



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

August 2022

The work of Children of Promise (COP)

We have now left behind us a very needed vacation. It has been time for both rest, visits to our summer house, some renovation and a visit to the west coast of Sweden. A good combination of different things.

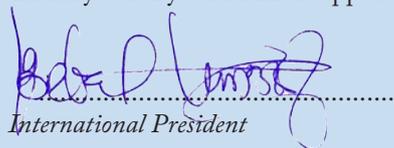
Now we are ready to start the autumn work, even if summer still lingers for some time.

During the past month the still severe situation in Moldova has reached us, as in the wake of the war in Ukraine, it suffers great financial difficulties. Right now, the country has an inflation rate of 31% on average, but some merchandise has increased considerably more than that. A very high inflation which an already poor country is not able to handle. It is very worrisome for the citizens to cope with their everyday life. The state is not stepping in to milden the effects, so this winter is expected to be the toughest in many, many years. The high inflation also affects the work our ministry does. You can read more about this in this newsletter. During July and August, we have also been able to implement the summer camps we have written about in previous newsletters. Pastor Igor has sent some information about these activities which you can read about on page two.

During the past month, we have also purchased a car for a Ukrainian Church close to Kyiv. It was done through our contacts in Poland. Through this support the Church will be able to help families in their surroundings who suffer and need help. It will be an important tool in their relief work.

On my latest visit to Romania in May I visited Children of Promise. In this newsletter Sami tells what they did with the financial support, \$1,500, we gave. A lot has happened during the past month, which makes us believe the fall will be an intense time.

We want to extend a great thank you to all of you who have stood alongside us through financial support and prayers. Thank you for your faithful support!


International President



Sami Mitra leads the work at Children of Promise. Here together with two Roma boys. To the right they have harvested reed to cover one of the roofs on the plantations.

One of the main thoughts with the work done by Children of Promise is to “Learn for Life”. To offer the children, who already from the time they were born into this world, have had to fight for their right to exist, skills that will prepare them for life’s different challenges. What the organization does is The situation in Moldova so fundamentally important for the children whose rights are not maintained. This in near symbiosis with the teaching from the Bible. To install in these children the most important – the word of God, will in due time bear a great harvest.

After my visit to Romania in the middle of May we were able to send \$1,500 to Children of Promise. The money was given, among other things, to be used for the cultivation project that Sami is in charge of at the center in Chieru, not far from Oradea. Amongst other things they purchased a ton of coal for the winter heating. A new irrigation pump has also been purchased, since the old one had stopped working. Now it will be easier to water their crops. The water is pumped up from a nearby creek to a large plastic container, from where the water is distributed further on. They have also repaired and painted the façade of one of the houses and built a roof over the mushroom cultivation which they started recently.



Each participant in the project has their own cultivation and everything that the soil produces, they get to bring home. The vegetables become an important contribution to the families whose children come to Children of Promise. The things that are taught at COP, the children will benefit from during the rest of their lives. To learn about the earth and where our food comes from and ultimately that it is God who gives of his good to us, is an important knowledge to have for the rest of their lives.

Each time I visit this organization I am amazed to see how much they do with such limited resources. They take “what they have” and make something fantastic from it. All this while they teach the children about the Bible and Jesus and what he means to our lives. I think this is worth supporting. “Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me”. Your gift toward this is much appreciated!

The situation in Moldova

Moldova has been hit very hard by the war in Ukraine. Since the war started, they have handled a wave of refugees that corresponds to 10% of the country's own population. Many people have continued on, while others have stayed in the country. Through PTPT's care about 1,000 Ukrainian refugees have been able to cross the border into Romania.

Rising inflation

Currently the country has an average inflation of 32%, but it differs between different goods. For food the corresponding figure is 34%. Daily goods that every family needs, has been significantly more expensive. The price of cooking oil, bread, butter and eggs has increased a lot. A few examples: vegetables an average of 59%, eggs 36%. Other daily goods by about 13.37%. But what is most expensive is natural gas that has increased by 131% and fuel by 32%.

This strong increase is more than people can cope with. The difference between the rest of Europe is that the population of Moldova is the poorest in the whole of Europe.

The coming winter

It is with great concern we look to the oncoming winter. According to the information at hand, this winter will be the roughest in many, many years. With a soaring inflation, extreme energy prizes

on both natural gas and electricity, many people will not be able to pay their bills. The electricity will be ransoned, different parts of the country will lose power, during a few hours per day in order to control consumption. The same is true for the natural gas.

The government is doing very little to nothing in order to muffle the effects of the inflation. So the sad effects of this crisis will be starvation, as there is no money left to buy food nor heat the houses or apartments. This will effect the middle class as well as the poorest cluster of the population. Therefor this winter is looked upon with great fear, because it will effect so many people.

Our projects

The present situation affects, of course, our projects. The monthly support we give becomes worth less and it will be harder for us to help the people in great need. There will be fewer food packages to give out, unless we can send more funds. The alternative is less products in the package, but this is not an alternative, since we want it to be a help, even if it does not cover their entire need of food.

In the same way the bread we give out is much more expensive to produce. The cost of distribution also increases. As far as possible, the bread and food packages are distributed after the church services



Items in a food package. The items vary depending on season.

in order to cut costs. But not all who are receiving bread and a food package have the possibility to come to Church. Therefore, we have to distribute food packages and bread.

Because of all of these increased costs it means that we, when the needs are so great, lose some of the impact. Therefore, we need to increase our financial efforts and engagement for Moldova in order to, the best of our ability, be able to give the help that so many will need.

Donations make a difference

If this situation speaks to your heart and if you would like to contribute financially, we would be immensely grateful. You can send your donation through the Worship Center, PA USA or donate through our website. Please mark your gift "Winter in Moldova" all proceeds will go to towards this need.

Thank you!

Vehicle to Ukraine

During the summer we have, together with Pawel and Lidia Nowakowski who work as Pastors in a Church in Olesnica, Poland, been working on a car project. Through contacts that they have in Ukraine, a need of help has been brought forth. Since more and more Ukrainians go back to their home country, the need of help increases in Ukraine, as well as for those who never left the country. The ravages of war have meant that much has been destroyed or taken away, that is why the needs are so great.

In order to be able to effectively help in the enormous need for help, a well-functioning vehicle is needed. Pastor Bogdan turned to the Nowakowskis hoping they would be able to help. They, in their turn, turned to us with a plea for help to be able to buy a good and well-functioning car. Right before our vacation we were able to send \$14,550 for the purchase of the car you see in the

picture. We want to thank all of you who gave toward the help to Ukraine. We also would like to extend a thank you to Dynamis World Ministries and Worship Center, the Church in Lancaster, USA, that also have contributed toward this project.

The vehicle will be used in the relief work in Ukraine. We hope to be able to come back with more of a detailed report in coming newsletters. Once again, thank you to all who in different ways have helped with financial support toward the Ukrainian people.



Pastor Pawel Nowakowski together with the Pastor from Ukraine and his wife.

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Paypal



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Website

