

June 9, 2008

Dear Friend,

THE TIME IS NOW FOR ROMANIA. THE FIELD IS RIPE AND AT RISK OF NOT BEING HARVESTED! WILL YOU HELP?

From June 19-29, my team and I will travel to Romania to share the Good News with over two thousand people at a variety of outreach events. Our team will minister to many different groups including seniors, teachers, business professionals, children, youth, and stay-at-home moms.

Local churches along with Luis Palau Association Europe (LPAE) have invited me to bring a team to participate in a multi-city evangelism effort. John Grant, with LPAE, has been working for months to coordinate the Romania mission for our team. He explained why this is such a critical time for harvest and why his team is investing so much time and energy in Romania right now:

*There is an atmosphere and spirit of revival in the churches, churches that are sold out to evangelize by using old-fashioned gospel preaching methods... Everywhere there is a hunger to see people get saved and **it is as if harvest time is now and must not be missed.** The churches too, are beginning to take follow-up and discipleship seriously and are also contributing towards the costs way beyond their ability to do so (the average monthly income in Romania, outside of the capital city is probably not much more than \$100 per month!)*

Now is the time for Eastern Europe. There are many people right now in Romania who are hungry for truth and ready to respond to the life-transforming message of Jesus Christ.

Many evangelists felt that Russia was a prime candidate for evangelism in the early 1990's after the fall of the Berlin Wall. However, there were too few harvesters to adequately meet the need. Now, from the reports I hear, the Russian people are not as receptive to the Good News of Jesus as they once were.

Let's not allow the same tragedy to happen in Romania.

My colleagues in Romania have been seeing people respond to the Good News in historical proportions. **At the average outreach in 2007, over 50% of non-Christian attendees gave their hearts to Jesus!** Of those who began a relationship with Christ, **over 50% were still attending follow-up classes six months later!** These statistics are truly amazing and are more remarkable than anything I've seen in America, Uganda, India, or anywhere else I have been. That is why I have taken the extraordinary step to go to the same country twice in the one year. I go to take advantage of this incredible and time-sensitive opportunity. **Romania is a field that is incredibly ripe; but it is at risk of not being harvested.**

The areas we are targeting:

1. **Ramnicu Valcea** (population 107,726) has just 3 small churches with a total attendance of less than 100. This will be the first time the churches have ever participated in an outreach like this; and they are determined to pray for and invite those who need Christ to the outreach events.
2. **Targoviste** (population 89,930) has 4 churches with a total attendance of 300.
3. **Pitesti** (population 168,458) has several churches with a combined total of around 700 believers who are praying and participating in the outreaches. This city is where my team and I will spend most of our time in Romania.
4. **Doicesti** (population 15,310) has but one small church in the town, about 60 people attend. Our coordinator John told me:

Here is an instance of persecution: those who attend this church cannot have their marriages, births, or deaths acknowledged. The local Orthodox priest was able to persuade the mayor (his father-in-law) to get the local council to demolish the Evangelical church building that was there. The current pastor has created a large room in his home which now serves as the church. The current mayor is much more amenable, and that is an example of our "striking while the iron is hot" policy. (The pastor still deems it unwise to put up a church sign on his house!)

With our events, we have the real possibility of effectively doubling attendance in these churches and beginning something really big in these areas. In some ways, it reminds me of New Testament times. Imagine the Gospel spreading from these areas to the remote communities.

Although the Romanian outreach events are incredibly effective, they are expensive compared to ministry in third-world countries. We originally had 22 events scheduled, but we have already eliminated five events from our schedule in order to cut down our budget. Please help us bridge this gap – **the people of Romania are worth the investment!** They are hungry for the Good News, and I am aching to bring it to them.

Will you consider adopting an outreach event in Romania? For the first time, you can be more personally connected to the people whose lives will be changed for eternity because of your generosity and prayers. Not only will you be given the exact statistics of the event, but you will also receive photographs and stories of the lives you helped to change. The people you sponsor will know you are responsible for the event. **Just imagine; you could be responsible for doubling the size of a church in Romania!**

A friend of the ministry recently heard of this opportunity and he loved the idea of one person being able to completely cover the expenses of one or more outreach events. **He was able to give \$5,000 to be used as a matching challenge toward the events.** Right now, several events are matched up to 50%. **We need over \$7,000 more by June 15 to completely fund this mission to Romania.**

Please, let's not allow this opportunity be passed up on our watch. Now is the time. Please pray and consider sponsoring one or more events during this upcoming mission. I look forward to sharing with you the stories of men and women whose lives will be changed for eternity because of your partnership in the Gospel!

All for Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reid Saunders". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "s".

Reid Saunders

P.S. **Now is the time for Romania.** There are many people right now who are hungry for truth and ready to respond to the life-transforming message of Jesus Christ. **Please help me share the Good News with them by sponsoring an event today.** [Click here](#) to download a list of possible events to sponsor. I encourage you to pray, look over the list, and ask the Lord how He wants you to respond today. Thank you again for partnering with me to reach people in Romania with the Good News!