

November 7, 2024

In Ministry

We are back in Romania! Before we discuss what's going on in Romania, a bit of an update on Ruth. Yes, it was different returning without Ruth, but we are excited that she is doing well at college. In this regard, we consider the family furlough well worth it. We miss her, but are thankful for modern



technology that helps us to speak with her often. We dropped Ruth off at Pensacola Christian College the last week of August. We also had the opportunity to see her again later in September before we left. We met many of her friends then and are thankful for the people God has put in her life. She enjoys singing in the college choir at the Campus Church. She's been able to do many new things, from giving blood to attending formal dinners. Somehow she is also maintaining A's and B's in her classes. Thank you to all who prayed for Ruth and gave during this time of transition for her. Many have asked for Ruth's address and she thanks all who have sent care packages. Her address at college is:

Ruth Schrock 250 Brent Lane #296 Pensacola, FL 32503

After we dropped Ruth off, September was our mission conference month. We were part of three different missions conferences, first at New Home Baptist Church in Wetumpka, AL, then at Maplewood Baptist Church in Martinsburg, WV, and finally at our home church. I want to give a special thank you to New Home Baptist Church who generously purchased plane tickets for Ruth to come home to Romania for her Christmas break. We are so grateful and extremely excited to see her. We also thank our sending church who made this furlough possible. They allowed us to place family first for a time so that we could help our daughter adjust to life in America. Their love and generosity toward us has been beyond measure.

In Romania

We have begun to readjust to the pace of life here. We are happy to report that the church is doing well. All our church members are present and accounted for and we have also had visitors since our return. It has been great to reconnect with our church family. We are grateful to those here who helped to keep the ministry going in our absence. Three different pastors from other churches helped to lead on Sundays and Lili's sister and her husband kept the property and our animals for us.

Since our return we have become aware of a growing need with our facilities. When we purchased the property in 2015, we knew that both buildings would eventually need a great deal of renovation. In 2017 we began the process of demolition of the front building and construction of the church building in its place. That finished in 2020. The second building, where our family lives, is now in need of renovations. This building has always had several issues, the electrical layout, the difficulty heating, and its small size. It now has structural issues due to earthquakes in our area. It has visible cracks that run across the building, both inside and out. We have already had an insurance adjuster come to evaluate the situation. He took measurements and pictures and agreed that earthquakes had caused the damage. We are still awaiting the results of the findings, specifically what amount of help, if any, we will receive from the insurance. Our hopes are not high as insurance here does not usually do much. Thankfully our trust is not in insurance, but in God. While I do not look forward to another building project, that may be what the situation necessitates. Pray that God would make clear what we need to do, whether a partial renovation or complete rebuild, and that He would provide the finances to do so.

In Our Home

A time of adjustment always follows a furlough. Readjusting to time, the pace of life, people.

We are all happy to be back in Romania. Josh and Ela are less happy to be back because it means their long summer ended and they had to start school. We did not begin the school year while we were in the States because of travel and missions conferences that we had for three straight weeks. I guess these are some of the benefits of homeschooling. Joshua is in sixth grade this year and Ela is in fourth grade. I am also back in school this year as I have begun work on my Doctor of Ministry degree. Even Lili is doing school, as a homeschool mom!

Thank you for all your prayers and support. We are thankful for partners who pray and give. God has been faithful to us for twenty years of Romania missions. Many of you have been part of that and we love you all. May God continue to meet your needs as He has met ours.

God Bless, Eric, Lili, Ruth, Joshua, and Ela

