



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

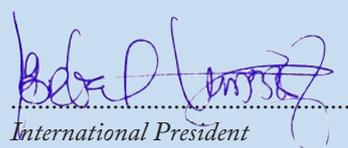
August 2021

After some vacation time we are now back to work. We have had a great time and the weather has been good for the most part. It has been a blessing. But now we are ready to start working and do what is our calling; to spread the gospel about Jesus Christ which is the way to salvation and restoration. This work is done, that you probably already know, through various efforts made through People to People Int'l (PTPI). Seeing people saved has always been our main focus and goal with our ministry. To see people restored and won for Christ is always our main focus and what we emphasize, while we give support to people who are suffering and live under difficult circumstances. We want to stand in the gap and be a protection against the evil that can affect people.

During the summer there has been an intensive work in the places where PTPI is represented. Meeting campaigns, children and youth camps are a few of the things that have taken place during the summer. Pastor Florin Popa has had the joy of baptizing a number of young people, which we rejoice over. It is the outward proof of a person's conversion; to follow Jesus through water baptism and then arise with Christ, transformed and restored!

Now we are looking forward with great anticipation to an exciting fall to see what the Lord has in store for us. I so much would like to be able to make trips to both Romania and Moldova. The situation has stabilized some and people have been vaccinated to a certain degree. But we also know that the situation can change rapidly, therefore we follow the development very closely.

Thank you for standing alongside us in the work that is being done. Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We are so thankful for your support that enables us to continue the work.


International President

Food distribution to Roma families



Another food distribution has taken place among the Roma people in the colony in Batar, Romania. The needs are still great, since very few people have been able to go back to where they worked before the pandemic started.

As we have written earlier, we have been able to send money for food distributions to the Roma families who have been affected by the pandemic. Pastor Laurentiu has done the distribution to the families. Earlier this year we did a fund raising for the families who live in the Roma colony in Batar. Now yet another distribution has been made, thanks to the fund raising we did, and the money received at that time. The situation with the pandemic has improved somewhat in Romania. The effect of the vaccination is seen. The infection rate is, as in many other places, on its way down, but the concern for a fourth wave is there. The vaccine number is low among the Roma population.

The reasons for this are many, but a distrust toward the society and widespread discrimination are two of the main reasons. Therefore the situation is still hard, since the ones who worked abroad have not been able to return to their work, preferable in Ireland. As long as they are unvaccinated or unable to show a negative Covid-19 test, they are prevented from returning. The possibility to find work in Romania is still very slim for the Roma part of the population. That is why food shortage persists. Laurentiu has sent the following greeting:

Right before Pentecost in Romania we decided to offer needy families in Batar a different kind of food package. So far,

we have given them some essentials such as oil, flour, rice, corn flour, sugar, etc. Now we wanted to purchase bags with 10 pounds of beans and meat products such as sausage, smoked chicken bones and pork. For the children we purchased some candy. The families who received these packages were really happy. It is hard to meet all the needs we are faced with, but we, at least, want to show our love for the ones that are rejected and excluded.

As a Church we are called to be light and salt in this world, especially for those who struggle with the most difficult challenges. The greatest need is not food, but love and forgiveness from sins and restoration from their life situation. So, let us be what we are called to be. We are so thankful to the Lord for the Holy Spirit he has sent to be with and in us. He gives love and the strength we need to be what he has called us to be.

Special thanks to everyone who has a heart for our work in Romania.

God bless you!
Pastor Laurentiu

We are grateful for the help we could provide to the roma families living in Batar. We follow this closely, as there is a continued need. Thank you for your help providing for these families.

Twelve people were baptized



*The kingdom of God is spread, when 12 new members were added to the Church in Tileagd.
What a joy to be able to experience this.*

What a great joy it is to see people being baptized. The water baptism is an important part in the Christian confession and a testament of the life changing experience that has happened when choosing to follow Jesus. Pastor Popa writes the following:

I had a very hectic month of June with many different engagements in the Churches where I serve. With God's blessings I also had a baptismal service. Three people were baptized in the Church in Tinca. It was the second baptismal service this year.

In the Church in Tileagd 12 people were baptized. At a time like this, it is a great blessing. It was a lot of work, but it was worth it. I also held a Bible class over and above the regular church work. I travel a lot between the four

Churches I serve, but God takes care of me. It is true that it takes its toll since I suffer from several health problems. But now I feel fine.

Next week I am taking the young adults from our Church for a five-day camp.

Pastor Florin Popa

We thank God for the people who have decided to get baptized. Please, pray for Pastor Popa and the work he is involved in. It comes with a lot of responsibility from serving four Churches with different needs which require his presence. Please, pray for protection and continued good health.

Parliamentary elections have been held in Moldova



July 11th, parliamentary elections were held. It was a fateful choice for the Moldavian people, where the choice stood between the socialist and the communist or the liberal EU friendly PAS-party on the right wing. Why do we write about this?

Well, since this election to a very great extent was about Moldova's freedom away from Russian influence that has existed for a long time. The PAS-Party, with ambitions to bring the country closer to EU, had the opportunity to get their own majority in the parliament. This also means that they, without support from other parties, can pursue its own policies. After the election PAS had received 52.8% of the votes, which means it has its own majority. This is thanks to all the exiled Moldavians (80% for PAS). Now the people are waiting anxiously to see how the country will go forward.

Financial reforms and an increase of wages and pensions are expected. But the situation still remains tense, when from the Russian perspective, the country's chosen path is disapproved of. If it does not go well, the country could be thrown into a conflict like the one in Georgia 2008. With the conflict in Ukraine in fresh memory the situation is uncertain, but still positive, when the country now can act against the widespread poverty, corruption and a judiciary that does not work.

Mariana in Romania

Just before our vacation we got a message from Pastor Florin Popa concerning a Roma woman. She had been thrown out from her own home by her children. They no longer want to take care of her and provide for her needs. Her name is Mariana and is 57 years old and a widow. If nothing is being done, she will end up homeless. Pastor Florin and the Roma congregation in Tinca want to try to help her to build a simple house near her former home. We

therefore decided to send \$600 for the purchase of some building materials so they can start to build. Pastor Popa has also been able to get additional building materials. We hope that her small house can be finished before the winter sets in. The foundation is laid, and the walls are up. We are now waiting for the roof and the windows to be put in place.



The woman lives temporarily in a shed while her new house is being built.

