

## Steve and Rosie Kennedy

Location: **Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach and teams ministry**



*"...so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."  
Romans 12:5*

At Cluj Christian Fellowship (CCF), the last month or so has seen us work on building community, and deepening relationships. Two particular spaces have been in focus.

The first space has been within the CCF community itself. CCF began worship services back in November 2020, and continued to meet on a monthly basis through until February 2021. This was a formative time, and important for us to gather a community, make connections, and build important relationships. However, as God graciously brought new people into our Fellowship, we sensed a need and desire to deepen our relationships and develop more meaningful community.

And so, from the beginning of March, we have begun a new set of monthly rhythms that provide us with opportunities to meet each other on a weekly basis. The new rhythms blend worship services (now twice a month), discipleship group and informal fellowship gatherings. Even in a short time, we feel the benefit of this more regular pattern of meeting together, and a deepening sense of community. The varied nature of the programme allows for points of connection for a wide variety of people: those who like bigger groups, those more comfortable in smaller settings; those who like going deeper, those who want to open up more gradually; those who have been with CCF from the beginning, and those who are meeting us for the first time.

The second space where we are seeking to develop community is with international students. Following

from the Cluj City Tour that we ran in December, we have continued to meet with a group of 10-14 students from many countries, languages and, indeed, religions. As we create a space for both Christian and non-Christian students to meet, build relationships and develop community, we are finding many opportunities to speak of faith. Recently, a significant group of international students have relocated to Cluj from various universities across Ukraine, displaced by the conflict. We are prayerfully seeking the most meaningful ways to welcome these new arrivals, and provide support in their specific situation.



*Dinner with international students*

### Prayer points

- Pray for a deepening sense of community as we journey as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for our discipleship group - that we will grow together, challenge and encourage each other. And that more groups may begin.
- Pray for the international students as we provide community and support, and in particular for those who are a considerable distance from home and family.
- Pray for students having to relocate from Ukraine to Cluj-Napoca - for ease of transition in their studies, and in particular for wisdom as we seek to help some with issues in respect of immigration and visa.
- Pray for ongoing support for Ukrainian refugees: in Tóköz, through the Royal School, through the Cluj International Women's Club buddy programme, and in other initiatives.