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# A P R I L / M A Y 2 0 2 4

**Wow!** What a blessed and fruitful trip. Six of us traveled to Romania April 19-29, 2024. Bryan Bettis (worship leader), Fane Campean (worship leader from Portland and born in Romania), Carrie Woodruff (mother of Janine and sign language instructor), Wendy Kohman (mother of Katie and Campus Crusade for Christ staff) along with Carol and Greg made up the team. Here is a daily rundown of our schedule:

## Friday/Saturday 19-20 was travel to Romania

**April 21 - Sunday morning** we visited Golgotha Baptist Church with Pastor Daniel Maris and his wife Dana. Wendy found out they had mutual friends back in the 1990's. We are invited back and the possibility of speaking at the Baptist Seminary where Pastor Daniel is the president.

**Sunday afternoon** was spent watching Wendy walk down memory lane through Bucharest. What a treat for us, to see her relive when she and Mark served here.

**Sunday evening** we visited Papa Rusu or Bethany Baptist church where our friend Ema Dejeu is the pastor. Carrie and Wendy shared their stories which everyone was blessed.

**April 22 - Monday** was spent in Bucharest where we had lunch with a group of Campus Crusade staff that Wendy and Mark had discipled years ago. What a joy to see how their impact on Romania some years later is still strong. A full room of believers praising God for His faithfulness was a joy and a treat.

**Monday evening** we met with Sami Mitrofan, who has been involved with reaching Romania and Europe with the gospel for many years. Even he had ties to Wendy and Mark's ministry years ago. We've known Sami for a few years and look forward to working together in the future.

**April 23 -** was travel to Brasov by train, but first our great friends, more like family Daniel and Dana Patru with son Alex, met us at our hotel to take all of our luggage, wheelchairs and walkers to alleviate any hassles on the train. We arrived and checked in to a very special place, Ziurel, a bed & breakfast school/center run by good friends Daniel & Ema Hristea. This place is blessed by God and has been a favorite of ours for years.



*Of the United States,  
 in Order to form a more perfect Union,  
 establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,  
 provide for the common defense*



**Tuesday evening** we had dinner with Dan & Georgi Eakins, with sons Elijah and Isaiah. They are part of the christian music group, The Ineloquent. If you don't know them, check them out on various music platforms. They're like family too.



**April 24 - the morning** was spent rocking babies and playing with young children at Casa Mamei, a state run home for pregnant teenage girls. This is a new facility to us and we are partnering with local churches to provide social and spiritual guidance for the young girls and love for the babies.



**Wednesday afternoon** we visited St Anton's care facility for disabled adults. It is a favored and special place to us and having the team along with a local pastor visit was impactful.



**Wednesday evening** we visited Provident Baptist Church, who's pastor Ion Tomeci is a disciple of Mark and Wendy's from years ago. A great prayer meeting and dinner after was enjoyed by all.



**April 25 - Thursday** Bryan and Fane arrived in Brasov and we visited our good friend, Otto Kiis and his disabled adult weekly meeting. Otto has been ministering to the disabled of the Brasov area for more than 10 years. The impact of this ministry is powerful and everybody knows Otto.



**Thursday evening** was a time of worship and fellowship with 2 local churches, C3 (credinta-faith in romanian, compassion and community) and Alfa Christian. We have been partnering with these churches for a few years now and feel right at home among these wonderful brothers and sisters. It was a powerful night and many were blessed and challenged.



**April 26 - in the morning** we visited Bradet a new facility we've been working with since last year. It is a large property with great potential for the future. A state run facility that houses disabled children and adults as well as a community therapy center for those families with disabled members in the community, Bradet holds much possibility to reach into the Brasov area.



**Friday afternoon and evening** was a picnic for church leaders to meet those teenage mothers with their babies, teenage boys from Chip & Dale, a home for at risk boys and some of our friends from St Anton's. Great food, fellowship and live music was enjoyed by all. This was a dream God gave us when preparing for this trip. He far exceeded our dreams and hope for this day. Our guests, the teenagers and the disabled had never experienced such a time of joy and fun. To see their enjoyment was a great blessing to us. Some from St. Anton's even got up the nerve to sing with the band!



**April 27 - Saturday morning** the women visited a local orphanage that has a tailor/souvenir shop to help with expenses. Our good friend from Alfa Christian, Marcel Meglei, runs it and we always get a few things there when in Brasov. The men met with Otto Kiis again for some great fellowship and sharing of vision. Bryan and Fane visited with The Ineloquent and Tabara 477, who sponsor worship songwriting events. The women visited Brasov while Greg met with a good friend and pastor, Florian Vasile. **Saturday evening** was dinner with Pastor Dan and Iliana Stroe of Alfa Christian. The Stroe family has been very good to us over the years and we are blessed to be treated as family. To have the team get to know and fall in love with the Stroes was a perfect way spend our last night in Brasov.

**April 28 - Sunday morning** part of the team visited and spoke at Alfa Christian and part went to Christian Center of Brasov. Both were a blessed time of fellowship. At CCB, Carrie, our sign language instructor, was able to meet with the deaf ministry. They instantly began to sign even though there are differences just as in spoken language. Greg was given time to share about the disabled of Brasov and his message was in four languages - spoken English, spoken Romanian, American Sign Language and Romanian Sign Language. What a treat! We then boarded a train for Bucharest and Bryan and Fane drove to Cluj.





**April 29** - all had a very early morning flight back to the US, but we were able to spend a few hours together in the Munich airport. God truly blessed us with answers to your prayers of safety, unity and joy!

Now that we've returned, one of the goals of this trip was to get input on what we have been doing in Romania, especially Brasov, and how to proceed in the future. As the team debriefs pray with us for wisdom and clarity as to how to go forward. Greg is praying and planning a return trip in July to meet with not only church leaders in Brasov but other cities as well. We are seeking God's guidance about taking a team in October. We have been asked to provide practical teaching in a number of areas, especially those that affect families with disabilities. For a local church to properly minister to these families, the community of believers must be solid in their biblical beliefs. We look forward to what God has planned.

If you would like to help support this ministry, Pray! Prayer is the work, all flows from prayer. Pray with us for our friends in Romania, for the future work in Romania with local churches and especially pray for the mothers and babies at Casa Mamei, the boys at Chip & Dale and all our friends at St Anton's and Bradet. These treasures of God are very important to Him.

You can also donate in addition to your prayers! Visit the website [www.mephiboshethministry.org](http://www.mephiboshethministry.org) at click on the donate button. If you would like to see your donations go to the ongoing work in Romania, just add Rom2024 in the comment box.

Thank you again for being partners with us in this ministry. May God richly bless you and us!

Greg and Carol Brown



Oh my...The Food!

