

# Friendship INTERNATIONAL Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Reaching Out to a Needy World



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**Del Huff** Executive Director



We are ready to enter one of the most beautiful seasons of the year, summer, as the winter is fading and the afternoons are growing hotter. In the next months, schools will be closed, allowing families to spend more time together. Summer vacation is perfect for exploring new interests and locations, making new friends, and learning new things.

When children have a lot of free time, parents have to scramble to organize and manage that time well so that the kids make the most of it to not only have fun but also learn and grow.

Although some of the best summertime activities for kids and parents happen on the spur of the moment, they are really rather infrequent. The summer is long when you spend every day at home with your children as a parent, and hence, parents must coordinate a variety of summer options around a calendar of vacation dates and events in order to make it go smoothly and conclude with happy memories for both the kids and their parents.

This month we focus on summer activities for the children of Eastern Europe. Of course, our intention is to make Friendship Camp fun, entertaining, a learning experience, and a chance to make new friends. But the most important element is to introduce the campers to the person of Jesus Christ, giving them the opportunity to invite Him to become a part of their life, for the rest of their lives.





## Headed off to Friendship Camp in Romania

by Matty Marshall former Project Supervisor at Friendship Camp

It is that time of year that our church, Glenrothes Baptist Church

from Glenrothes, Scotland head off to Romania to help Callum King and Adi & Tabita Muscan with some construction and renovation in preparation for a full summer program of camps with kids from all over Europe!

#### What a week!

We came and smashed a load of work; painting, joinery, ground works, roofing, constructiong new swing sets... weather held up. It was perfect all week.



We also smashed a weeks worth of amazing food! Schnitzel, BBQ, doughnuts etc... Sight seeing in Arad, Lipova and Timisoara was great, too.

Each morning we studied our way through the book of Philippians. Picking out the themes of joy in trial, unity in diversity and looking to the upward call of Christ Jesus.

What a great team, and massive thanks to Adi & Tabita and Callum King for looking after us the whole time. Thanks also to Manu and Costy for making sure we did the job right.





We Are Blessed, Thanks to the Scots by Adi Muscan Director, Romania

The time that Scottish team spent at Friendship Camp was a blessed and fruitful

one. God was good with us and even the weather was on our "side". The week before the team arrived and the week after we had a lot of rain and cold weather, but not that week, and we had the opportunity to accomplish several worthwhile and necessary projects.



<u>In just one week</u>, this is what the team and Romanian volunteers were able to accomplish;

• New hand washing and drinking station

• 3 new swing sets

• All 6 covered wagon interiors were finished with insulation and reclaimed wood cladding

• Basketball and volleyball courts were cleaned up and prepared for use

• Exterior of volunteer workers cabin repaired and restained

• Grass mowed and camp cleaned up.

We are so grateful and thankful for the wonderful work this team accomplished. But there are still many last minute things that need to be purchased and made ready before the first camp in July. Here's the list;

1.80 new pillows and 80 new sets of matching bed linen (current pillows are old and in a bad condition, and current bed linen that we have gathered over the years have stains/holes and are not a good fits for the beds) \$17.50 per bed = total \$1400.

2. Gravel for the roads in camp - \$250.-

3. New flooring in the team cabin - \$500.-

4. Extra outdoor lighting - \$200.-

5. General small repair jobs around camp and consumables, ie, gas/diesel etc \$ 350.-

6. Replace much of the sport and game equipment, plus, restocking of crafts store \$400.-

7. And last but not least, the last electricity bill that we received , 1400 Lei (\$325). These expenses will continue on throughout the summer season, which is not a regular expense other than through the summer. We firmly believe that cost should never stop a kid coming to camp and therefore we want to welcome many kids to camp through our sponsorship program. Please consider sponsoring a child to come for just - \$75 per child.



These Are Our Challenges For This Summer We are going to need your help!

Beside the list of supplies and other necessities listed in the left column, we mentioned in last month's edition of the UPDATE, our hope to

raise funds for

at least 3 metal containers, to

be installed be-

fore this sum-

mer of camp,

to be used for



housing additional campers. Each container's cost - \$6,500.-



\$75, THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP Make checks payable to -

Friendship International, P.O. Box 50884, Colorado Springs, CO 80949-0884 **OR** - e-Giving at www.friendshipintl.org, go to Donate button at the top of page and follow instructions for donating.

You may send a general donation for Friendship Camp or Kids Sponsorship, Purchase of Container or one or more of the needs in the left column.

And most importantly please pray! Even if we don't know yet the names of all the children who will come, God knows and is preparing the hearts of hundreds of children who will be exposed to the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ at Friendship Camp this summer.

We are confident of God's promise in Isaiah 55:12 as His word goes out, it will not return empty!



Friendship Bus is a ministry concept conceived by Petre Croitoru several years ago. It started as a fun, interactive way for children to learn developmental skills using outdoor, homemade games, which Petre designed and made himself.

The program can be used in community context or Christian setting using teaching of biblical principles as part of each action packed game.

The Friendship Bus has arrived this year with dozens of new wooden games for all the family.



To begin the Spring/Summer seasons, the Bus Celebrated "Father's Day" in the city of Arad on May 13. This event was developed to encourage interaction between children and their fathers. Moms, were also "allowed" to take part. But what a

wonderful way to give dads the opportunity to invite their children/child to a special day "out" for just enjoying each other, doing things together. A very needed part of a family's life in these hectic days.



Friendship International has partnered for many years with Friendship Bus and we wish Petre and his team much success, blessings and fruit for their labor as they enter this new summer vacation season.