### NEWSLETTER FOURTEEN



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

I WILL BE LEAVING TIMISOARA ON 9TH AUGUST. THE JOURNEY WILL BE AS FOLLOWS...

> POLAND & PRAGUE (WITH ANNA)

NORTHERN IRELAND (WITH JILL)

SCOTLAND & NTH. ENGLAND (ALONE BUT STAYING WITH **PEOPLE ALONG THE WAY)** 

LLANDUDNO, WALES (DEBRIEF WITH A COUPLE FROM INTERNATIONAL TEAMS)

> MIDDLE-ENGLAND (VISITING FRIENDS)

THEN FROM LONDON BACK HOME (DATE FOR TRAVEL HOME NOT CERTAIN)

# The End is Nigh...!

AMANDA LEWIS; JULY 29TH 2010~

## **A Time Of**

#### **BLESSINGS!**

All it takes is for one willing person to take hold of the Good News and let the power of the Lord blow seeds into the

world so that they would be planted in the hearts of others. This heart can then grow, so that when the wind blows again, they too are ready to share with the world.

This is an image of the things I have witnessed over the past two months (and indeed much of my time in Romania), and being able to share these experiences with others has been a most rewarding thing.

On two of my recent camps I had the opportunity to walk through fields of wildflowers. Seeing the diversity and beauty in how God creates each flower is just amazing, and reminds me just how we too have been uniquely created.

These past three camps I have been on have really opened my eyes to see just how uniquely God works in each person. I never saw something happen the same way and each time I was amazed.

In Nuremberg Germany, the 18 of us who went, had the opportunity to share in various ways. On just the second day, Amy and I went with Klaus, to a home group where we had the opportunity to

share our life stories. They were studying what it meant to live radically for Jesus, and many of them were touched and challenged as we talked about this. It was also great to see them at other times during our stay and to share with them in their struggles and pray for them.

> For me, spending time with our kids and youth, was also encouraging, to see them thinking seriously about what it means to serve others and rely on God to make things happen. On our way to one church we got lost- but when we stopped on the side of the road to pray, another car

pulled up quite 'randomly' and asked if we were looking for the church, telling us to follow him. This was not the only provision we received from the Lord, but it was certainly an encouraging reminder that we were not alone.

We studied the 'Fruits of the Spirit' with the children and youth and God really brought some of these truths to reality for them.

Amongst our time in Germany, we had the opportunity to visit various churches, a refugee centre for men, a school for handicapped children, do a program on the street, and visit the zoo and pool. It really was a great time, and for me, a fitting time of closer for my involvement with the Potter's House.

The Serbian English Camp, which I must



**Dandelion** Seeds!

Please Pray... \* Praise for the way God worked so powerfully and amazing during all three camps and Pray that God would continue to >> Praise for the way God worked so powerfully and amazingly change and grow these children, youth and adults closer to Himself

and that He would use them to spread the Good News to their family and friends.

- » Pray that I would be able to finish my time in Romania 'well' in everyway and that I would be able to process everything that is going on in my life.
- » Pray for safety and good health as I travel and spend time with friends in Europe and the UK and also spend alone quality time with just God and me.
- >> Pray as I resettle back into life in Australia, that I would adjust well without too much reverse culture shock.



say was the best camp I think I have ever participated in, really showed me some new things and refreshed me in many ways too. You can read more about this camp on the additional page I have attached.

Going from a real high, but also feeling the tiredness kick in, I wasn't sure what to expect in going on my last camp. In a sense, It really felt like things had come complete circle, as this is the 'same' camp that started off my time in Romania in July 2008.

I knew that my main role on the <u>Family English Camp</u> was going to be helping look after Ioana, a beautiful 10 week old baby, and the daughter of two of the main camp organisers. Being with Ioana really was a joy, but I soon came to realise that since I was sharing this role with her mum and dad, I also had the chance to be apart of the English reading groups (using the Bible) and English classes as well. To be honest, I found that I really appreciated the best of both worlds and was able to swap at a moments notice. I also appreciated being able to have conversations with the youth and adults about their beliefs and answer questions about God but I also found myself giving advice about early childhood and discipline etc which was interesting.

Throughout the week I had a few people asking me why I would leave Australia to come to Romania. My response was usually 'How much time do you have?!' But I started to realise that God was nudging me and when I found out that no one was down for 'story-time' on the last night, I felt the leading to do it. So I did! That day I spent my free time preparing. I prayed that God would show me from what angle to approach my testimony, especially as I had a huge window of opportunity to tie things together and make people think about their own lives. However, whilst preparing, I started thinking about the things I wanted to achieve- but soon was reminded that it's God who is going to use it and it's not up to me to achieve anything.

So I talked for just short of an hour and a half (with translation) and by the end of it many faces were wet with tears and many people were really questioning things in their own lives. I heard the next morning about a conversation that had gone on past midnight because of one of the subjects I had raised- but on a topic that I hadn't even realised was a possibility, when I had thought through my talk before hand.

I can't praise God enough for the things He has been showing me. He continues to humble me and tell me to just trust Him to do the work and for me to just be sensitive to His leading- not trying to do things in my own strength.

It feels as though the summer camps should be just beginning and I can't believe I am already on the other end of things! But I have been encouraged to see the way the Lord has used me (and indeed all of us who went) and that the fruit, conversations and relationships are still being built upon!

With mixed emotions, this brings me to the end of things in Timisoara (and surrounding countries). Next week I will be off to Poland for the beginning of another journey, which I know God has already planned in advance for me.

I want to thank everyone of you from me personally and also on behalf of those I work with in Romania, as without YOU- things would probably be very different.

May God continue to bless you to be a blessing to others!! ~Manda~

Photos: Pantomime in Nuremberg; Oana + Nelu from Potter's House; Our Romanian team in Serbia; Dracula Skit; English Class; Hike, campfire, craft, and with Ioana and her family.

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