

Csaba and Ilona Veres

Location: **Cluj, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach ministry and children's ministry and teaching**



May the God of hope, fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

In late November we began our advent women's fellowship group in Méra, studying women in the Christmas narrative. The first occasion was a great encouragement with testimonies from a team from Brazil. We will continue to study Elizabeth, Mary and Anna in the Christmas narrative praying that women will know renewed hope, joy and peace through Christ.



In preparation for Christmas Csaba delivered teaching materials for the Christmas bible clubs to each of the Diakonia projects in the Salaj County. In each location economic insecurity, soaring energy, food and fuel prices were hot topics and with it the recognition that in times of economic crisis, those on the margins are impacted the most, with many Roma communities struggling to provide for their families.

For some developing ministries in the Reformed church in Romania, the economic crisis has caused great difficulty.

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One such ministry is in the isolated village of Chet, where for many years the Reformed church has been serving the needy in their community by running an afterschool program for 70 Roma children, ministry to their families, a day centre and soup kitchen for elderly, and a dynamic youth worship ministry leading evangelistic outreach in the region. Pastor Paul Mike and his congregation have a big heart to care for the wellbeing of disadvantaged people in their own community, witnessing in word and deed, to bring transformation through new life in Christ. Compassion for the marginalized has been the hallmark of this congregation.

In 2019 the church in Chet secured funding to build a community centre to provide appropriate space for their growing ministries and a location for the first doctors' surgery for the village. Unfortunately, due to consequences from the Covid pandemic and the war in neighbouring Ukraine, there has been a dramatic rise in prices of building material and labour. Now the building work has stopped, and the church find themselves in a desperate situation needing to finance the shortfall of over 90,000 Euros from their own budget.

Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the expressions of love and compassion through the church at Chet to improve the lives of children and families struggling in poverty.
- Pray for the church in Chet, who are struggling financially, for trust in the provision of God.
- Pray for believers and churches to give sacrificially to make up the shortfall so the building work can resume and ministry in Chet can continue to those on the margins.
- Pray for the women's Advent outreach in Méra, that it would be a good space for friendship and support and spiritual growth as we study Elizabeth, Mary and Anna. Pray that women would come to Christ.
- Pray for the Christmas good news clubs, that children will understand the true meaning of Christmas and trust the saviour.