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UPCOMING EVENTS

**MY PARENTS ARE
ARRIVING IN TIMISOARA
ON THE 28TH SEPT!
WE WILL BE DRIVING
AROUND ROMANIA FROM
30 SEPT- 10TH OCT
AND THEN FLYING TO
TURKEY FROM
13TH - 22ND OCT!**

...

A Summer of Hope...!

~ AMANDA LEWIS; AUG 28TH 2009 ~

A Time Of FAITH AND FRUIT!

If you could feel the burning passion I am feeling as I write, then I pray it would be only contagious. What has happened over this summer has grown and but amazed me as to the loving and powerful God who created you and I.

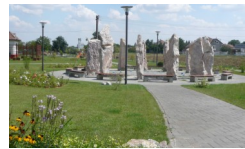
I can only attempt to tell you what has happened, but with limited space, there is barely justice to be suffice. This being the case, I am also writing a separate page for each of the two camps, to try and give you a better picture of all that has taken place.

I have been challenged in two areas in my personal walk with the Lord this summer which I want to share and encourage you by. One is that of praying in faith and not just hope. I hope this will become clearer through reading the camp stories. The other is the question of how our words, actions and attitudes define our faith? Are we (Christians) speaking and demonstrating the truth of the gospel in love as 1 Corinthians 13:1 tell us to?

The two biggest events of this summer have been the [two camps](#) I helped lead on. The first was held in Vrdnik, Serbia from 4th- 14th July and the second

began five days later from the 20-27th July in Fărdea, about 100km east of Timisoara.

With almost every camp I have ever been on being a Christian camp, my time in [Serbia](#) took this to a whole new level for me. Yes, the camp was run by Christians, but it was promoted as an English Camp, and some came knowing only this, but as you will see, left changed in a very real way.



**'Stonehenge'
At our new park!**

I have never seen a bunch of teens and leaders bond so quickly as we became like a family overnight. I really appreciated the first two days

we had in Sremska Mitrovica, which is about a half hour drive from Vrdnik. It was a time for the Serbian, 'Romanian' and the four interns from America and Ireland to get to know each other, and that we did.

We (the girls) were warmly welcomed into the Pastor's House, whilst the guys slept at the church. I was so encouraged by their hospitality and generosity with their time and care for us both individually and as a team. This meant that the following five days at camp gave us a real sense of 'team' in getting alongside and, to use Steve's terminology - to just 'love on' the non-Christian Serbian and Hungarian youth who came.

There were four of us who went from Romania, and although we were initially

Please Pray... » **Praise** for all that the Lord did during both the Serbian English Youth Camp and the Potter's House Children's Camp!

» **Praise** God for the blessing he gave me in being able to communicate in Romanian and even give my testimony to one lady at the Potter's camp.

» **Pray** that I would continue to use the gifts God has blessed me with to serve others.

» **Pray** for the programming and reports I need to complete for Potter's House.

» **Pray** for a great and safe time with my parents as we travel around Romania and Turkey.

» **Pray** for good health- both physically, mentally and spiritually!

» **Pray** for my visa situation, as it is now in a crucial stage of the process in Bucharest.

**"BE JOYFUL IN HOPE,
PATIENT IN AFFLICTION,
FAITHFUL IN PRAYER."
ROMANS 12:12**



**CHECK OUT MY
FACEBOOK
FOR MORE PHOTOS:**

disappointed at this small number, God chose the four of us with purpose, as it turned out to be a small camp of only around thirty. The four of us organised the crafts, of which two of the three were successful, but there was much to be desired for our 'pot heads' who by the end of the week were looking rather down!

Unbeknown to me beforehand, I also became the first aid officer for this camp. Thankfully there weren't too many serious injuries, but we did have to make a trip to two Serbian hospitals for one of the American interns who had been hit in the chest during a game of 'rob the nest'. I was involved with running some of the games and team bonding initiatives as well as singing a little with the band. We found that if there was a need, we filled it where necessary! There were various cultural nights including Romania Night to which we taught everyone a song/dance called *Alunelul* (translated 'little peanut'). We also played Romanian Balderdash, gave everyone 'Fanta şokata' and ROM bars and Eunice and David presented a Romanian dance.

The second camp was with the [Potter's House](#). A larger camp to the former, totalling 84 people, about 60 of which were children from both Timisoara and local villages. I admit I was a bit anxious about this camp in particular as a result of some of the stories I heard from the previous year. And, although the camp style was anything but glamorous, I praise the Lord that we were kept safe and healthy and thankfully most of the issues that arose were merely superficial. However, we noticed that there was something different at this camp in relation to some of the children who came from the villages. Some of these children come from very hard backgrounds but we knew that they were simply seeking to be loved. I have written on the Potter's camp page about a great example of how the Lord worked through the life of a boy called Fedor, which I would encourage you to read. But now we have the vital task of following-up those who made commitments and, praise God, quite a few did!

I am very thankful that the Lord blessed me with the [language](#) I needed at the Potter's camp. I was encouraged by the number of both adults and children who were surprised that I have only been learning Romanian for a little over a year and this was a big answer to prayer, as I even found myself translating for other foreigners during some of the talks. Please pray for me as I process all I have experienced and been witness to this summer in particular, that the Lord would continue to grow me and prepare me for what lies ahead.

Other news back in Timisoara is that I have started again at the [baby hospital](#). I was very excited to have the opportunity two weeks ago, to go into one of the special needs rooms to help with feeding (a big deal). I heard too, the news that some of the two year olds have been taken to an institution for the older children. The rest of my time has been spent working on [reports, programming and preparation](#) for the new school year which begins in September, and trying to balance this with a time of rest before everything gets up and going again.

Some of you may remember that during November last year, Anna and I opened our home to a Romanian girl called [Clara](#), who needed a place to stay. Well, we were both overjoyed to witness her marriage to Iosif on the 9th August. She looked beautiful and it was a lovely morning ceremony followed by a light lunch, and the weather was gorgeous to say the least.

Thank you for your continued love, prayers and support! xx Manda xx

Photos: Serbia Camp; Potter's House Camp; Clara and Iosif's wedding.

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SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN TIMIŞDARA, ROMANIA!

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