



To open their eyes, and to turn *them* from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins,.....  
Acts 26:18



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**Dear Supporters and Friends,**

**May 2023**

Greetings to each of you from Romania. It has been our honor for these past ten years to serve the Lord in this beautiful country. We have seen God do many wonderful things for us personally as well as in the ministry. God has enabled us to work with many village residents and gypsy families. The Lord has given fruit for the labor with people coming to know Christ as well as three of our own children serving here in Romania.

We are indebted to those churches and individuals, which have supported us prayerfully and financially. You have encouraged our hearts as you have helped to hold the ropes for us as we have served in the place where God led us.

Many of you know that Sandra has suffered for a good while with kidney failure and two brain bleeds that have left her with some deficiencies. For three years now she has been having dialysis three times a week. Since that time, we have sought the Lord's help with what is best for us in taking care of her physical needs. Her last surgery was a failure, and she is now in need of two more surgeries and a kidney transplant. The medical care in Romania is often not the best, especially when it comes to hospitalization. The chance to receive a new organ in Romania is the lowest in Europe because of the corruption that is going on and the lack of decent quality medical care.

After much prayer and counseling with our Pastor and other pastor friends, we believe that God is calling us to Portugal. The medical care for Sandra would definitely be much better there. We have seen the ministry here slowly drawing down through the time of COVID. A village ministry such as ours certainly is affected by simple things such as this virus. God is closing the doors here in Romania for us.

These things have caused us to believe with a settled heart that God is leading us to make a change. God has opened some doors and opportunities for us in the country of Portugal. There are only ten Independent Baptist Churches in the country and of those, only eight are conservative. In the area that we are looking at, there are no fundamental churches. God has already burdened our hearts for these precious people, and we have already begun to learn the language.

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We believe that when God begins to close doors, He will always open doors that we do not have to open ourselves. We have certainly seen Him do this. God has already shown Himself in a miraculous way by finding us a home in Portugal well below its market value. Since my wife needs those surgeries as soon as possible, we pray that God will help us to make that move as soon as we can. We have found a good small church about one and a half hours away from where we plan to go and Lord willing, we can work together with them until we have learned the language and can start our own work. Please pray for that.

Please pray that we can find a good and inexpensive company to move us since we want to take all the church furniture with us as well as our appliances and for God to provide the funds. Please also pray that we can sell our house in a timely manner, to be able to start new in Portugal.

We wish that we could personally come and report to each of our supporting churches and share what God is doing. With Sandra having to do dialysis, it is just impossible at this time. If you would allow us, we would like to send you some pictures later, to share our direction with each of you.

If you would like us to set up a Zoom meeting with your church, we would be happy to work that out. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Again, we are indebted to each of you for your love, prayers, and financial support. We will keep you updated about our moving progress.

*God bless!*

*Stefan, Sandra, and Gabriela Calin*

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