

Steve and Rosie Kennedy

Location: Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA Mission: Outreach and teams ministry



'It's a dangerous business Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to.' (A quote from Bilbo Baggins, a character in JRR Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings).

On two occasions recently I have read this quote and given the current coronavirus situation in Romania it is quite fitting. A new set of restrictions have come in and the girls are back to online school. Numbers of those ill or succumbing to Covid-19 in the last couple of weeks have been at their highest since the start of the pandemic. Thankfully as we read in Psalm 37, the Lord directs our steps, he delights in all the details of our lives and even though we stumble we won't fall, as the Lord holds our hand.

There continues to be lots of work around church, and Steve has met with the pastors and senior elders to discuss the English ministry. He was invited to update the Kirk Session on our work to this point. There have been opportunities to preach at the Sunday morning Hungarian service and he will preach on Friday 29 October during Reformation Week. A Bible study with university students is due to start, exploring themes of mission.

We are both taking part in a city project called 'Prietenii Clujului' or 'Friends of Cluj'. Through this programme 'International people' are partnered with a Romanian and they assist in learning language and other information specific to the person that would assist them in 'settling in' to their new surroundings. At the start of November we will begin formal Hungarian lessons with a language school in Hungary.



So, there will be lots of 'preparing' in the next number of weeks - preparing to preach, for nursery English classes, for Hungarian and Romanian language classes, for band rehearsals, for student Bible study, etc. While the work and 'preparing' might be different for us, let us all bear in mind:

"God's Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long after stars burn out and earth wears out, God's Law will be alive and working." (Matthew 5:18 The Message)



Prayer points

- Pray for wisdom and guidance for politicians and medical personnel following the '4th wave' of coronavirus in Romania. Pray that people will make wise and considered decisions regarding their own and others health and well-being.
- Pray for both Steve and Rosie undertaking language study in Hungarian and some basic Romanian language.
- Pray for the ongoing student work and plan to begin a Bible study with some who are keen to explore what 'mission' means for students.
- Pray for the upcoming services of Cluj Christian Fellowship: 7 November, 5 December and plans for the Advent season.
- Give thanks that God that Steve has reached the end of his physio and has recovered so well following knee surgery in March.



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