

# the ADAM family

Living & working in Romania

SUMMER (2) 2014

- Emi, Kerin, Timmy, Hannah and David

- The community centre
  - Reaching out to the Romanian and Gypsy community in Marasesti.
  - Youth and children's work
- The farm project
  - Providing sustainable means to support people in need
- The Gypsy church
  - Bible teaching and leadership support



Dear Friends,

It's been a hectic couple of months since returning from Britain...with trying to get the Center finished and getting the farm up and running. We have really enjoyed our time with Kerin's sister Claire and her husband Pedro who came to do his placement with us! Our house has been mostly happy chaos with five young children and children's activities to prepare and run! We will attempt to tell all!



As a family we had a fantastic time in Britain. Thank you to all of you who made our time so special. Since returning to Romania we had a particularly difficult time with little David. He developed a chesty cough, which lingered for weeks; eventually we were advised to go into hospital, were admitted and ended up staying two nights where he was treated. He seemed to get better only a week later for him to be even worse. Thankfully after over two months the cough has gone and he is much better.

Timmy and Hannah actually struggled coming back to Romania, One day I was saying to Timmy he really did need to behave now that we were back with the amount that we needed to do. He turned to me and said - 'So if I am naughty I can go back to England??' That was quite telling. We have been continually disappointed with the local kindergarten but still think it is the best option for the children to learn Romanian and to socialize with other children their own age. We have continued home schooling this year. Timmy has completed his reception year and generally we are really pleased with his progress. He is beginning to read more confidently and has good number skills. It is has just been a challenge as he would much rather be outside playing then sitting 'doing work!' We are hoping it will actually be easier when Hannah starts reception stage work as there will be two of them doing similar activities.

The children have enjoyed having their cousins to stay and Auntie Claire has worked wonders helping to prepare the children's activities plus home schooling and generally keeping the household going! - Thanks Claire!



**Please pray for our health and safety as we live our lives here.  
Pray for the children for their schooling and friendships they make.**

## The Farm Project

The farm project has taken off during the Summer. When we returned from Britain, Emi was able to purchase a tractor, cutter, baler and rake. Over the last few weeks, Emi and a team of men from the church have cut and baled 20 hectares of wheat, straw and hay. This is valuable feed for the cattle over the Winter. The fields that Emi planted in the Spring yielded such a good crop that they harvested over 1000 bales. Some of these he was able to give in payment to the men who helped him. This is absolutely valuable for them as they struggle every Winter getting enough food for the cows that they keep to provide milk and cheese for their families.

As well as baling they have had to build a barn to keep the bales dry and have now built a fence around the main farm property. We hope in the next couple of months to build the cattle barn and purchase the first calves



**Thank God for the good start of this project and health and safety for the workers.  
Please pray for the next stage of this project that we would have the finances to continue.**

## The Gypsy Church

We continue to support the Gypsy church in the town. Emi preaches regularly and we often lead the singing with the youth as well as taking part in the services with dramas, puppets and other activities with the children. Emi has started a regular Bible study with some of the men in leadership, this has been tough going as then men often want to discuss problems and issues instead of studying God's word.

We find the work with the church increasingly difficult, people regularly gossip and criticize each other and us. It is hard to continue work joyfully amongst them.

**We ask you to pray again for wisdom to know how to work effectively among these people,  
and the energy, motivation and love to continue!!**

# The COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre is now in the final stages of completion. We worked very hard at the end of June so that we could get it to a reasonable state (a working bathroom, plugs fitted and flooring completed) in order to host the first holiday club! As we had the help with Claire and Pedro with us we decided to run two holiday clubs and youth meetings in the center. We asked our good friends Cris and his family to support us, particularly in the first week with Romanian children and we would in turn run holiday clubs for him in a nearby village where he has begun a church and in a local day care center in the town where he lives and pastors a small church.

We have had an action packed program filled with puppets, video clips stories, lots of singing, craft, quizzes and games based on the parables of Jesus. We were so blessed to have Pedro and Claire helping us. They provided us with a puppet theatre and taught us how to use it! Pedro found some excellent videos that we used with the children and put a lot of the children's songs on to the computer so we could have them on screen!



## HOLIDAY CLUB 1 - Romanian children

This was a very exciting week for us. We have been longing to start work among the Romanians in the town. As we have explained before, evangelical Christianity is viewed with suspicion. When the gospel first came to this town it was the gypsies who received Christ. The gypsies are still renowned for stealing, begging and generally causing trouble, so the Romanians are resistant to have anything to do with something connected to them. We wondered what response we would have. We were amazed to have throughout the week 60 children. Many who came with their parents and grandparents. We were touched with how grateful they were that someone had done something so nice for their children. We made it quite clear at the beginning that we were not here to 'indoctrinate' anyone but that we wanted to tell them and their children about Jesus' love for them. This actually put people at ease and made them even more receptive to the simple teaching. After the week we invited children back to a follow up group that we hope to run for the rest of the Summer and through the school term. We were amazed on the first week that 35 children came, the last few weeks we have had a steady group of 10-12 children who have come each week wanting to learn and play!!! We pray that we would be able to keep this group going over this next year and see where it leads!! WATCH THIS SPACE!



## HOLIDAY CLUB 2 - Gypsy children

The second week we ran the holiday club for the children we work with week by week. It was lovely to give them a special event. They loved being in the finished hall and behaved really well. We have continued weekly meetings in this format.



**Youth** - in the evenings we ran a youth event with short talks, dramas, sketches, illustrations and songs based on the theme Who is Jesus? The youth responded well but I think they particularly appreciated playing volley ball outside with Pedro and Foosball!! We were amazed that one of the girls who had attended the holiday club the first week returned and joined in fully to the youth event. Her parents run a local shop and her younger brother is in the same class as Timmy and Hannah. She seemed quite happy to come in on her own and really wanted to learn all she could. Please pray for Andreea that the Lord will bless her as she discovers more about Him.



## HOLIDAY CLUB 3 - The village of Haret.

We actually ran a holiday club in this village 5 years ago when our American friends were leading the small church. They returned to the states later and the church was led by another missionary family before being left. Our friend Cris has now taken over the work and we were eager to support him in this. At the end of the week we had 40 children in attendance and we have discussed how we can support Cris further in the work with children. Having now seen a simple structure for running children's work we aim to provide the resources e.g. lessons, songs craft etc for him to be able to continue this work.



**FUTURE....** We are now looking at how we can effectively use the community center on a weekly basis. As follow up from the holiday clubs we now have regular weekly children's groups and youth meetings.

Kerin has been asked to start an English club. She has already started working with some younger boys who parents wanted them to start English at this early stage (Timmy is her helper!!) and some teenagers from the town have approached her.

**Thank God for the openness we experienced during the first Holiday Club.  
Pray that we will be able to reach out to more and more children on a regular basis**

...use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace... **1 Peter 4:10**

If you are interested in finding out more about these projects or would like to visit us to see what we are really up to... Please contact us!!



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