



TALPOȘ TODAY

NEWS OF TIMOTEI & SALLY (SEBO) IOVAN
HIM MISSIONARIES IN ROMANIA



MARCH 2026

Hello, dear friends and family! Grace and peace to you from Romania!

We are excited to share with you the latest news about our ministry and how God has been helping us.

It is hard to believe this May will mark twenty-four years since I first came to Romania as a missionary. For the first sixteen years I served as a single missionary, focusing mainly on helping orphaned and needy children and youth in the village of Talpoș. In January 2018 Tim and I were married, and since then our ministry as a family has grown and transformed. Over the years we have experienced shifts and growth, yet our main mission remains the same: to share the transforming love of Jesus Christ with those we meet. We are truly honored to work in God's kingdom.

Our desire is to see as many people as possible give their hearts to God early in life, helping them grow in faith and discover lasting hope in Jesus. In this way we know God will guide them through life's challenges and steer them away from



Singing in church

harmful behaviors and destructive habits that so often take root in their youth. We continue to seek God for His leading and direction in our ministry, and we are trusting Him to bring the increase.



Our church band



January 20th, 2018



Fun games with the youth

We have now been ministering to the youth at our new church for about a year and a half. For many years before we began attending this church, there were no youth activities, and the church lacked clear direction and focus in its ministry. This has affected both the church family and those in the village. These past six months especially have had ups and downs. However, we are encouraged by how God is working through our weekly youth gatherings and Sunday School classes. At the same time, the devil is fighting hard. Please help us pray for the church and these young people—many of them need God.



Phase 10 is a favorite



Studying God's word during youth group

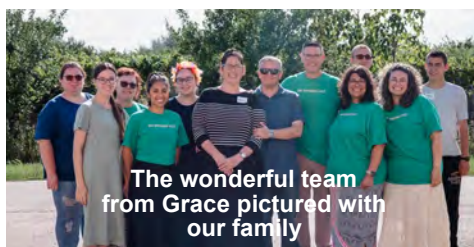
Besides our weekly Bible lessons and English classes, we held several Vacation Bible Schools this past year, as well as being involved in Kid's Camp. We thank the Lord for the team from Grace Bible Church in Nampa, Idaho, that helped with two of our VBS programs. God used them in a wonderful way to minister to the children, and our church family. They were also a blessing to our family and we enjoyed their visit so much.



Playing Jenga



Some of our youth visited Oradea with us



The wonderful team from Grace pictured with our family



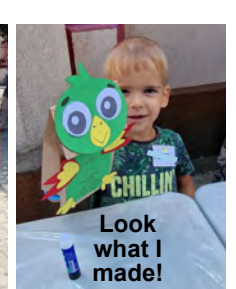
Craft station



Listening to the Bible story



Outdoor activities



Look what I made!



Listening to the object lesson



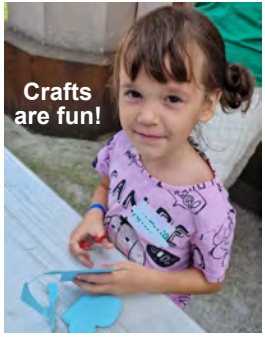
VBS closing program



Many parents came to the closing program



Crafts



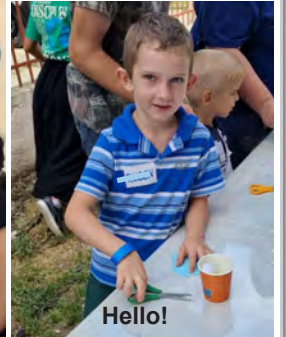
Crafts are fun!



We love to sing!



The kids were captivated by the puppet show



Hello!

Several smaller churches in our area decided to get together and form a men's ensemble and asked us to assist with this endeavor. It is not a large group, but these men are dedicated and determined to do their best as they sing praises to God. Please pray for this group as we minister through music.



Alexandra, Denisa, Ionel and Cristi with the Martins

Our kids are doing well. Cristi and Denisa have steady jobs, Alexandra finished trade school, is job hunting and will soon start driving school. Ionel is in his second year of mechanic school. Like any family, we've had highs and lows. The kid's early orphanage years have affected them. They deal with abandonment issues, low self-esteem, and find it hard to trust others.

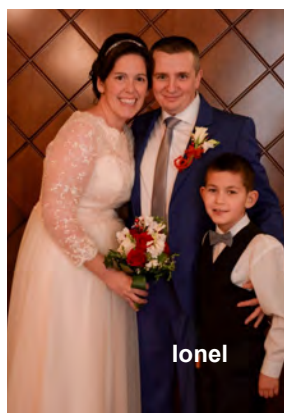


Practicing to sing their best for God's glory



Denisa

While they lived at the House of Hope, we were part of the kid's lives and then they came to live with us in 2019.



Ionel

They often need significant attention, emotional support, guidance, and mentorship to help them in their life's journey. However, we've watched God work in their lives, and we couldn't be more grateful or blessed to have them as part of our family. They actively participate in our ministry when their schedules allow, and our prayer is that they'll keep walking with God and following His path.



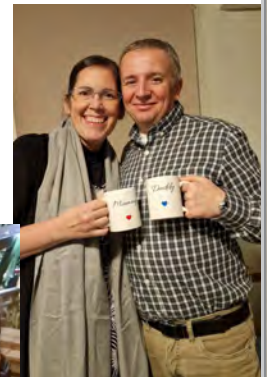
Alexandra



Cristi



Our kids are all grown up



We were touched by our Mommy and Daddy mugs our kids gave us for Christmas.



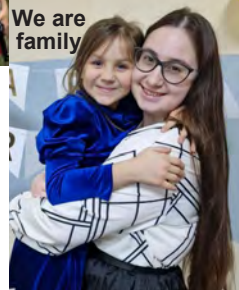
Grigor, Masha and their kids enjoyed fellowship with the Martins during their last visit to Romania

Regarding the ministry to Ukrainian refugees, we still have a family living next door to us. Over the few years they have been here, Grigor, Masha and their three children have slowly learned the Romanian language and are able to do a lot of things on their own, however they are still in need of assistance and guidance in certain areas, and we are thankful for the opportunity to be their Romanian family.



We are family

The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia continues to create immense humanitarian needs in the country of Ukraine, with countless families suffering. As the number of internally displaced Ukrainians continues to rise, the needs grow greater. Pastor Anton has been managing the distribution of resources with food and supplies being purchased and given to those affected by the war, as well as helping with costs of housing and medical services. Thank you all who have given and continue to give for this ministry! Your generosity has helped countless numbers of people. Please pray for those suffering through this long, difficult journey.



Thank you!



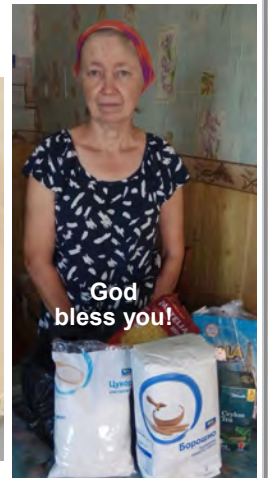
This man was so thankful for a new hat, a flashlight and potatoes



There are so many in need



New hats, coats and boots



God bless you!

God continues to be moving powerfully in the country of Turkey. We are thankful that God has kept the door open is for us to minister there, even long after the earthquake. This past year Tim and I visited several times to work alongside and support one of the local churches in a southern port city. Many people are still dealing with the aftereffects of the earthquake. This church continues to love and serve people while pointing them to Jesus. During our visits, we hold Bible lessons with the women and



This man was in great need of wood to keep warm



Many families are struggling



Thank God for new creatures in Christ!

children, hand out food cards, visit and pray with families in the temporary container cities, and listen as people unburden their hearts.

So far, we have entered Turkey without any issues. But during our last visit, we were watched carefully by the local authorities. Pastor Michel was interrogated about the different activities going on at the church. He is very aware of the risk he is taking, imprisonment—or worse—for openly preaching the gospel. Yet he and his family continue to be faithful servants, and God is blessing their efforts. The number of new converts is growing, the church is flourishing, and lives are being transformed. Please help us pray for Pastor Michel, his family, and all Christians in Turkey.



Making a Bible verse box



Kid's group



Women's ministry



Visiting two widows and their family



A former police officer, saved by grace



Sunday morning worship

God has also opened an incredible door for ministry in eastern Romania, focusing on the Turkish and Tatar communities in that area. We are partnering with a local pastor there and have made several trips to help with purchasing, packing and delivering food items.

During our visits, we have prayed with people, formed relationships in the local village, and tried to be a helping hand to Pastor Dan and his family as they minister in this community. Harold and Kayla Martin joined our last visit.

This village needed a church, so the small congregation purchased and converted a one-room home into a church building. However, it is quite rustic and too small to accommodate this growing congregation of around fifty to seventy people, many of whom are new believers. By faith they have begun building a larger structure. We are grateful to everyone who has already invested in this church project. As they move forward, we are trusting God to provide the additional resources needed to finish this vital building. Please pray for this need, for the congregation and for Pastor Dan, and his family as they serve this community.



Shopping for food items



Packs are ready to distribute



There are many widows and orphans in need in this village



The current church



The church is full and overflowing. What a beautiful thing!



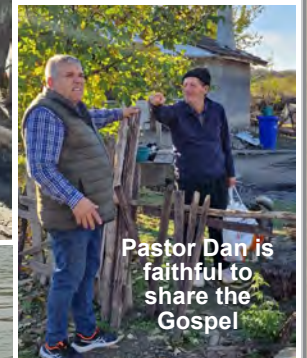
He is so happy to receive a food pack



Every Saturday they have Bible lessons with the kids



God bless you!



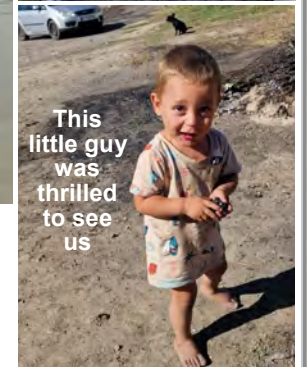
Pastor Dan is faithful to share the Gospel



Sharing the love of Jesus



A new convert being baptized in the Danube River



This little guy was thrilled to see us



My father served in the navy, and in tribute to his service to his country, a committal service took place. He was then laid to rest at a VA national cemetery. Mom was presented the flag which had been draped over his casket.

I want to thank everyone who reached out with condolences after my father's passing. It has been an incredibly difficult journey for our family, especially for my mother who was carrying such a heavy burden. Dad's final months were marked by intense suffering, but what a joy to watch God's grace unfold before our eyes.



Mom visiting Dad's grave, after his headstone was installed

After running from God for so many years, my dad finally surrendered his life to Christ, and in His boundless mercy God saved him. This is not a story of loss; it is a testimony of redemption. We are thankful for God's amazing grace and the hope of seeing Dad again in heaven. Please continue to pray for my family, especially my mother as she works through her grief.



President Martin and wife Kayla with Pastor Dan and his wife Alina



Saying Goodbye to mom. Please pray for her as she gets used to her new "normal" without dad

I thank the Lord for stable lab results, scans, and appointments showing no cancer recurrence. Following my oncologist's and surgeon's recommendations, we will return to America in May for my follow-up appointments.

Tim is also feeling better. He was diagnosed with grade C erosive esophagitis, gastritis, and a grade 3 hiatal hernia. Through a strict diet and medication, we are grateful to God that he is much improved. Thank you for your prayers!



Waiting to see my oncologist

We appreciate you all and we apologize that it has been several years since we have seen many of you. Our ministry obligations in Romania and other countries, make extended US trips difficult. However, during our past few visits to the States for my medical check-ups, we managed to update a few churches in person. We enjoyed being able to see some of you.

We will be in America at the end of May and would love to visit a few more churches during that time. If you would like us to visit and share about our ministry, please contact us at iovan@feaministries.org or through a private message on Facebook. However, our limited schedule only gives us a few Sundays available, so most of our meetings would need to be during the week. We will do our best to arrange as many services as possible.

Due to the sensitive nature of several of our ministries, we are unable to post a lot of information on social media. To share updates and prayer requests, we have created a new group using the Signal app. If you want to receive updates via this app, please scan the QR code to join our group, and we will accept your request. If you don't have the app, you will need to download Signal



Our display table at Daystar Bible Holiness Church



Our friends, Josh and Amelia Jensen at Grace Bible Church

SCAN QR CODE

TO JOIN GROUP "IOVAN ROMANIA"



Messenger from your device's app store. After installing it, you can then scan the QR code.

Thank you all for your ongoing prayers and faithful support. We are workers together in the kingdom of God.

We love and appreciate you and pray God will continue to bless you and keep you in His care.

In His service,

Tim, Sally & kids



Singing at Discover Bible Church