



**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**  
**INTERNATIONAL**

NEWS

# BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

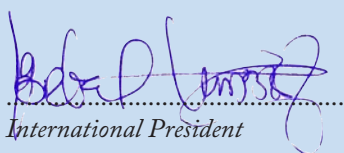
April 2023

**W**hen you receive this newsletter, we will have passed Easter, the church's greatest holiday. April is the month of resurrection. We rejoice over the fact that Jesus rose from the dead. That his suffering and crucifixion brought eternal life to us. The suffering and His death on the cross is the sign of our liberation. He died and suffered for us. Took on everything in order to free us from death and the impermanence of life He took our guilt on himself. No sacrifice is greater than this. Therefore, we have every reason to celebrate. Celebrate that we are free of our sins and eternal spiritual death. We are resurrected together with Christ to a life in glory. Christ is risen, yes, he is truly risen.

In a recent letter we wrote about the drama that brings in a great harvest of souls. A drama that plays an important role in the spreading of God's kingdom. Recently, we got a message from Mircea, who is responsible for this ministry, that the trailer they use to transport the equipment had broken down. The occasionally bad roads have caused great damage to the trailer. This time, unfortunately, not worth repairing, since it is the axle that has come off. We feel we would like to contribute with some funds, in order for this ministry to be able to continue. A new double axle trailer costs approx. \$2,900. This project has now been taken care of. Praise the Lord!!

When you read this letter, I will most likely be in Romania. For a few days I will meet up with our different partners. Your prayers for a safe and fruitful trip are most appreciated.

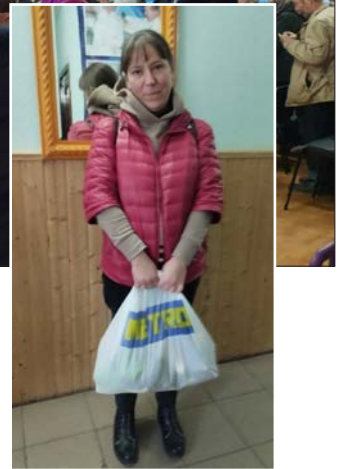
We want to express our deepest thank you to all of you who support the work and give of your finances so that we, in our turn, can pass it on to different purposes. Thank you also for your prayers!

  
International President

## Bread and food packages open hearts



*New people and fate of life. The number of those in need has increased since the pandemic and also as an effect of the war in Ukraine.*



**T**he Church's social and humanitarian work fill an increasingly important role in Glodeni, Moldova. During and above all after the pandemic we have seen a major change. More and more people come to the Church to seek help. Quite a few of these people we have not seen before. Since we started to work in Moldova, we have visited people in their homes. We have prayed for and with them and welcomed them to the Church. In connection with our visits, we have always left a bag of food. During these almost 13 years we have given out thousands of food packages to different families.

The content has not only saturated their physical hunger, but also, slowly opened their hearts to the gospel. We must remember, what we have done and still do, in society has never been done before. We plow new ground, soften the soil and at the same time people's hearts are opened up. The Orthodox Church has no tradition of helping people in this way, therefore, what we do is something completely new. Now, after many years, we start to see a harvest come out of this work. All the people we have met, have been exposed to the power of the gospel, both by words and deeds. Igor writes:

Praise be to the Lord, who continues to have mercy on the people who

struggle and are worried in a time that is characterized by anxiety. More and more who belong to the category of poor people come to the Church. They lack a roof over their heads and lack daily food. Today, the Church has become a haven and a sheltered place for the poor who live far from God. Bread-and food packages bring many people to the Church to listen to the word of God and get a package of food products.

We also have people who have given their lives to God, confessed their sins and received him as their Savior. We want to thank each and everyone who are helping us in our work here in Glodeni. May the Lord bless all of you!

*Pastor Igor*

We rejoice with Pastor Igor for the openness there is. That people dare to come and seek help. We are trying to help in the best way we can, but we also know that our resources are limited. Igor never rejects anyone but tries to help everybody who comes. We also want to express our deepest thank you to all of you who support us in these projects. It means more than we might imagine.

# Pastor's education Asist



*With warmth and gratefulness the teaching from the word of God is received. It is gratifying to see that both men and women are participating.*



The year was 2019, before the pandemic struck. I was in Romania. Together with Mircea, who now leads Asist, we sat at a café and talked. He shared his vision about what was burning in his heart; an education for lay pastors. We talked and prayed together about this vision, that so clearly was burning in his heart. Back then it was mostly a vision that had not yet quite taken physical form. Some attentive attempts had been made, but it was still a seed that just had been put in the ground and had started to sprout.

I encouraged Mircea to dare to believe what was burning strongly in his heart. To dare to take the necessary steps in order for the vision to spring forth. For me personally, education and knowledge in the word of God has always been and still is important. This is somewhat some of the DNA that is the foundation in PTPI's calling and vision. In our office we have a picture on one wall. It contains the vision that Oliver Lindberg received from the Lord back in 1978. I want to render part of the vision: "I now hold you responsible for them (the Pastors in Eastern Europe). If you are faithful and obedient in serving them with what they need to fulfill the calling I have given them; I will give you my very best".

These lines become a daily reminder of why this organization came into existence. It rests on the words the Holy Spirit once spoke, to support the Pastors in Eastern Europe in their spiritual service. A lot has happened since then. Our surroundings have changed dramatically during the almost 45 years that have passed. The communist regime fell, but the word of God has remained. The need for pastoral education is not the same as back then, but still continues to be an important part of a Pastor's spiritual work.

It is against the background of what has happened since the conversation with Mircea, we now can write about the fantastic development this education has seen. Today, it is represented in two places. In Satu Mare they have about 40 students and in Oradea there are 27 students.

When we take the calling and the vision from God seriously, there is no limit to what God can do. God gives the calling and he blesses the work that comes out of his heart when we take his word seriously and walk with God.

**When we take the calling and the vision from God seriously, there is no limit to what God can do**

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