



~ AMANDA LEWIS; DEC 5TH 2009 ~



...

UPCOMING EVENTS

**HUNEDOARA CASTLE
CHRISTMAS EVENT
(MORE THEN 1000 CHILDREN)
10-13TH DECEMBER**

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**CHRISTMAS VILLAGE
MISSION IN PIETROASA
(AROUND 300 CHILDREN)
19TH DECEMBER**

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**THE 20TH DECEMBER MARKS
20 YEARS SINCE THE FALL OF
COMMUNISM IN ROMANIA!**

...

A Time Of SEEKING!

The time seems to be flying by faster and each day blends into the next. What was only last week feels like last month! But, I am grateful for the reminder from our team devotional this week, about the importance of rejoicing in 'THIS' day that the Lord has made, and giving 'THIS' day a chance!

These past few months have brought me joy, sadness and a renewed vision in the greater plan that God has for us and the world we live in.

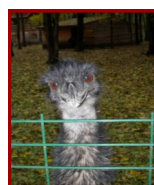
I have recently had great opportunity to participate in a number of trainings; to help organise a women's retreat and witness some amazing testimonies and Baptisms. With the recent celebration of Thanksgiving, I can truly say that I am thankful for the people in my life and seeing how the Lord is at work.

The start of a new school year back in September brought some changes to my ministries here. With a vision to see the local church take on the ministry of the [Kids Club](#), Jen and I, after meeting with the church and finding no one willing to commit to the ministry, came to the tough decision to close it.

For me this meant seeking a renewed

vision for my ministries in Timisoara and with prayer the Lord is revealing this to me. One of the changes this has brought about, is my increased involvement with the [Potter's House](#).

Along with two Canadian girls, Kaitlyn and Kari (Kari is a swim instructor), Jen, Dawn and I are now helping with weekly [swimming lessons](#) with some of the kids from Potter's and also from the Girl's Home.



Timisoara Zoo!

A day of celebration saw Denisa, the Potter's House psychologist, marry Clive, an Irishman who has been involved with the summer teams

that come each year for camps etc. With her now moving to Ireland and Dorina, who had worked there for seven years also leaving, we had a great need for new staff. Praise God He had this in His plan and has brought a number of new staff and changes to the weekly program. As a part of this, I now also take my lessons without a translator which is a big stretch but I am learning fast!

Amidst all these changes and events, I was grateful for some time out. Mum and Dad arrived safely as planned and even though our time together was anything but restful, it was great to have some time away from the ministry.

We Drove over 2200km around [Romania](#) in just 11 days, with 2 days back in Timisoara to recover before it was on to [Turkey](#) for another 10 days. With Anna

Please Pray...

- » **Praise** for a refreshing and safe time away with Mum and Dad!
- » **Praise** the conferences and courses, baptisms and opportunities to minister to the women at the retreat went well.
- » **Praise** for smooth changes made in my ministries here and
- » **Pray** He would continue to minister to the families from the Kids Club using other means.
- » **Pray** for the smooth running of the Christmas programs at Hunedoara and Pietroasa.
- » **Pray** for Romania as a new leader is elected (6th Dec); may He lead this country well.
- » **Pray** for Stojce as he continues recovery and a has many months of therapy. **Praise** that the bone in Marian's leg is finally starting to fuse (a miracle) but **Pray** that it heals straight.
- » **Pray** for good health- both physically, mentally and spiritually!

**"LOOK TO THE LORD
AND HIS STRENGTH;
SEEK HIS FACE ALWAYS."
I CHRONICLES 16:11**



**CHECK OUT MY
FACEBOOK
FOR MORE PHOTOS**

joining us on the adventure in Turkey, our time saw some amazing scenery, churches, monasteries and mosques, palaces and castles and we got to taste some great traditional Romanian and Turkish foods. Wonderful opportunities in Turkey included walking through the ruins of Ephesus, Swimming at Pamukkale and seeing Istanbul and the sites and memorials of Gallipoli!

The week before Mum and Dad arrived, I participated in a [Medical Conference](#) run by Greater Europe Missions. Some of the topics included art, drama, physical and speech therapies and community integration. The week of sessions were aimed at helping Romanian professionals work with their patients who have cerebral palsy and other neurological disorders and various physical and mental disabilities.

The weekend after I arrived back from holidays, I helped with a [Women's Retreat](#) for Christian ladies who are in 'involved' positions in the church and organisations. Ronah, the main speaker, gave a refreshing and powerful set of talks through the weekend, bringing women to their knees with tears of refreshment. This retreat was a first for many of the ladies, some who were at the point of 'burn out'. The talks also spoke to me, as Ronah gave us a different perspective of the 'vine and the branches' in relation to ministry. When the winter season comes, and the sap stops flowing to preserve the branches, the vintner comes and takes the main fruit bearing branch in order to allow another branch to take over. I feel that this is what has been happening as the Lord has been changing and developing the ministries I am involved with here.

Throughout this last month or so I have been praying that the Lord would show me His vision for me for the future. Acknowledging that I need to be thinking and making plans for the next few years already, I am thankful for the recent spiritual feeding I have received. My team and a few others were involved in the intense [Kairos](#) course and also some others of us were involved in a course called the [Truth Project](#). Both of these courses have meant a real time of searching and in my next newsletter I hope to share some more about what lies ahead.

I was greatly encouraged to see a project I had been working on come together on the 7th Nov. For some months I had been secretly making plans for [Anna's surprise 30th Party](#). Although I thought she had an idea about what was happening, I was happy the surprise was a success and that the ten hour event came together. The day involved a 'Timi-Town Amazing Race', taking the four teams all over Timisoara for about six hours. This was followed by a night party with lots of food, fun and the presentations of the race with a slideshow of all the team's photos.

The morning after, the celebrations continued as we witnessed four [Baptisms](#), two of whom were Aurelia from the Girls House and Eunice who was at Serbia camp the past two years. With some powerful testimonies, it was a privilege to share their special day with them and a reminder to me of how far the Lord has brought me as I celebrate ten years this December since I was Baptised. I can only praise the Lord for all He is doing and I pray that he would continue to use me for His glory!

May you and your family have a very Happy Christmas and a Wonderful New Year and I look forward to serving with you and seeing what the Lord has in store for 2010!

Hristos s-a nascut! (Christ was born!) xx Manda xx

Photos: with Baby Victor and Alexandru; Eunice; Aurelia and her two girls; some of the Potter's kids; Holiday in Romania and Turkey; Women's Retreat, Truth Project and Thanksgiving dinner.

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SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN TIMIȘDARA, ROMANIA!

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