



**BREADGATE
INTERNATIONAL**

NEWS

BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

April 2026

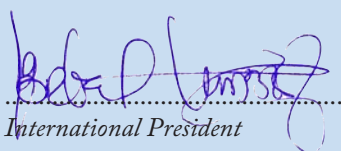
The undersigned would like to begin this newsletter by wishing you God's rich blessing. It is one of the greatest benefits of the Christian faith; to wish each other well, God's protection and good will over each of our lives. What could be better than this? Spring is here and we are heading towards warmer and brighter times, both blessed and wonderful.

In this newsletter, we turn our attention to both Moldova and Romania. In the next article, we write a little more about the work in Moldova, focusing on what is happening in the church. We see new things taking shape and this is what we want to share. In the last letter, we wrote about the collections we have had for families who are struggling and who need support and help. This work continues through other efforts that target vulnerable groups in society. This time, towards widowed women who live extra vulnerable lives. Traditionally the women were at home taking care of the children and managing the home. With the result they did not work and therefore have not earned any pension and, therefore, only receiving the minimum amount.

Together with the disabled and the Roma, this group is the poorest of the poor. It is, therefore, gratifying that the congregation pays special attention to this group.

As well, we write about Asist pastor training, which we also feel a little extra for. Their work is growing, which is why we want to share what is happening. I also share some personal thoughts about the Easter message based on Bach's musical works and my interest in classical music.

Thank you for your gifts and prayers for the work, it means a lot to feel your support. We desire God's rich peace to be upon you!


International President

Social work the key to church growth



More and more people are coming to the church. This Sunday the focus was on the widows who had come to the church. It's touching to see how the church's heart for the vulnerable is growing.

Ever since the first congregation, there has been a pronounced concern for the weak and vulnerable. When I read what Pastor Igor writes, my thoughts go to the words in Acts 6:1-3 *"In those days, when the number of the disciples was increasing, the Greek-speaking Jews began to complain to the Hebrew-speaking Jews that their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food."*

We know that the Bible highlights both widows and orphans as especially tender. When a congregation, in a special way, shows this care, it touches the heart of God. During past newsletters, we have tried to emphasize what is happening in Glodeni. A movement in the congregation that expresses a positive development and that also extends well beyond the congregation. A growing number of people are showing interest in the Gospel and more people are visiting the church, which is extremely gratifying.

The congregation in Glodeni does not turn away anyone who needs help. But I am particularly touched when Igor sends pictures of church services where one of these groups is highlighted. Just recently, there was a church service where women from a vulnerable group in society were present. A few weeks earlier, another group of people were helped. There were several widows in this church service. This group is particularly vulnerable, as many have a

low pension that is impossible to live on, as it was the man who supported the family. It is touching to see how the congregation is now actively trying to help them. Pastor Igor writes:

"Although there is an economic, social and moral crisis in the country, God, in his goodness, continues to save the poor and socially vulnerable people through the message of the gospel and through the food packages we distribute.

At the beginning of March, many poor women from socially vulnerable families participated in the church program. After they listened to God's word, we also offered them food packages. The gratitude to God was great, some cried and thanked God for his care for them."

What is happening now in the congregation we experience to be the fruit of the many years of work that have been put in. When God is allowed to transform a hardened heart into a soft, malleable one, it changes circumstances and brings people closer to the kingdom of God. Pray to God that what we are now experiencing will live on in the congregation. This movement also strengthens us in what we feel we will do in the renovation that will soon start again. The congregation needs to cultivate its social contact and build community.

God is raising up a new generation of spiritual leaders



Young men and women who are growing in the word of God, ready to spread the kingdom of God in Romania and the rest of the world.

God does not call the equipped, he equips the called. It is extremely gratifying to see these pictures from one of Asist's latest teaching sessions. The pictures speak for themselves. Young people, both men and women, willing to serve God. During the years I have travelled in Eastern Europe, the ministry of pastor has been exclusively reserved for men. Therefore, it is extremely gratifying to see that more women are now taking their place and entering the task of preaching and leading. Mircea writes:

"Here in Romania, the work of Asist continues to grow in a very encouraging way. During this season, we are strongly focused on equipping a new generation of preachers, leaders and church workers who are grounded in the Word of God and led by the Spirit.

Through our ongoing training meetings, small group discipleship and intensive teaching sessions, we invest deeply in people who are already serving in churches, as well as those who feel a clear calling to church work. Our goal is not just to teach, but to form character, spiritual discipline and a biblical vision for leadership."

The work that Asist does is in many ways an extension of the work that Breadgate Internatinal has done for several years. Both, during the years when the countries in the East suffered under communist oppression, but also for the young church, after communism fell. We then realized the importance of providing pastors with good

teaching. This need remains, but for a whole new generation facing completely different challenges than their older colleagues. That is why this work is so significant and important. Mircea continues:

"We see a growing hunger among young leaders to preach the Word with clarity and conviction, and to lead congregations with integrity and spiritual maturity. Many of them are now actively involved in leading small groups, organizing outreach initiatives, and supporting local church leadership in different regions.

One of the most encouraging aspects is the multiplier effect: those we train begin to teach others, creating a healthy and sustainable model for leadership development. This helps strengthen local congregations and increases the impact beyond what we could do alone."

A multiplier effect. This is how the kingdom of God spreads. Seeing this development is so satisfying. Meeting your own needs with an education that ultimately increases your own growth while at the same time expanding the kingdom of God. Mircea continues:

"We truly believe that God is building something solid and long-lasting here – that He is raising up leaders who stand firm in the truth and serve faithfully in their

generation. Thank you for standing with us and for your heart for this region. We look forward to sharing more in person very soon."

*With gratitude and respect,
Mircea and the team in Romania*

We feel joy and gratitude that we get to be part of a small corner through the support we give to Mircea and not least the work that he and the team are putting into the work for the salvation of Romania. We also rejoice in the effects it can have globally through new missionaries that God is raising up through this important work.



A future leadership gathered around the table.

From Bach to the Resurrection of Jesus

- a message of comfort and hope -

As these lines are being written, we have just entered Easter week. When this letter reaches you, we will have just celebrated Easter. Therefore, I would like to share some thoughts with you about this holiday that is so central to us. This text takes as its starting point my appreciation of classical music.



Johann Sebastian Bach, a well-known name to many. Bach has written several famous works for organ, of which Toccata & Fugue is perhaps his most recognizable, at least for the public in general. But in his repertoire, there are also many liturgical works that as faith itself as its core. One of these is the St. Matthew Passion, which draws its inspiration from the 26th and 27th chapters of the Gospel of Matthew and deals with Jesus' suffering and last days. The music itself is a proclamation of the love of Christ, and of reconciliation through the death of Jesus, here proclaimed through both song and music. Music has no saving power, but it can touch both our soul and our spirit. Music itself can also be a spiritual experience, through which God can speak.

Although Bach's music is well known to most, what Bach experienced privately is less well known or talked about. Johann Sebastian Bach's life was marked by many personal tragedies and losses. He was orphaned at the age of 10 and raised by his eldest brother. He lost his first wife, Maria Barbara, unexpectedly in 1720 while traveling. Of his twenty children (seven

with Maria, thirteen with his second wife Anna Magdalena), eleven died before him. Suffering and loss would continue to mark his adult life. As he grew older, his health deteriorated and he became blind. He died in 1750 at the age of 54. Despite all the tragedy, his unwavering faith in God became his refuge, which was expressed in his music.

Music as a vessel of faith

Bach has sometimes been called the fifth evangelist. To his musical works, Bach often added the words Soli Deo Gloria in one corner of the score – "To God alone be the glory" – because he understood that music was sacred and an act of worship.

His sacred works reflect a deep commitment to Christian theology, such as suffering, reconciliation, forgiveness and grace. Many, including me, find that music touches the depths of the soul and gives both comfort and hope.

A sign of victory

The death and resurrection of Jesus that we have just celebrated carries within it an eternal hope of forgiveness, salvation, reconciliation and restoration. Jesus' death on the cross is our eternal hope and sign of victory. Just as Bach's life in many ways can be perceived as a great tragedy, Jesus' suffering and death can be perceived in the same way. But in Bach's case, music became a way through personal suffering. His music has been and is a source of comfort

and spiritual healing. Jesus' work on Calvary does not end the moment he is laid in a tomb. His resurrection is an event that for all time means that the darkest part of our lives can be turned into light. Therefore, there is always hope!

The Christian faith does not guarantee freedom from either sorrow or suffering. What faith guarantees is a salvation that overcomes all human suffering and death itself.

God has not distanced himself from the problem of human suffering. He himself became part of it through the death of his Son Jesus Christ. Jesus' suffering becomes a path to forgiveness, restoration and salvation for all of humanity, including each of us.

But this does not mean that we do not encounter suffering or grieve over that which has been lost. It means that there is a way through our suffering. Even death itself, because Jesus overcame death on the cross and offers us, through his resurrection, eternal life. May this Easter be a reminder of what Jesus did on Calvary and that his death opened a way to salvation, reconciliation and forgiveness. Christ is risen!

