

The Kimmel Family

Reaching Romania for Christ

January/February 2009

O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever. (Psalm 136:1)

Dear Praying Friends and Ministry Partners,

Psalm 136 praises the Lord for His mercy. By His wisdom He created the world. By His power He led the nation of Israel out of Egypt through the wilderness and into the Promised Land. The psalmist concludes with an exhortation to be thankful for the Lord's mercy. Be thankful for the mercy He shows to you.

Deputation News

Although our meeting schedule slowed a bit in December our travel schedule did not. We are thankful for the time we had to spend with family in what will likely be our last Christmas before leaving for Romania. The meetings we did have in December were very special. In early December we spent the day at First Baptist in Shelbyville, IL. We were blessed by the hospitality of Chuck and Liz Stanley and the many sweet people we met on a chilly winter day. The Stanleys enjoyed having two girls in their home again, which reminded them of their daughters when they were little.

The following weekend we returned to Oak Knoll Baptist Chapel in Marion, OH where we had visited in March 2007. Pastor Miller is from the Cincinnati area, and we enjoyed getting reacquainted and sharing what the Lord has been doing through our ministry over the past 18 months. We were privileged to stay with Mrs. Fink, who has been serving the Lord at Oak Knoll for many years. She loves to host missionaries. Each year she bakes over 300 dozen Christmas cookies every year and gives the proceeds to missions.

The next day we were the special guests for the Ladies Missionary Fellowship meeting at Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Cleveland Heights, OH. They treated us to a lovely meal, and Ruth had an opportunity to share a testimony. Then we were showered with gifts! They had asked us to send a list of gift ideas, and we were overwhelmed by their generosity.

The last Sunday of 2008 we were able to share our ministry at Harvest Baptist Church in Cincinnati. Pastor Hall was one of the first pastors Dave contacted in 2006, and it was a blessing to be there. Dave's parents also were able to attend.

Language Acquisition Training

In our last letter we asked you to pray for our upcoming language acquisition course. We are thrilled to report how the Lord used that time. First we want to thank all who had a part in giving toward that course and for the numerous gifts we in December to pay for our travel expenses.

The language acquisition course, taught by Mission Training International (MTI), is more like a linguistics course than a language course. The instructors strongly emphasize learner-driven language study and providing the tools you need to master a new language. Did you know that English only has 44 sounds? But God gave us the ability to make literally hundreds of sounds. We learned to train our ears to listen for the nuances of language and to replicate sounds that were completely foreign to us. The goal was to teach us how to pronounce our new language correctly and develop an accent that is pleasing to native speakers. We strongly recommend the course.

Support Progress

Since December we have seen three individuals increase their support. Our sending church has also voted to take on a larger percentage of our support, and we welcome a new supporting church, First Baptist Church in Niles, OH. We know of several more churches who will be voting in the coming weeks. We are currently at 77% of our monthly support! We also received a gift of over \$5000 from the estate of a woman in our sending church. That has lifted our outfit and passage to nearly 70%.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

2/1	First Baptist Church, Rensselaer, IN Calvary Baptist Church, Lapaz, IN
2/8	Faith Baptist Church, Wilmington, OH
2/15	Bible Community Church, Mentor, OH
2/22-25	Lebanon Baptist Church, Roswell, GA

Praises

- Safe travel to CO for the language acquisition course, a productive time of learning and making new friends.
- Our teammates, Luke and Kim Warner, have finished deputation and arrived in Romania on 1/21.
- New ministry partners and increased support by several individuals and our sending church.

Prayer Requests

- For our teammate, Tim Fink, who had successful surgery to remove his spleen on 12/15. He is awaiting a clear diagnosis that will determine whether chemotherapy is necessary.
- Wisdom concerning home schooling while we are in language school during our first year in Romania.
- New ministry partners that will allow us to reach full support by June.

Thank you for your faithfulness in 2008!

Dave, Ruth, Celeste, and Amber

