NEWSLETTER SEVEN



UPCOMING EVENTS

CHILDREN'S DAY EVENTS 31ST MAY + 1ST JUNE

'INTERNATIONAL TEAMS ROMANIA' RETREAT JUNE 10-13TH

THE POTTER'S HOUSE SUMMER PROGRAM FROM 15TH JUNE TO 17TH JULY

POTTER'S HOUSE CAMP JULY 20-27TH

What Matters Most?!

~AMANDA LEWIS; MAY 8TH 2009~

The New Park

A Time Of

AWE!

I can sum up the past two and a half months in the simple word... Awe!

I have been humbled, convicted and confirmed in all the plans that have

been unveiled and can only give the glory to God for making it unfold.

God has been preparing me this last year in so many ways. He has been teaching me to trust in Him and His perfect timing and will, for which I'm grateful.

These last two and a bit months I have had the wonderful opportunity to visit Rome, Budapest and Paris! I certainly don't take this for granted, but am thankful to be able to have had this time.

up the position as craft coordinator at few resources at the large craft store there, as well as finding many ideas for crafts at the annual Easter craft market.

I hadn't seen in a year; my friend Hiwon, whom I hadn't seen in almost four years and Andreea, a Romanian

missionary in Paris. The time went quick for all these trips with no rest to be had, but were all the more enjoyed!

Many of you will have heard that both Kelly, another missionary from the USA, and I had issues at passport control when leaving for Rome. I am still waiting to have my Visa sorted and am just grateful

> that I had no problems with the other two trips. Please continue to pray for my visa process.

Taking up the position as craft coordinator, means plenty of programming and organising for weekly activities as well as

near my place! preparing for the summer program and camps. The children are keen to know what we will make each Friday,

and it's always a joy to see them!

Kids Club is getting going again after a few weeks over the Easter period with as little as two children. We are planning to take the families on an outing in a couple of weekends time, so hopefully it will be an opportunity to build on these relationships with the families who come.

I said in my last newsletter that I had started a bible study with some friends here. Unfortunately, because we all do different things at different times, this has not been too successful, and we have decided to just try to get together on a monthly basis to catch up and pray.

These last months have brought about



Paris was a great time to meet up with my brother Adam and his girlfriend who

Please Pray...

- >> Praise for a wonderful times in Rome, Budapest and Paris!
- >> Praise for those who came to the Easter events and other opportunities had to minister over these last two months.
- » Praise that I am finally working in the baby hospital and pray for this to continue without problems; that there would be understanding and acceptance from the staff.
- **Praise** for the progress I have made in my language learning over the past year. **Pray** my Romanian continues to develop as I continue to build on my relationships here;
- » Pray for ideas and resources needed for Potter's House, Kids Club and summer events.
- >> Pray for good health- both physically, mentally and spiritually!
- >> **Pray** for the progress of my visa as I continue to wait patiently.



yet more changes to my Team. The early departure of Ham, Bec and Zoe due to Bec's ongoing health issues has certainly meant quieter meetings and no more Aussie mischief. Thankfully, I look forward to Jen and Adi's return at the beginning of June. They will return just in time to join us and others from around Romania, for our <u>'International Teams Romania Retreat'</u> in Sibiu, near the Transylvanian Alps.

Another huge change and progress is that to do with the Baby Hospital. Before anyone is allowed in, there are various medical tests required to clear every volunteer. One of these is a nasal swab which is virtually impossible to pass. This being the case, it raises the question of what is the 'right' thing to do. After three failed attempts to pass this test alone, Jill (from Northern Ireland) and I came to a peace that what matter's most is the health and welfare of these babies. The fact that it is actually a good thing for our immune systems to NOT pass this test, meant that we had the test signed off and were able to progress with the process. The next stage seemed all too easy and we were almost in disbelief when we went to the organisation 'Bethany' on Monday (4th May), filled in the papers and in the same day were shown around the 'hospital' and told we could start the next day! We are able to do three hour shifts at one time, and there are two shifts possible per day. At this stage we are still working out how things run, as it's certainly not your 'average' work place (no photos allowed- sorry), but it's just a joy to be allowed to walk through those doors and pick up a baby and love it. There is such a need to be met with about 60-65 abandoned babies, up to the age of 2, and usually no more then one carer per room. But believe you me- IT'S PROGRESS! *insert joy and awe here*

Other progress that I'm thankful for is that of my Romanian. I'm now needing to use the language more then ever as I work with Romanian parent's at Kids Club, children at Potter's House and the staff at the Baby Hospital; as well as daily life! But I know there is still a lot to learn, and I'm certainly thankful to Coco for her help in this!

On Monday 27th April, whilst I was still in Paris; Marian, a 19 year old Indian medical student, who has a strong faith and shows great leadership amongst his Christian and non-Christian friends, was hit late at night by a BMW going 100Km's an hour. How he survived is a miracle, suffering from only a broken leg (clean break) and no internal injuries- just a bit of bruising and some glass cuts from the shattered windscreen. The down side is that it's believed the man who was driving paid off the police, who haven't even talked to Marian, and this has created great legal issues that will most likely cost Marian a lot of money for ongoing rehabilitation costs etc. The great part is the witness he and ALL his visitors have had on the staff at the hospital and his two room mates. When Anna and I went to visit we didn't know where to go, and when we asked, the nurse asked 'the Indian?' When we said yes, she just laughed and told us where. God certainly is using Satan's plans for good and we pray this continues!!

Much has been happening, and the LORD is at work! Please continue to pray as I adjust to all the changes that have been happening lately. I am really starting to feel that God has great plans ahead for me here over this next year and wherever the future leads. I know many of you have been praying, and I want to thank you for your continued love and support in all that the LORD is doing here in Timisoara.

<u>Photos</u>: Bec and Ham's farewell at VOX; Kids Club and Potter's House kids; Easter 'lamb' at the Church picnic and 'rabbit' at the city centre display; Spring and the last day with Bec, Ham and Zoe. Biking in Paris with Adam and Fiona; View in Budapest; Kelly, Lynn, Anna and I at the Colosseum in Rome.

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