



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

January 2022

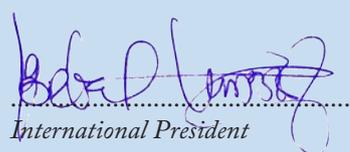
Many came to see and hear

We have put another year behind us and in doing so, turned the page and welcomed 2022. So far, a blank page, which we hope will be filled with what God has in store for us as a missions' organization. Our prayer is that we will continue to be a blessing to many people where we, as an organization, work. We are so grateful for you, who are standing alongside us, in the calling God has given us. Without the support of you and many others it would be difficult for us to accomplish what we do. Your prayers and financial support are absolutely crucial for the continuing work. Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless you for all that you do for his kingdom.

In this first newsletter of the year, we would like to look back on what was done in connection with Christmas celebrations in both Romania and Moldova. Right before the holidays we sent a financial gift to Children of Promise (COP), that was a great blessing to them. We got a report from Pastor Igor Lazar in Moldova. They have managed to distribute the Christmas packages that we raised funds for. What a joy it is to be able to be a blessing in this way. For the ones who received the food packages, Christmas became a great time with food to eat and a time of fellowship. Please read more about what Igor writes in this newsletter.

For more than two years I have not been able to travel due to the pandemic. But we pray that things will change during this year, so we will be able to travel again and resume the contacts on site, which is very important and necessary.

In this newsletter Pastor Laurentiu sends a greeting from Romania. It is gratifying to see that young people want to get baptized. He is also engaged in the important translation work of a new edition of a revised Bible translation. Once again, thank you for your so important support.


International President



Church service in Glodeni. During Christmas the Church held several gatherings where many came to listen. When they left, they got a food package to take home.

The hope shines bright in the most compact darkness. The Church in Glodeni, Moldova, is experiencing one of its greatest challenges since the consequences of the pandemic are becoming increasingly apparent. More and more people from the society come to the Church because they are in dire need of help. Pastor Igor writes that it is an invasion of people. People they have never before been in contact with are looking to him hoping to be helped.

The different activities around Christmas were therefore extra important. The opportunity to reach people with the gospel has therefore been so significant. The Christmas holidays gathered many people in the Church, where they got to listen to carols with a clear Christmas message. Pastor Igor writes.

"The birth of Christ changes the lives of poor people and children from the city of Glodeni, Moldova. May the Lord be praised for taking on the poor, the orphaned and the widows in Glodeni. This Christmas, God brought great joy into their lives. Hundreds of thanksgiving prayers were offered up to the Lord from people in need. The children were very happy to receive their Christmas gifts.

The widows and many families with children cried for joy after receiving the food packages. Before us and God they said that they did not think that they



Both young and old were gifted with a Christmas package.

were having a good Christmas, but God transformed sorrow into joy on Christmas day.

Many of them had come to the Church for the first time. The church building was filled with adults and children from the city. At the end of the service, the children got their gifts and families with many children got a Christmas package. God bless all the people who have contributed to bring joy to the poor people in Glodeni."

We feel joy and gratitude that we have been able to do this special thing for people in need. The groups that Pastor Igor mentions, are very dear to God's heart. Now we look forward and wait with great anticipation to what God will do this year, 2022. Thank you so much for your support!

Christmas came to Children of Promise

When the pandemic was a fact, many of the Roma people, who had jobs in other countries in Europe, were forced to go back to their home countries. The families who earlier had a steady income, pretty soon ended up in acute poverty. Children of Promise has a very important role to fill, since they have a broad contact surface with the Roma population. Even COP have tried to create a bit of Christmas spirit for the children who come to the center. One of many needs, which not always can be met by the parents, is winter shoes. So just before Christmas and before winter set in, COP distributed both food packages to the families and winter shoes to the children.

Sami writes a short greeting to us, where he gives a special thanks to People to People Int'l for the long-standing support to COP. Sami writes: "A big thank you for the wonderful gifts we received! Our work would not be possible without the proof of God's grace and love that describes the kingdom of God".

The work done by Sami and his coworkers is so important and can only be measured long term. That these children get support in their schooling, given a meaningful free time where important values as the gospel are engraved into their lives at an early age is so important. Thank you for supporting us in our work for these children, through COP.



Happy children. Christmas came even to Children of Promise. Food packages and eggs were distributed to families in need.



A food package and eggs were welcomed additions for many families. Products that not everyone can afford to buy.

A time of trial and blessing

Pastor Laurentiu is one of the pastors we work together with for a few years. He serves several churches around Oradea, Romania. Last fall they had a baptismal service in his home church, where he is one of the pastoral team.



During last year, along with some other translators, he started the work of translating an older Bible translation. A very interesting, but time consuming, work that will vitalize the reading of the Bible, when it gets a new linguistic costume. But he also leads baptismal classes in his home church. This is what he writes.

In many ways last year was very hard for many people. Travel and meeting restrictions have made it hard from a spiritual perspective. The churches had to think of alternative ways to serve. People

were separated from each other. Despite all the challenges, we have witnessed how God has worked on people's hearts.

In Tabor, I had the privilege to conduct baptismal classes at three different times. The last one was in October. All the people, who received Christ and got baptized, were young people. It is wonderful to see people received Christ.

Another need we have seen in our churches, is the need of fellowship between generations. Therefore, we have arranged a few services for young adults and their parents, we call it Tabor Plus. Our intention is to have a monthly service where the young adults can fellowship with their parents. There, we can approach relevant topics, that can enhance the communication between young adults and parents and bridge the gap between the generations. Our prayer is that the families will stay together during this difficult time.

Please, continue to pray for our churches in the villages. Our prayer is that the pandemic

will cease, and that people would be more open to the gospel. Our servants of the Lord need our prayers. It is getting harder and harder to find people who are available and willing to serve. May the Lord send workers to his harvest."

Pastor Laurentiu

The pandemic has meant many difficult challenges for the churches around the world. Laurentiu's description underlines the importance that spiritual fellowship has for people. The churches play a crucial role in people's spiritual lives and not the least in the building of society. It is gratifying to see how one finds new ways for families to get to know each other. Also, that people find the Christian faith in difficult times. That the churches grow during times of difficulties is nothing new. This is the way it has been throughout history. Please, let us continue to pray for our Christian friends in the east. They need our prayers, and we need theirs. Thank you for your support!

