



# Bethany House News

Str. Tudor Vladimirescu nr.28  
Calarasi, Romania 8500  
Web site:  
BethanyHouseRomania.org  
Email:  
Bethanyhouserom@aol.com

**A Home For Orphaned Girls in Romania**



**Spring 2008**

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**MOVING HOME**



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**Helping orphaned, poor and abandoned children along with their families**



**Simona Rusu was so blessed to be accepted for a full one year scholarship to Christ for the Nations Institute in Dallas, Texas. Additionally the United States embassy as approved Simona's student visa, so all that remains is to raise the money that will be required to pay for her flight. This is an excellent once in a life time opportunity for Simona to go an advanced school, who's motto is to make World Changers for Christ and she will see her older sister Alina who graduated CFNI and is planning to get married in August. She will be the fourth Bethany House girl to attend CFNI.**

For children from the orphanages, school can be very difficult. They have very few books and other resources, and they are not encouraged to work hard and therefore do not develop good study habits not to mention whatever tragedy in the their family life that led them to orphanage in the first place . As a result, many do very poorly academically often not entering high school at all. And the few that start, actually finish the regular High School program. And for the very few who enter colleges, most subjects chosen are not very difficult . The director of the county child protective services was recently complaining to us how weak the colleges were where most of the orphaned children he knew were going there only to avoid getting a job. Therefore, we are particularly proud of what Raimonda has achieved. For the State accredited University where she attends doesn't waive any tuitions or fees for her and to date the state has not sponsored her at all. She has worked very hard and hopes to become a surgeon. Raimonda:

*"Everybody has a dream. But in achieving a dream, I believe that the first step is the most difficult. This was definitely the case for me, but I knew that God would help me if I really wanted to achieve my dream and if I really believed!*

*Even though I had a difficult start in life, I was accepted into Ovidious University in Constata Romania. Now, I'm a student in my third year, nearly halfway through the six years of medical school, and I'm deeply grateful to everyone who has helped and supported me through these years. So, I'm going forward with this promise from Philippians 4.13: 'I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.'"*



**"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."** Mt 19:14



In April's activity report, we told how we took a number of people to hear Josh McDowell speak in Bucharest. This included four young people from the state orphanage in Perisoru. In May, we followed this up by obtaining permission to take 28 of the older children from Perisoru to *Bucharest-Fest* – a large evangelical event in a park in the center of the city. So on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May we set off for the event, using two minibuses and a car. We arrived early in the afternoon, enjoyed a picnic together and watched a demonstration of extreme sports by *Living It* - a group of Christians who share their faith in between demonstrating tricks on their skateboards and BMX bikes. In the evening there was a music concert featuring *Hillsong London* and popular Romanian band *Proconsul*, and a presentation of the gospel by Andrew Palau. The children enjoyed the music, and several of them responded to the gospel message, giving their names and contact details to the counselors at the event so that they could be contacted afterwards to discuss more about the Christian faith. We thank God for this and also for giving us a good day. There is always an element of risk in taking a large group of children from the state orphanage to a public event, but the children were well behaved and we had no problems.

Earlier in the month we were blessed to have a youth group from Bethany Church in Bucharest join us for a weekend. They spent time with our girls, visited the children at the orphanage in Perisoru, and also helped us out at our farm. We needed to collect alfalfa that we use for our cows, so we set off for the farm at five o'clock on Saturday morning in order to complete the work before the day became too hot. In between breakdowns a baling machine produced 108 bales of alfalfa and the youth group were a big help in moving these back to the farm.



We would appreciate your prayers for Mariana, one of our girls at Bethany House. For a long time she has been suffering with an ear problem. Earlier this year she had an ear infection and was admitted to hospital in Calarasi. After two weeks in hospital she was discharged, but soon afterwards she complained about her ear again. This time we took her to see a specialist in Bucharest who told us that Mariana has a punctured ear drum and requires surgery to resolve the problem. She has lived with us for about four years and had been to a local doctor for treatment a number of times over the years, but for whatever reason this problem went undiagnosed. We suspect that will be quite a difficult and unpleasant procedure so please pray that it will be successful and that Mariana will continue to be brave, finding comfort in her recent faith in Jesus.



*"They overcame Satan by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..."*

Rev 12:11



Daniela & Josh McDowell

So blessed we were to be able to take our children, and a number of other people, to hear a powerful word and strong testimony from legendary Christian author and speaker, Mr. Josh McDowell. He came to Bucharest for two nights of meetings. The first night was a challenge to parents and youth leaders on the benefits of building a strong relationship with our children, as protection for them against self destructive lifestyles and practices. The second night was an evangelistic night where he started out by exposing the lie of the "safe sex" message that is so expounded by many schools and health care professionals. Then he shared his own story of an abused childhood and the incredible healing power of a relationship with Jesus Christ. Given away freely was his powerful best selling book More than a carpenter, which has more than 23 million copies in print world-wide. During the first night

of meetings when he was encouraging people to buy some of his books, he mentioned that forty years ago he signed a contract that would exclude him from any royalties from any book he wrote. He has since authored and co-authored over 100 best selling books. Hearing Josh speak and meeting him in person was so encouraging for many of us and a great challenge for all. After hearing him speak the first evening, we filled our large ministry van with as many as possible for the second evening. The van is designed for 14 people, but since many were youth and believing that it would be another powerful, possibly life changing, evening we put a total of 22 people in our van, ready to suffer the consequences if stopped by the police for "bending" the law, to fulfill a higher law.



Our blessed van full of youth

**"I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHOEVER HEARS MY WORD AND BELIEVES HIM WHO SENT ME HAS ETERNAL LIFE AND WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED; HE HAS CROSSED OVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE". JOHN 5:24**

In April we had the opportunity to take our girls to yet another two days of special meetings. These were called Peniel, or Face of God, after the story in Genesis 32:22. After another powerful testimony and very clear gospel presentation, an alter call was given. After receiving God's irresistible love we are so proud to announce that one of our girls, Mariana, went forward to confirm what we had already seen to be self evident; a new life in Jesus Christ. Whether it was the four plus years Mariana has lived at Bethany House or Josh McDowell's testimony or Peniel, it doesn't matter, but rather that someone who was dead in trespasses and sin has crossed over to life. Let's rejoice with the angels in heaven!



## Bethany Farm



Springtime also brings lots of work at the Bethany House farm. Its outside the city and makes for a very peaceful place. The farm is also a very important place for Bethany House because it provides a significant amount of home grown food and a safe home for a number of adults coming from the state orphanage system all with a disability of one kind or another. It is also so healthy for our girls to learn value and reward of hard work .





We would like to thank you our dear friends and partners for your continued support of Bethany House. So amazing this journey as become and we truly are in awe of God's hand on Bethany House and the kingdom work we do here. After nine years of helping the poor and housing orphaned and abandoned children we are convinced that it isn't our abilities that has allowed us to stay open but rather its God's love for those that are his and hurting and the very poor. This is the heart of God. One recent visitor commented that they couldn't do what we are doing here and that this is greater than their abilities. We corrected our friend and said that our spiritual gifts and calling are different but not greater. For after so many years of literally being carried by God's graces we are certain that we like everyone else that is in the family of God we have a **Kingdom Responsibility to the King** for fulfilling His will with the talents and abilities he has given us. So from one member of the kingdom to another we would like to thank you for doing your part so one day we all hear His voice that says "...Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Mt 25:21

With Love and Respect  
Dan & Daniela Pierce  
And the Bethany House family



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Now accepting on-line donations  
Via PayPal. [WWW.paypal.com](http://WWW.paypal.com)

Foundation Bethany House is a authorized humanitarian foundation by the government of Romania.  
Children of Bethany House is a not for profit corporation, in the Untied 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.