as making cards, balloon modeling and face painting. The younger children in particular enjoyed these activities very much. In the afternoons and evenings we continued to spend time with the children, talking and playing sports and games. The England versus Romania girls soccer matches were especially popular, attracting large crowds to the small soccer pitch.

Overall the week went very well. The children, the orphanage staff, and our team members all had a lot of fun. They have very few facilities and possessions so boredom can be a big problem, particularly during the long school holidays. Some of the staff at the orphanage are good people and they do their best to care for the children. However, due to the high ratio of children to staff, many of the children do not receive enough individual attention and encouragement in their lives and most are not expected to do well in life. Thus we were privileged to be able to put a smile on their faces and to show them some of God's love. We wanted them to know that even though their parents might have abandoned them or have been taken from them, they have a Father in Heaven who has promised his children: "I will never leave you, nor forsake you".

This was the fourth consecutive year that we have done an outreach at Perisoru. The authorities do not allow 'religious activities' in the state orphanages, but this year we decided to take a risk and we were very open about our faith and took some opportunities to proclaim the gospel. God rewarded our boldness with some encouraging results. One of our team built a very good relationship with Elena, one of the older girls at the orphanage, and towards the end of the week she expressed a desire to come to church. So the following Sunday we drove to Perisoru and took Elena, along with seven other teenagers from the orphanage, to a good evangelical church in the town of Slobozia. This was their first time in an evangelical church, and after the service we provided them with lunch and presented the gospel to them using the *4 Spiritual Laws*. Hopefully they all made the right decision. But it is said, "time and fruit will prove the root".



Other News

Several years ago a young lady named Lidia worked for us. She left us to be a missionary in China, but her father's church in Fagaras continues to bless us every year with a donation of potatoes. It is not a rich church, but they gave us 28 sacks of potatoes and also as much wood as we could carry in our trailer to burn in our new furnaces. Please thank God for their generosity and faithfulness to us.

In July we were visited by a team of 37 people from *Bethany Romanian Pentecostal Church* from Chicago. Daniela attended this church when she lived in the US, and many of the visitors who came were her friends since then. Many of them have children in the church's Sunday School. Each week the Sunday School donates its collection to Bethany House to help pay for our food. Having these visitors here was a great privilege and encouragement for us all.

We have been pleased to have Dan's mother staying with us during October. Over the years she has been a great help in supporting the work of Bethany House from the US. This is the first time that she has visited us in Romania. She has been accompanied by Lucia who is also from California. They have both been very helpful to us and they hope to visit again in the future.

Prayer and Share

- ◆ **In our last newsletter we told how Simona had been accepted to the Christ For the Nations Institute in Dallas, Texas. She was able to raise the money that she needed for her flight, and she left for the States in August. Simona tells us that she is getting on well at CFNI and is enjoying this new chapter in her life. Please pray for God's continuing provision in Simona's life and that she will make the most of this excellent opportunity.**
- ◆ **Please also remember Raimonda in your prayers. She is doing very well in Constanta. She is in the middle of her fourth year at Medical School and is also working part-time selling eye glasses.**
- ◆ **Thank God that our farm was able to provide us with a good crop of fruit and vegetables again this year, which helps to reduce our food bills. It also continues to provide a safe home for Cristi and Ionela, two young adults with various disabilities, and for Ionut — Ionela's young son. We would like to install some wood flooring and insulate the walls to make the building warmer for them.**
- ◆ **Praise God for the help we've received in changing our heating system. In addition to the two wood burning furnaces, we have also been given around 3 or 4 tons of wood to burn. Please pray that we'll receive the finances we need to complete the installation.**

Foundation Bethany House is an authorized humanitarian foundation by the government of Romania. Children of Bethany House is a not for profit corporation, in the United States, and is a satellite of the Full Gospel Ministerial Fellowship, therefore your donation is fully tax deductible under US federal tax laws. Our federal E.I.N is 41-2130377.



Now accepting on-line donations via PayPal: www.paypal.com.
Our account name is: bethanyhouserom@aol.com