

Steve and Rosie Kennedy

Location: **Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach and teams ministry**



*The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your saints shall bless you!*

Psalm 145:8-10

The planning for the February Cluj Christian Fellowship (CCF) service was thrown in the air when Rosie had a positive for Covid-19 on the Thursday before the service.

As we discussed with others, 'Should we have a service?' There was a real sense of God saying; 'Press on, this is My work, I AM here, have faith, I AM with you.' Erika (a member of Tököz Hungarian Reformed congregation) agreed to lead the service, Dave (an American Pastor of a Romanian Church) agreed to speak and his wife Lili (Romanian) led the worship along with our friend Tamás (Hungarian). While we were disappointed not to be there, we were joyful to watch online as this international group of God's people joined for worship.

We also had concerns how this Covid-19 result would affect plans for a brief holiday in Northern Ireland in February. So, Rosie was banished to the bedroom and the family started a mandatory five-day isolation period in the hope that there would be no further positive results in the family. Again, we praise God that everyone remained negative and we were able to fly home. The girls saw school friends as it was half term, and we were all able to spend time with family and friends, as well as join worship in Kilbride and Orangefield congregations. God has been so good to us and we are thankful for the encouragement of meeting



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up with so many of you while we were back. Apologies to those of you that we missed! We will get you next time.

We arrived back in Romania just days after the invasion of Russia into Ukraine. Many refugees from Ukraine are crossing borders into both Poland and Romania. In the case of Romania, many seem to be transiting through to other countries such as Bulgaria, Slovenia and the Czech Republic, but some remain here. There is a significant humanitarian effort taking place on the northern Romanian border with Ukraine. Already trucks containing provisions for the refugees have been dispatched from Cluj. The churches are gathering alongside statutory and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to coordinate efforts on further support, aid, etc.

Prayer points

- Praise God for the service that continued on 6 February and encouraging contacts over the past month.
- Praise God too for a joyful and nourishing trip to Northern Ireland.
- Pray for the situation in Ukraine, changing frequently.
- Pray for aid efforts for refugees entering Romania.
- Pray that churches will show leadership full of Christ's compassion and peace at this time.