

TABERNACLE

BAPTIST CHURCH



May 3 – 10

Itinerary &

Devotional Guide

Vision Team Participants:

Stephen Allen
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Valerie Cooke
Rob Sauls

Facts and Statistics About Romania



Official Name: Romania

Location: (Southeastern) Central Europe

Time Zone: Seven hours ahead of U.S. Eastern Standard Time (GMT + 2)

Area: 92,043 sq. miles (238,391 sq. km) – a little larger than the state of Minnesota

Population: 19,334,000 (October 2016)

Largest cities: Bucharest (1,883,400), Iasi (322,000), Cluj Napoca (309,000), Timisoara (303,000), Constanta (298,000), Craiova (295,000), Galati (286,000), Brasov (275,000), Ploiesti (224,000), Braila (205,000), Oradea (196,400).

Romania's population lives in 320 cities and towns and 12,956 villages.

Main Ethnic Groups: Romanian 84%, Hungarian 6.1%, Gipsy 3.1%, German 0.2%, Ukrainian 0.2%

Religions: Christian Orthodox 81%, Roman Catholic 4.3%, Reformed 3%, Greek-Catholic 0.7%,

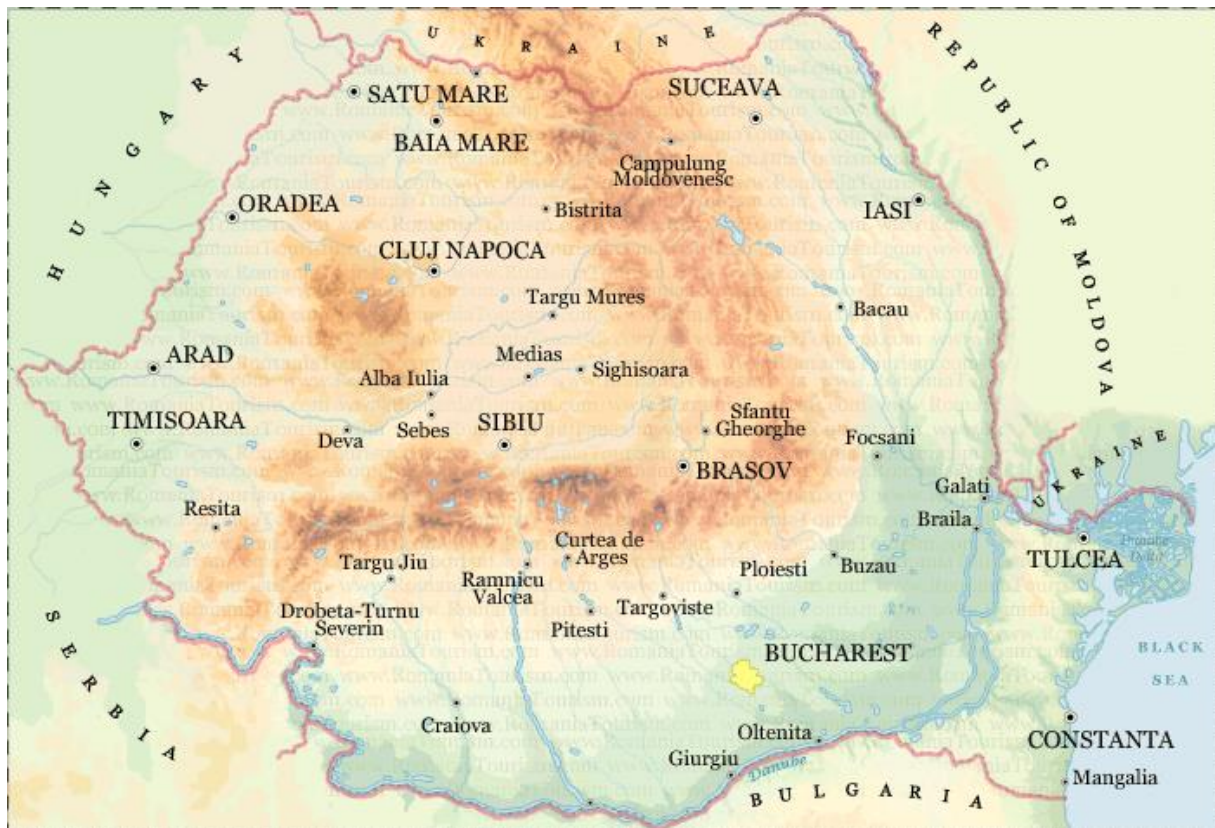
Official Language: Romanian

Currency: Leu (plural Lei --- pronunciation "lay" --- abbreviations: Lei or RON)

Climate: *Temperate, four distinct seasons, similar to northeastern USA*

Capital: *Bucharest (București --- pronunciation: boo koo re sh tea)*

Affiliation: *Romania is a member state of the European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)*



Geography: Romania's territory features splendid mountains, beautiful rolling hills, fertile plains and numerous rivers and lakes. The Carpathian Mountains traverse the centre of the country bordered on both sides by foothills and finally the great plains of the outer rim. Forests cover over one quarter of the country and the fauna is one of the richest in Europe including bears, deer, lynx, chamois and wolves. The legendary Danube River ends its eight-country journey at the Black Sea, after forming one of the largest and most biodiverse wetlands in the world, the Danube Delta. About a third of the country consists of the Carpathian Mountains (also known as the Transylvanian Alps). Another third is hills and plateaus, rich with orchards and vineyards. The final third is a fertile plain, largely devoted to agriculture.

Brief History: Romania's history has not been as idyllically peaceful as its geography. Over the centuries, various migrating people invaded Romania. Romania's historical provinces Wallachia and Moldova offered furious resistance to the invading Ottoman Turks. Transylvania was successively under Habsburg, Ottoman, Hungarian or Wallachian rule, while remaining an (semi) autonomous province.

Romania's post WWII history as a communist-block nation is more widely known, primarily due to the excesses of the former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. In December 1989 a national uprising led to his overthrow. The 1991 Constitution re-established Romania as a republic with a multiparty system, market economy and individual rights of free speech, religion and private ownership.

Fun Facts:

- The name "Romania" comes from the Latin word "Romanus" which means "citizen of the Roman Empire."
- Trajan's Column one of the most distinctive monumental sculptures to have survived the fall of Rome, represents a visual history of the wars between the Romans and the Dacians, with Trajan as the hero and Decebalus, the Dacian king, as his worthy opponent. Completed in 113, the column has stood for more than 1,900 years. Trajan's war on the Dacians, a civilization in what is now Romania, was the defining event of his 19-year rule.
- During the Middle Ages Romanians were also known as Vlachs, a blanket term ultimately of Germanic origin, from the word Walha, used by ancient Germanic peoples to refer to Romance-speaking and Celtic neighbors.
- The meaning of the word "Transylvania" is the land beyond the forest
- The earliest reliably dated European modern human fossils, up to now, were discovered in 2002 in southwestern Romania (at Pestera cu Oase – translated as the "Cave With Bones"). The fossil's age is estimated at 37,800 to 42,000 years old.
- The Carpathian Mountains are home to one of the largest undisturbed forests in Europe. 400 unique species of mammals, including the Carpathian chamois, call the Carpathian Mountains home. 60% of European brown bear population lives in the Carpathian Mountains.
- The real Dracula (Vlad Draculea) nicknamed Vlad Tepes (Vlad the Impaler) was a Romanian prince and military leader who fought bravely against the invading Turkish army in the mid 1400's. Count Dracula – the Vampire – was created by Irish writer, Bram Stoker in 1897.



Travel Days
Thursday, May 3 – Friday 4, 2018

6:30 AM – 6:45 AM:

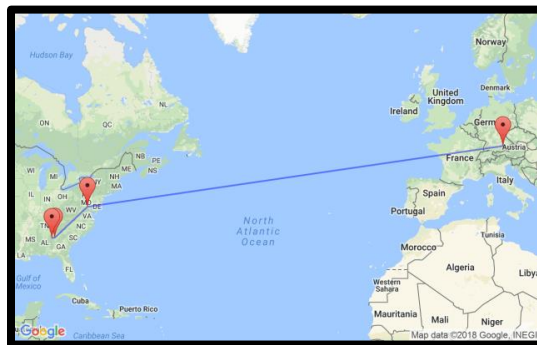
Rendezvous at Tabernacle Baptist Church for departure to ATL

9:53 AM – 11:38 AM (EDT):

Depart Atlanta Hartsfield–Jackson International Airport on United Airlines Flight #778 to Washington DC Dulles Airport

5:25 PM – 7:40 AM (CEST):

Depart Washington DC Dulles on Lufthansa Airlines Flight #9281 to Munich, Germany



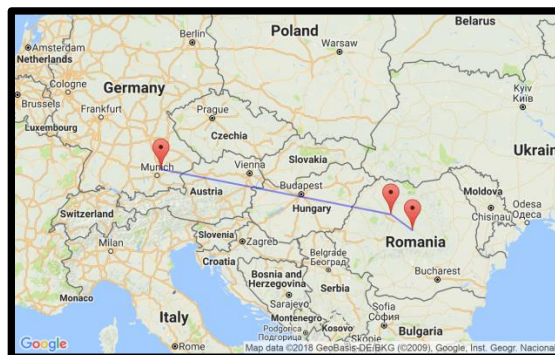
10:50 AM (CEST) – 1:30 PM (EEST):

Depart Munich, Germany on Lufthansa Flight #1668 to Cluj-Napoca, Romania

2:00 PM (EEST) – ~ 5:30:

(Approximate Driving time: 2:30 hrs)

Rendezvous with Tim Bailey for transportation to Pensiunea Casthaus Alte Post, Sighisoara



Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

As our Vision Team heads out this week, we need to be spiritually ready for whatever God has to show us. God has called each and every one of us on this trip for a reason, and He desires to do great things within our group, around our group, and inside each one of us individually.

Focus yourself for the mission God has called you to do wherever you are this week. Also, be in prayer for our ministry partners.



Tim and Caroline (Campbell) Bailey & Family



Day 1: Orientation to Sighisoara
Saturday, May 5, 2018



8:00 AM:

Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Gasthaus Alte Post)

9:15 AM–11:00 AM:

Guided Tour of Sighisoara (Sighisoara Citadel & Village Malancrav)

~12:00 PM:

Lunch at Home of the Bailey Family

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

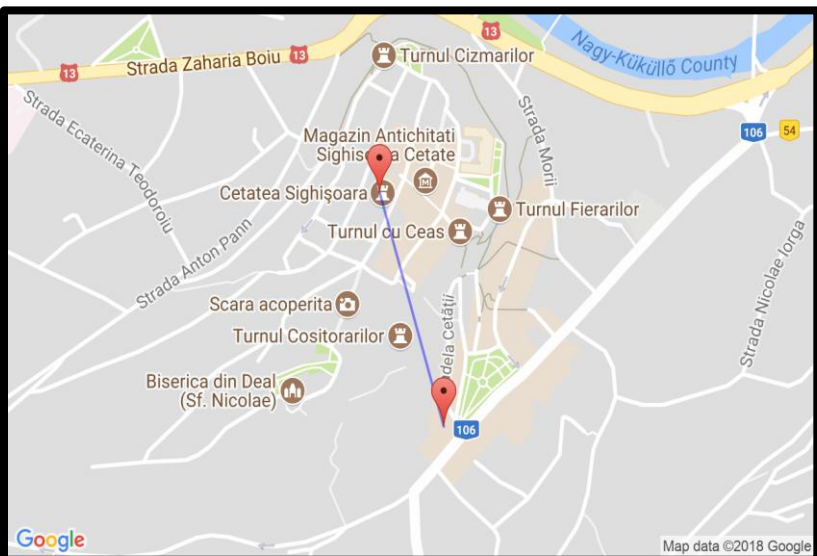
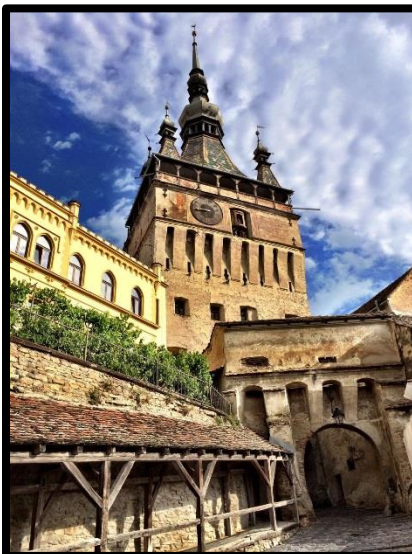
Planning, Preparing, Praying for Orphanage Visit

~ 5:00:

Dinner Out

~7:00:

Cod Story Outreach Event



Saturday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

We have made it to Sighisoara. We are still not 100% sure what we are walking into. We were honest about this trip from the beginning – nothing is certain. We are seeking the Spirit to show us how we should best schedule our time. There are logistics to consider, conversations to have, and most importantly lives to impact.

Read 1 Peter 5:6-7: *“⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.”*

What are you anxious about today?

How does this verse guide you to deal with that anxiety?

Read Matthew 28:16-20: *¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Cast all your fears and worries on Jesus, for he is with us, *“always and to the end of the ages.”*

What does God want from you this week?

How can you serve his kingdom and be a leader in this group?

Will you pray that both you and our vision team lives confidently and boldly in the truth of the gospel?



**Day 2: Church in Sighisoara &
Beclean Orphanage Visit
Sunday, May 6, 2018**



8:00 AM:

Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Casthaus Alte Post)

10:30 AM:

Sunday Worship at the Bailey's Church

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM:

Sack Lunch enroute to Beclean Orphanage

4:00 PM

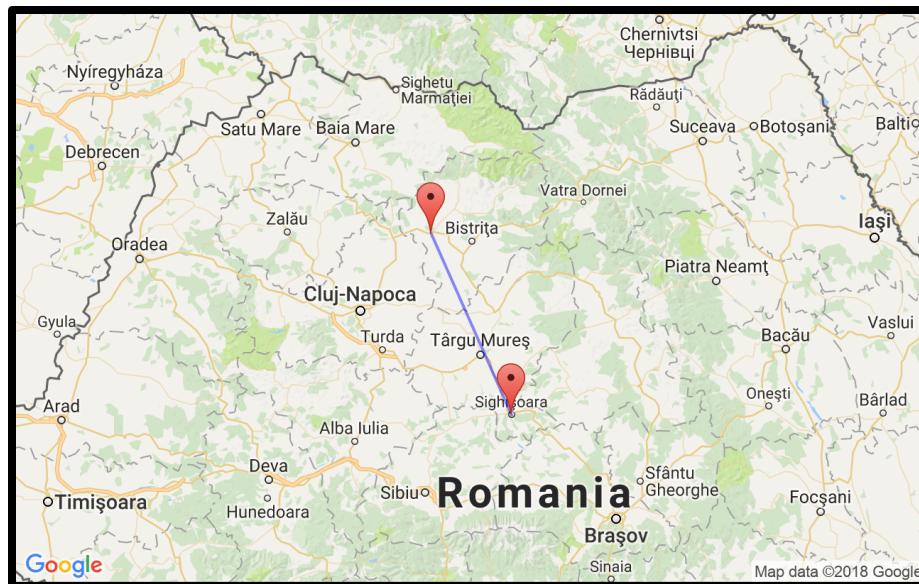
Deliver Shoes to Orphanage

~5:00 PM:

Take Kids for Pizza

~7:00:

Return to Sighisoara/ Debrief enroute



Sunday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

We have been in prayer for this trip for weeks. It has taken lots of preparation and planning. We expect God to move this week. We expect BIG things to happen. We have already seen God at work in ourselves and others. Our God works in miraculous ways if we let Him. Sometimes our idea of God is just too small, and we limit him with our preconceived notions of how He will work.

Read Joshua 10:12-15: ¹² *At that time Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."* ¹³ *And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? The sun stopped in the midst of heaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day.* ¹⁴ *There has been no day like it before or since, when the Lord heeded the voice of a man, for the Lord fought for Israel.* ¹⁵ *So Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.*

God made the Sun stand still. This week we need to abandon our small image of God and expect big things. Boldly praying that God will move through us.

What is your view of God, and what he can do this week?

Read John 5:14-15: ¹⁴ *Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you."* ¹⁵ *The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.*

Vision trips are as important for those serving as the ones being served. What are you praying that God will do this week in your own life?

We can pray boldly if we are in line with God's will because he is able to do all we request and more.

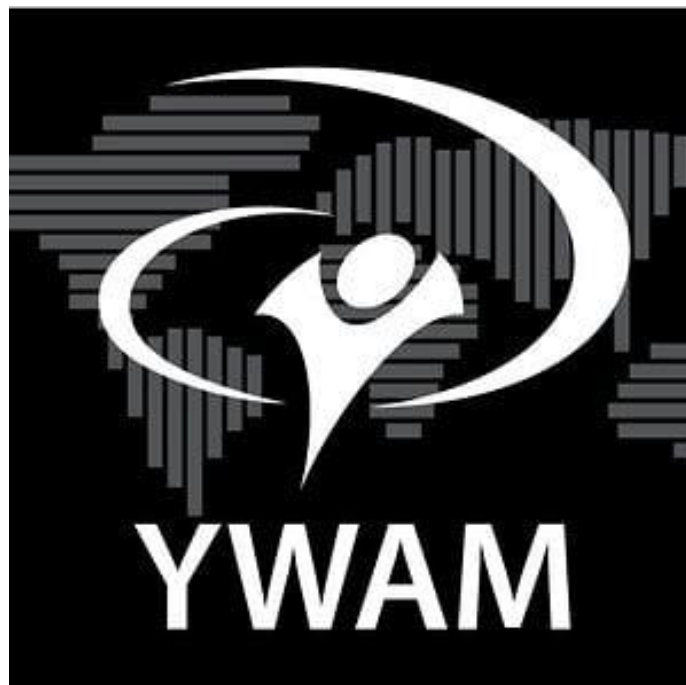
Read Ephesians 3:20-21: ²⁰ *Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,* ²¹ *to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

What is your prayer for the people both serving and being served this week?

Day 3: Visit with YWAM (Youth with a Mission) Leaders

Monday, May 7, 2018

8:00 AM:	<i>Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Gasthaus Alte Post)</i>
10:30 AM:	<i>Depart for Prod, Romania</i>
11:30 AM	<i>BBQ Lunch in Prod</i>
1:00 – 3:30 PM:	<i>Visit with YWAM Leadership</i>
4:00 – 5:00 PM	<i>Visit House 4 in Danes (Potential Site for Ministry)</i>
5:30 – 8:00 PM:	<i>Return to Sighisoara – Dinner Out/Debrief</i>



Monday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

Today will be the Vision Team's third day heading out to discern God's will for this partnership. We've traveled countless hours, worked tirelessly, and have sacrificed much time and energy (and sleep) these past few days to ensure that this trip is a success. Despite our efforts and preparation, chances are everything hasn't gone exactly according to plan. It is in moments like these—when we are beginning to feel our energy drain and exhaustion creep in—that we are most susceptible to the attack of the enemy.

Read Colossians 3:23: *²³ Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men*

This verse clearly tells us that we need to have a certain attitude while serving. Various translations of this verse read “work willingly,” “work at it with all your heart,” and “work hard and cheerfully at whatever you do.”

Is your attitude what it should be? Have you been working cheerfully or complaining about your current situation?

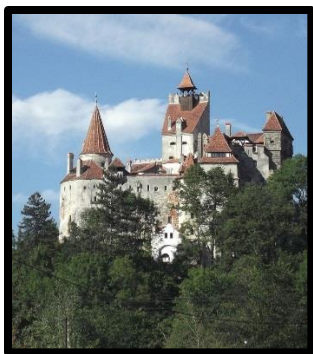
Remember that, although we are serving people, our ultimate service is to God. Practice putting on an attitude of joy as you go out to serve today.

Read Galatians 6:9: *⁹ But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?*

When times get challenging it is often easiest to complain or give up. We often become apathetic, overwhelmed by the energy required to do what's right all the time. But this verse reminds us of our hope when we continue to do good in spite of our fatigue.

How do you expect God to bless you if you continue to serve Him faithfully?

How do you expect that God can use your endurance to bless others today?



Day 4: Cultural Day in Brasov
Tuesday, May 8, 2018



7:00 AM:

Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Gasthaus Alte Post)

8:00 – 10:00 AM:

Travel to Brasov, Brasov County, Romania

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM:

Explore Historic Brasov

12:30 – 2:30 PM

Leisurely Lunch at LaCeaun

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Visit Bran Castle

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM:

Dinner Out/Debrief

6:30 – 8:30:

Return to Sighisoara



Tuesday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

Day four has arrived, and the long days are beginning to weigh on us. Here is our challenge for the day: We cannot let our weary bodies slow us down. We must let God sustain us this week. If we rely on our own strength we will fail. God is the great provider, and he will give us what we need this week. God will sustain us if we keep our eyes focused on him and his mission. We have to let God in though, and we have to let him provide us with the Joy to finish strong this week for him.

Read Isaiah 40:28-31: ²⁸ *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.* ²⁹ *He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.* ³⁰ *Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;* ³¹ *but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.*

Where do you need God to sustain you the rest of the week? (Energy, joy, patience, etc.)

I encourage you in this time to share your needs with others. Sometime today tell a friend or leader what you need, and allow them to pray for you. By doing this you are acknowledging your need for help, and allowing someone else in your walk with Christ.

Day 5: Discernment Day

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

8:00 AM:

Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Gasthaus Alte Post)

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM:

Explore Sighisoara, Prayer Walk, Coffee Conversations, Envision, Discern

5:30 PM:

Dinner at Home of the Bailey's/Debrief



Wednesday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

Today is our last day on the ground for the vision trip. Here is our challenge for the day:

As we prepare to go out for conversation, reflection, and discernment, let us take time to reflect on how God has been working these past few days. Continue to pray that God moves in the lives of those with whom we are working and their communities. Pray also that God gives us the focus and intentionality needed to finish strong.

The week is not over. We should expect God to continue to work and do BIG things. He is the great provider and he gives us what we need.

Read Acts 1:8: *⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

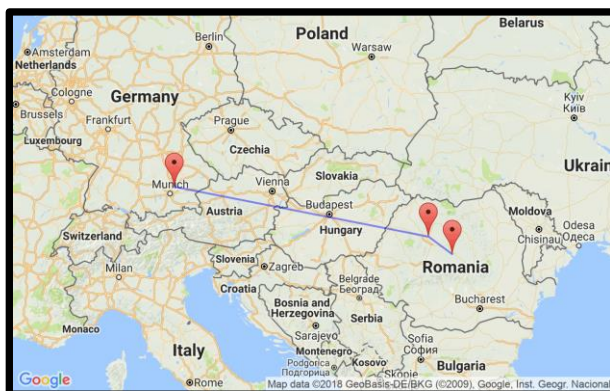
The Holy Spirit is very much alive within us, now we must go out on mission and share God's love. Pray that we receive a fresh experience of the Holy Spirit today so that we can serve in the fullness of our being.

God has already done some awesome things this week, what have you seen God do through you or others thus far? It's important to take time to think about these things so we can notice how God has already moved.

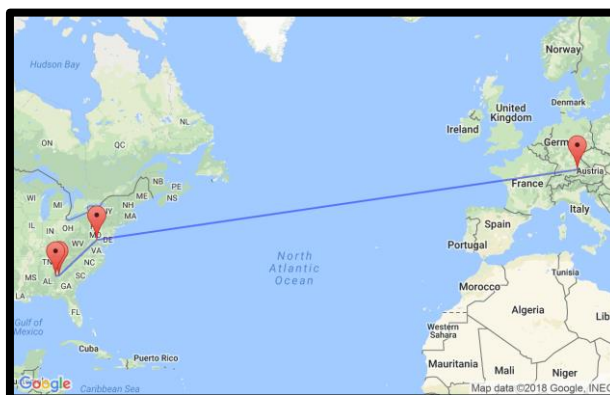
Day 6: Travel Day

Thursday, May 10, 2018

- 7:00 AM:** Breakfast at Hotel (Pensiunea Gasthaus Alte Post)
- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM** Check-Out, Pack Lunch
- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** Travel to Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Airport
- 2:10 PM (EEST) – 2:55 PM (CEST):** Depart Cluj-Napoca on Lufthansa Flight #1669 to Munich



- 4:05 PM (CEST) – 7:30 PM (EDT):** Depart Munich, Germany on Lufthansa Airlines Flight #414 to Washington DC Dulles
- 10:05 PM (EDT) – 11:55 PM:** Depart Washington DC Dulles on Lufthansa Flight 7442 to Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport
- 1:00 AM – 2:00 AM:** Return to Carrollton, Georgia



Thursday's Daily Devotional and Reflection Guide

Today, we take our long journey home. We have discerned much, listened deeply, and had our eyes illuminated to God's greater purposes around the world. But as we return back to our normal routine, consider this verse:

John 5: 16-17: ¹⁶ *And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.* ¹⁷ *But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."*

What implications do Jesus' words have on being missional? In other words, do missions end when we pack up and leave? What does this mean for us as we head home?

Here Jesus articulates a truth that we often overlook—He is always at work. Just as He is always at work trying to bring people back to Him, so too should we be at work. Too often we limit “missions” to a week or two of service every year in which we enthusiastically work to share the Good News. But, when that week is over, we go on with our “normal lives.” God makes it clear throughout Scripture that this shouldn't be the case: *Christians are called to live missional lives every day.*

Read Colossians 3:17: ¹⁷ *And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Are your everyday words and actions faithfully representing Jesus Christ? Do the people around you on a normal day see Jesus in you?

Read 1 Timothy 4:12: ¹² *Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.*

As we return back to Carrollton remember that missions are not something we do, they are who we are. Christians, by nature, are missional beings because we are made in the image of a missional God. Do not be misled to think that just because you are back at home you are off the mission field. In *everything* we say, in *everything* we do, *everywhere* we are, God wants to use us to point others to Him.

Pray for safe travel, but more importantly, pray that we return to Carrollton with a contagious excitement to serve and invite others to experience God in Romania!

