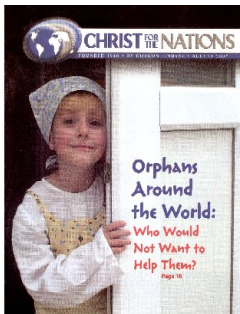




Bethany House Activity Report

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... “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways And that we may walk in His paths.” ..Micah 4:2



Little Daniela on the CFNI magazine featuring a short article about Bethany House.

Just like godly people of old went to the mountain to meet with the living God so we at Bethany House believe that it is important for renewal of the spirit and separation [sanctification] from many distractions that are constantly taking us all in different directions, often away from God. In July we were able to go to a beautiful resort area for church camp with Ministry coming from a team of Christ for the Nations Institute Bible [CFNI] students. Their lead speaker was Pastor Victor Thompson who shared a lot about holiness and sexual purity. On the last evening of speaking and worship there were a lot of tears flowing as many sought the Lord's forgiveness and healing. We were so honored by the CFNI magazine, which featured a short article about Bethany House and our work in Romania.

We were also so blessed to have the opportunity to take the girls to a very secluded village area up in the rolling mountains of Transylvania. The place was called Tisa and our host was sister Eleonora, a godly woman who while taking care of her aged parents has a hospitality ministry of hosting all kinds of different children at her farm style home. It is almost indescribable to share the beauty and the healing of the soul that comes from a mountain retreat. Calarasi the city where Bethany House is located. It is in the southern part of the country and is where most of the girls are from. It is very flat with no hills or mountains in the area so having an occasion to be in the mountains is a lovely contrast.

We also had the opportunity to help Daniela's parents do some work on a house her father built a few years after the Romanian revolution of 1989. It was the same village where Daniela spent most of her years before coming to the United States, it is a village called Benesti. Dan did most of the work of building and installing a septic system and few sinks along with a hot water heater. The house was located also in a very remote village about an hour's drive from the city of Arrad. There is a beautiful forest area behind their house with many trails and interesting things to explore. We had wonderful picnics, eating wild grapes that were sometimes growing as high as some of the trees. The experience was like vitamins for the soul. As one lady said “life in the village doesn't change much and most people look after one another”.



“I will not leave you as orphans...” John

Perisorul Orphanage Outreach

Again this year we were so blessed to part of a “mini-camp” out reach with Saints from the United Kingdom to the Perisorul state orphanage. It was the third year in a row that we have done such an out reach and it could be said that every year just keeps getting better and better. For many years we were forbidden to do any programs there, no songs, no dramas and any Bible messages were out of the question. And this is a place where practically every room has a religious picture or icon in it. But now we have been able to do all the above. As we were finishing our morning devotional on the last day a teacher sat in and said “ we were welcome to come any time we and wanted and she would do everything in her power to make sure we had an open door”.



There are about 150 children who live at the Perisorul orphanage. During the summer very often the children will go and visit relatives or even parents, so there were about 70 children that stayed with us. These were ones that had nowhere to go. And to be sure every story of every child there is a tragedy with most not truly orphaned but rather abandon by their parents. Or a common story is that the children were taken from their parents by the state because the home situation was unspeakably bad and drew the attention of the authorities. In this case the state orphanage is a positive alternative, but to be certain the model of a large institution taking the place of a family is the least desirable. Currently four of our twelve children we have in Bethany House are from this same orphanage some the direct result of our mini-camps there.



Perisorul children receiving new shoes

When we were there the children had organized a relay race. It was pure genius the different types of “races” they came up with. One was to “name that sound”, which was all different kinds of animal sounds, but in reality was one of the staffers up in a barn making all the sounds himself. Another was a race to count some money, but the money was buried in a sack of “fresh” cow poop! The pressure to finish the “race” well was incredible. So tragic is to see so many beautiful children abandon to the state orphanage where there is almost no investment in their emotional or spiritual well being. There is a feeling in the orphanage of abandonment. Many of the children expressed frustration that no one there really cares for them or tries to invest in their lives or future. Our desire was to encourage the children that they weren’t forgotten and that they have a heavenly father who will never leave them or forsake them.

In Christ,

Dan & Daniela Pierce