



**BREADGATE
INTERNATIONAL**

NEWS

BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

February 2026

The first month of the year is now behind us, and it's once again time for a greeting from us. It is already noticeable - that daylight is returning. The days are now slowly getting longer as the winter darkness must give way to the light. Beautiful and long-awaited! Light and darkness are also a clear theme in the Bible. There it is described as both an inner and outer battle. The darkness in a person's soul, which the light of Christ can dispel, and the struggle between good and evil in our world consisting of physical and spiritual.

Both the natural light and the light found in faith in Jesus Christ, carry within them the power to dispel the darkest night. The light has overcome the darkness in a double sense. Whatever we face or experience, the light will always triumph. Therefore, we welcome the light as a sign of victory. The words from 1 John's letter become a reminder of who God is: *"This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all."*

So, something about the content of this newsletter. We share with you what is happening in Moldova and the positive, blessed development we are experiencing. How God meets with people, that the church is growing and that people come to faith, is a blessed movement. We are so grateful for our experiences. However, there are plenty of challenges and we should not underestimate them but we continually realize God leads us and young people come to faith.

We also share with you the slightly larger vision we have for Moldova and our involvement there in the renovation project we are part of. Then we share a few lines about the Children of Promise who reach a vulnerable and marginalized group of people - the Roma. Thank you for your support in prayers and gifts. May the Lord bless you abundantly! That is our prayer.

Benedict Vlasov
International President

Baptismal ceremony in the church



Pastor Igor Lazar together with Eugene (on the right), one of the parish leaders, and four baptism candidates.

When we receive pictures like these sent to us from the congregation in Moldova, our hearts are filled with gratitude and praise. Several baptisms have been held during the year; this was the final one of 2025. In moments like these, we are reminded of Jesus' words, *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved."*

The fact that a church holds baptisms regularly is a "receipt" that the congregation's work is bearing fruit. It indicates that the Christian community is healthy and that the preaching leads to people's salvation. We clearly see that the distribution of bread and food packages contributes to people coming to faith.

Almost every time I visit, I see new faces in the service. In terms of age, the congregation now spans all ages. Several families with children have joined and the congregation do a great job for the children who come to the various activities during the week.

The people in the picture have a varied background, which is often the case. The woman to the left, her name is Olea. She came to faith, despite many personal difficulties in her life. Her relatives rejected her after her conversion, but God accepted her. She lives alone with her son, and the church gives her both bread and food packages. Next to her is Stas, who returned

from the army and decided to be baptized. He has a job and testifies to what God has done in his life among his workmates. Then we have Gheorghe from the village of Dusmani and he is grateful for his faith and testifies to his neighbors. The last one is Marcel, he came to faith as the first in his family. Now he testifies to what God has done in his life.

We are overjoyed that these young people have come to faith and that they are now living for the Lord. The gratitude to the church in Glodeni is great for the work that is done for those who need help and support. We clearly see the fruit of this work that is made possible by your and many others' commitment through prayer and gifts. Thank you for your support! *"Send your bread over the waters, for in the long run you will receive it back."* (Eccl. 11:1)

Great gratitude that such young people are coming to faith and being baptized.



A vision for the future - a social center in Glodeni



Under the roof it says, "A House of Prayer". A fitting name for a congregation. But this place is so much more. A beacon, a place where you are welcomed. A place where your most basic needs are met. Now we want to take the next step; build a social center that can serve the people.

On several occasions we have written about the vision we have for the work in Moldova. The years have passed and the work has both grown and changed over these past 15 years. The picture on the top right is from our first visit to the country and the congregation. A handful of people, most of whom are relatives of Pastor Igor Lazar's family. The congregation had difficulty reaching out to people, few spontaneously sought out the congregation. From having lived a waning existence on the outskirts of people's consciousness, the congregation has moved its position forward in society. Now almost the entire city knows who Pastor Lazar is and the importance of the congregation to them.

On several occasions when I visited, Igor's phone rang with a request for help from the social authorities. Their resources have run out, which is why they ask for Pastor Igor's help. Igor always answers yes and goes to the address he has been given. Many times, we are met with severe need and misery. Our response has built trust over time.

We understand that what the congregation did for several years before we came into the picture, has laid the foundation for what we are now experiencing. After our first visit in 2010, we decided to start distributing food packages the following year. We understand today that this decision was a vision and call from the Holy Spirit. This food package project gave us the opportunity to visit people in their

home environment, build relationships and create trust. We are grateful that we obeyed what the Holy Spirit urged us to do. By responding to what was people's most felt need, they started to visit and the congregation has grown and continues to grow. The bread, but above all the food packages, has been an important tool that God gave us, has served people in need, but above all it has enabled a fine dialogue between people. But now we believe it is time to take the next step. Our desire is to make something beautiful out of part of the building that was purchased in 2018, which is located in the same place as the congregation and the bakery.

A Social Center

In short, our vision can be described as follows: "The vision rests on three pillars: helping the congregation grow, providing increased assistance to socially vulnerable people and at the same time building a local economy. The first is born from a need to build community within the congregation by creating a social space. The second: to be able to respond to the increasing number of people who seek our help. The third: to start a business, in this case a simple restaurant/café, which over time can help us build a local economy. Through cooperation with the social authorities, those who need the most help will be able to come and eat a subsidized or free meal.

We believe that this vision can become a reality and that it is also on God's heart to help those who struggle the most. We are



During the fall, holes were drilled in various places in the building for ventilation.

thinking especially of the fatherless and the widow who are particularly mentioned in the Bible and who are close to God's heart.

There will be showers for those who lack this opportunity in their homes and also washing machines for those who need this facility.

We believe that this vision is a continuation of what God has already done. To build a local economy, while continuing to serve people and where we will see people come to faith and be incorporated into the kingdom of God.

Pray that God will release the financial resources needed. Right now, the work is at a standstill, as it is cold in the building. We also need to replenish the treasury to be able to continue when the weather becomes more favorable. Thank you for your continued support for the people of Moldova and especially those who live in Glodeni. The place God has placed on our hearts.

Children of Promise on a trip before the Christmas break



The Bible's message is conveyed through music and song. Many Roma have a musical ear and often master several different instruments

We have written many times about the work that Children of Promise does. It is not a given that one chooses to work among the Roma, whose way of life is markedly different from ours. It is in many ways a challenge to reach this group of people with the gospel. But as with many other things, a long-term relationship is built on trust and confidence.

The children who come to Children of Promise live in the villages outside Oradea. One of these is Dicanesti. The work that Sami and his colleagues put into these children is admirable and beautiful.

Roma children grow up in a society that discriminates against them in many ways. Living, but being excluded from various social health functions, is a big problem. Not all Roma live in poverty, but a large group does. Even though schooling is compulsory, many of these children are subjected to discrimination by the school they attend, which is why many children drift around instead or help provide for their families. Many make a living on the social benefits they can receive. Not being able to fully read, write and count excludes many from the labor market. This constitutes a major obstacle to integration for the Roma population.

Children of Promise work involves children and encourages them to stay in

school. It is an important step away from exclusion. The children receive help with their homework, support in learning to read and write, but an equally important foundation is to give them a faith that carries them through life. Bible teaching is therefore an important part of the work done at Children of Promise.



To be allowed to experience things that would normally be out of their reach is also to develop skills for life.

