

Tijs and Jessica – update from Romania

Tijs and Jessica have been continuing their ministry to show God's love to the Roma people. They help practically by providing things like stoves, windows and doors for the houses. They find sponsors to ensure that the babies have enough milk and provide books and pens and other things that the older children need for school. Boxes of clothes are regularly given out and new babies receive a package of baby clothes blankets and soft toys. Bags of eggs from Tijs and Jessica's hens are also distributed!



Since July a member of Stratford-on-Avon Baptist church, Dinah Madge, has helped support them. Dinah had spent many years working with children and young people and had visited Romania a few times. Dinah travelled to Romania in summer 2020 feeling that God had been leading her to go and spend time there.

Dinah notes that one verse that kept coming up in her private bible study and in other meetings was Matthew 28:19 "therefore go and make disciples of all the nations.' It was a daunting prospect but God comforted her with Joshua 1:9 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go'.

Dinah's role has been supportive, helping to make up the baby packs and the boxes of clothes, looking after Tijs and Jessica's children while they work and helping with the daily Homework club for the Roma children. At Christmas they were able to make up and deliver 200 gifts to the people and also distribute AMEN shoeboxes.

The children have a Friday club where they are taught about God and Tijs and Jessica regularly pray with people in the village and have seen many answers to prayer.

COVID-19 has limited some of the work but at present, building work is going on at the centre in the Roma village to be able to provide more facilities for the people in the future so that they can be further blessed.

This facility will provide some respite from the hard day-to-day existence; where children are helped with their homework; where children can sing and dance to the Lord; where Bible classes are held; where mums are taught to sew, and so much more. A place which lives up to its name of "Inima Lui" (His Heart) and God's Loving Heart is seen in action.

Latest - building update from Tijs

Prior to starting the rebuilding process we were able to sell the metal construction for 10,000 Lei (£2,000). This money we will keep to buy stuff like sand/stones/...

With some saved money we could immediately start building a 50 square meter storeroom. We were allowed to make a concrete platform first. The next step is the foundation and platform for the big building (including the new classrooms, storage, little place to put all the clothes on rafts and). After the foundation and platform is done, then we will continue on our own. Step by step, brick by brick.

We have a budget to start with but it is not enough, so please pray with us for sufficient funds that we will be able to finish what we started.

