



Friendship INTERNATIONAL

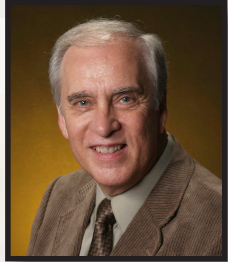
*Empowered by the Holy Spirit,
Reaching Out to a Needy World*

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June, 2023



Del Huff
Executive Director

'TIS THE SEASON IT'S BLOOMING EVERYWHERE



It's a most beautiful time of year here in Colorado. The mountains are in full bloom. God's at work around the world showing off His creation.

And in Romania, it is amazing to see what the Lord is doing at Friendship Camp. Things are coming alive and blooming as our Lead Team and volunteers are making final preparation for a full summer of camps. Just to think that only 2 years ago, because of the Pandemic, there was absolutely nothing happening at camp. And now, two long years of waiting patiently for God to move, we see His hand at work.

We are remind of this passage in God's word, from Ecclesiastes 3:11-14;

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil-this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it.

This is the time for God to make all things beautiful, because it is in His time.

PRAISE BE TO OUR LORD!



Editor's Note: The Lord continues to amaze us by answering our prayers and meeting our needs, through our faithful friends and supporters.

Last month we announced the need for many supplies and other items to be purchased before camps officially start the beginning of July. The Lord graciously supplied for our needs through your faithful prayers and financial support.



Following is a report by our Camp Supervisor, Callum King on how things are going in getting last minute preparations completed before the kids start coming. Here's Callum's report.



My parents just left this morning. They came to visit me, but spent the majority of the time they were here, working at the camp. My dad did an amazing job doing a lot of painting and finishing up the toilet/shower house. And mum was on the sewing machine adapting/resizing 80 blankets to fit the new bedding we were able to purchase. We bought enough bedding to supply all of our sleeping quarters - 80 pillows, 80 blankets, 80 fitted sheets and 80 pillow cases. Praise the Lord we can get rid of all the bedding with holes, tears and stains!



We also installed new lighting on the outside of the toilet/shower house and at the new water station. And also brought the first two trucks of stones and put them around the toilet/shower house and the water station.



Camps don't actually start until July, but this year we've had some weekend church groups out for the day. One was a youth group with approximately 30 teenagers. They enjoyed the beautiful weather, had a BBQ, and played various sports, concluding with worship time and a short Bible study under the Pole Barn. At a different time a church group of about 100 came for a day at the camp just to enjoy the outdoors and fellowship together with a picnic. Friendship Camp is for these shorter events as well. We're happy churches are making our camp their "go to place" for church outings.



And finally, we've been able to install new roofing on the staff cabin, including board walk all the way around. As well as giving both the staff cabin and the volunteer cabin a fresh coat of stain to freshen them up a bit. We are thankful for all the work we've been able to accomplish, but again, it's only because of partnering friends who have given so generously. Thank you and may God bless you for your part in our ministry.



Camp Sponsorship



WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP TO SPONSOR ORPHANS TO GO TO CAMP

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,**

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 ex-
posed 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!**

Eighth Annual Christmas Markets of Europe Mission Trip to Germany, Austria Hungary & Romania Nov. 24 - Dec. 5, 2023

**Join Us, It's Going to be
Wunderbar!**



**Visit Christmas Markets in
Five Cities
Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, Budapest
and Arad, Romania
Celebrate Christmas with Orphans
and Ukrainian Refugees in Romania.**

For more infos go to www.friendshipintl.org
Click on "Send Me" and download the brochure

Reflecting On Our Beginnings

Editor's Notes: As a preface to this coming series, it should be mentioned that the person writing her memoirs, contacted the Friendship International office and was asking to speak with someone who had been a part of the ministry from its beginning. The only person who qualified was the director Del Huff. Her reason for the call was to confirm her remembrance of being on the first mission trip into Eastern Europe since the Fall of Communism. She had been asked to give a report in her church, but wanted to make sure she had her memories confirmed. As a result we decided this might be of interest to friends of the mission. Thus, over the next several month we will be sharing her amazing story.



REMEMBERING FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL'S FIRST MISSIONARY TRIP TO ROMANIA

by Natalie Klostermann

This is my personal remembrance of traveling with Del Huff, founder of Friendship International, which is still an active ministry organization.

Del, along with 25-30 of us traveled together to Romania in 1990, the year immediately following the execution of Nicolae Ceaușescu, the Romanian dictator who was executed on December 25, Christmas Day, 1989.

My name is Natalie Klostermann. I met Del in 1990 at a Romanian Baptist Church in Phoenix, AZ. A Romanian family by the name of Neamtu, who were close friends with Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand, founder of the Voice of the Martyrs, and personal friends of mine, invited me to come and meet Del and hear about his plan for a trip into Romania at this strategic and historic time in Romanian history.

Del explained that the Wurmbrands had gotten word from the underground pastors that they needed help from the pastors in the West and USA to "brain storm" how to begin the rebuilding of their country's infrastructure, along with encouragement and an infusion of joy and hope for the Romanian Churches and her people.

Del asked me if I was Romanian, or spoke the Romanian language or had been to Romania. I answered no, to all three questions. He explained he was forming a team(s) to go to Romania and he wanted to sign me up to join, because he said he felt I was meant to be a part of this ministry effort. He said he wanted me to be a part of the intercessory prayer and concert ministries. That would include intercessory praying at all of our meetings to bring hope - healing - refreshment and joy to the people, including the pastors and their wives.

Del explained as part of his vision he wanted to have -

- sports camps • orphanage ministry • music teams for concerts • and, teaching teams for assisting in "how to" start businesses.

When the teams had signed up we had at least 20 different denominations represented, ages 15-72; boys, girls, men and women from all across the country.

We flew from various departure airports to England and on to Germany where we loaded into vans for the long drive to Hungary. There we stayed at a former nazi/communist military training camp. We were so excited that we were the first to use the camp since communism, taking it back and claiming it for Jesus' purposes. This was in Estergom, Hungary, not far from Budapest, on the Danube River. We stayed at this camp for several days in preparation for our ministry in Romania. Our time was spent praying together and preparing for the various ministry areas we would be working in.

When we left, we knew we were going into the unknown, as Romania was in the midst of great change and unrest. We came to the first border crossing and it was closed, not open for crossing. Then we traveled to another crossing and there was such confusion, we couldn't cross there either. So, we made our way to the 3rd crossing and all the vans made it across except the one I was in.

We were bringing musical instruments and sound equipment to use, and the border guards wanted to keep all of it, but, God had a way out for us. Our Romanian friends, the Neamtus, who were traveling with us, told us we were going to have to get a letter from my home church, on official letterhead stating that the churches from the USA were donating the equipment and instruments to the people and churches of Romania. This, then assured the border guards of our intentions and opened doors for us to enter Romania. When the other vans saw that we were having problems with the border guards and were being held, they pulled over and all began praying for us. It was an exciting time to trust our Lord to get us through the border crossing.

Editor's Note: To be continued.