

# The Kimmel Family

## Reaching Romania for Christ

June-August 2015

*Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the Lord loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.* 1Kings 10:9

By the time the queen of Sheba came to visit Solomon, he had built the temple, a magnificent palace, and amassed a huge fortune. He was at the pinnacle of his reign as king. But in the very next chapter, Solomon's life began to change. He could not sustain all his worldly pursuits and still remain faithful to the Lord. So it made me think whether I have peaked, or am I still climbing in my relationship with the Lord? We must all ask ourselves, or we risk becoming like Solomon—at great man who turned away from God.

### Summer Recap

We have had a full summer of ministry that included VBS in two churches, hosting a college student for six weeks, and coordinating our first missions team. During VBS we saw over 60 children in Luncoara and a similar number in Cheri. The children learned how God uses young people by studying young Miriam, Naaman's servant girl, and David. The team from First Baptist in Creston, IA was a huge help with the crafts, games, and work days at each of the churches and in the missionaries' homes.



Priscilla began her stay with us by helping Ruth prepare for VBS and getting things staged so they could be set up quickly in both churches. After VBS Priscilla and Ruth spent a week teaching English at a Romanian preschool using

Bible characters and crafts. It was a good experience, and the teachers were very appreciative. This may be something that future guests could be a part of as well.

In August we welcomed a team of ten from First Baptist in Kenton, OH. They had the challenging task of installing new soffits on the church in 95+ degree weather! They also outfitted our new soccer field with removable goal posts and made portable posts for volleyball and tetherball as well as painting and assembling new benches. They were thrilled to



finally meet Pastor Iosif from Osorhei and share in worship at his church as well as Cheri and Luncoara.

### New Ministry Focus

Since our last update, the adult church attendance has continued to decline. Some have spent the summer collecting mushrooms, working odd jobs, or even living in another village. Others have stopped coming, since we no longer offer work at the church. It has been especially discouraging to watch those in whom you have invested time and resources simply turn their backs on us and more importantly God. It has likewise affected us and put a strain on our relationship as a couple. We continue to pray for changed hearts and attitudes.

Thus we have turned our attention toward those who are coming regularly—the children and young people. We still have a Sunday service for the adults and children's classes twice a week that average 20-35. We are now also holding weekly teen meetings with anywhere from 8-20 teens, and the new soccer field is becoming a catalyst for ministry. Dave is also planning to begin a class with the teen boys on Sundays this fall.



### Family News

The girls each had the opportunity to attend summer camp once again. This year Amber went to an AWANA camp hosted by the local Baptist church. Instead of cabins they slept in campers! She said it was really fun even though it was a little crowded at times! Celeste returned to Camp Joy where she has gone for the past four years. She was with the oldest age group and she commented how it felt different than past years to be with the older teens rather than the younger children.

### Praises

- Hosting the missions team from First Baptist Kenton
- Having Priscilla with us for six weeks during VBS, teaching at a Romanian pre-school and plenty of fun with our girls
- New opportunities to minister to the young people

### Prayer Requests

- Adult members and non-members to return to church
  - Ruth and the girls as they begin a new school year, Amber 7<sup>th</sup>, Celeste 10<sup>th</sup>
  - For the sale of Dave's father's home and move to Cleveland
- Pray for patience and perseverance in ministry.*

*Dave, Ruth, Celeste, and Amber*