

Steve and Rosie Kennedy

JUNE 2022

Location: **Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach and teams ministry**



*"It was missing a piece and it was not happy."
The Missing Piece, by Shel Silverstein.*

This book was referenced in the film, 'The Upside' shown last month at our Film Club. The movie is about the friendship between a billionaire quadriplegic and his ex-convict carer. I was struck by this line and how it reflects a life without Jesus. As we meet and share our lives with more of the international community in Cluj, who have to come to live, study, work or as the result of fleeing war in Ukraine, we are aware of the reality of this statement. Conversations require sensitivity as we get to know these individuals, their needs and seek to develop our relationship, in the reality of different cultures, beliefs and in the current reality of war.

In June the planning and preparation for the summer activities steps up. We will be involved in a church teen camp. Within CCF (Cluj Christian Fellowship) we hope to run a holiday Bible club for a combination of Tóköz children, the International community and Ukrainian children that will be attending a voluntary children's programme hosted in Tóköz. Pulzus (Pulse) a Hungarian organisation we partner with has asked Rosie to speak at their ladies weekend retreat. She will be speaking from the book of Esther.

We do sense the community being strengthened in CCF by our monthly rhythms of worship services, discipleship and fellowship gatherings. Work with our international students has become a real joy and highlight for us. We had a wonderful day when we took them out of the city for a hike at the Cheile Turzii gorge about 40 minutes from the city. For some it was their first trip out of the city. Those, whose university timetables allow, join with us for the Film

Club and add interesting and insightful observations to our discussion times after the film.

Rosie's continues to teach English in the Kindergarten which is getting ready for its graduation events for the children moving to school in September. Recently she has started working with some more Ukrainian families who have moved to Cluj, helping them with conversational English.

In all we are doing, we try to keep in our minds Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."



Photos: Film Club and International students walk

Prayer points

- Pray for wisdom in our conversations with those from a wide variety of countries, cultures and beliefs.
- Preparation for camps: the church teen camp, plans for the CCF Holiday Bible Club, the ladies weekend and CCF worship services.
- Praise God for great connections with the international student group and a fantastic day out at the gorge.
- Pray for our upcoming events:
 - Barbecue on 29 May for international students, CCF members and interested members of the Tóköz.
 - Worship services on Sunday 5 and 19 June.