BREADGATE INTERNATIONAL

NEWS BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

October 2026

Having recently returned from my trip to Moldova, I noticed that autumn has advanced significantly; the leaves on the trees had begun to change color and we are heading into a season that is beautiful in so many ways.

This newsletter will focus on my visit to Gagauzia, in the southern part of Moldova, but will also touch upon my visit to Glodeni, and the ministry there that we support.

In many respects, these are turbulent times in Moldova. As I was leaving, the airport was subjected to a bomb threat, forcing a complete evacuation. Whilst the situation was not overly dramatic, it still caused considerable disruption. I view this as part of the hybrid warfare currently happening across Europe. Moldova is also facing another election to determine its future leadership. After six years of governance by the pro-EU friendly PAS party — during which many had hoped for a better life, there is now widespread disappointment with the government. Conversations with locals suggest a renewed desire for change. However, the alternative may not be particularly appealing, as it implies a return to the past and likely increased Russian influence. A great deal is at stake, and the future remains uncertain.

After visiting Gagauzia, I traveled with a member of the delegation heading via Strașeni; From there I was able to continue my journey to Glodeni with Pastor Igor. My days subsequently flew by, filled with conversations, renovation planning, preaching, and a meeting at the invitation of the municipality's social services department. Read more about this on the next page. Thank you for standing with us in prayer during the journey; it means a great deal to know we are being held up before the Lord. We are grateful to you and for the support you show the work through your prayers and gifts. Our prayer is that God will meet your needs in everything you are facing. Once again, thank you!

International President

God opens new paths for evangelism



Pastor Igor reads from the children's Bible to some of the children who have come to listen.

We rejoice at the developments we are witnessing in the work we support in Moldova. While there has been cooperation in the past — with the municipality's social services, assisting by providing lists of people in need — now they are seeking to collaborate in other ways as well. Some time ago, the congregation, led by Pastor Igor, was invited by the municipality to participate in an outreach initiative it was organizing. The Pastor was able to contribute in several different ways.

Together with a group of children, he had the opportunity to present various stories from the Bible. Pastor Igor was also able to distribute bread to these children and, indirectly, to their families. The congregation also had the opportunity to distribute bags of food right in the town center — something that had never happened during the 16 years we have been doing this in that locality. In a brief comment regarding this opportunity, Igor writes:

"New opportunities to proclaim the Gospel that God has opened up in the town of Glodeni. With the Lord's help and at the initiative of the mayor, we were able to organize charitable activities at various locations in the town and distribute bread and food supplies to the needy and to children in Glodeni."

We are grateful for this initiative, which has, in a sense, brought the congregation closer to people's hearts. Instead of suspicion, we are now met with curiosity. Pastor Igor is treated with respect for the work he does to help people.

So much positive change has occurred since we began collaborating with the congregation. In many ways, it is a completely different congregation today, operating under entirely new circumstances. The humanitarian and social work has opened doors we never imagined could be opened. People are coming to faith, and the Kingdom of God is spreading. Thank you for the financial support you provide, which makes this work possible.



There was both joy and gratitude when the congregation was able to distribute food parcels.

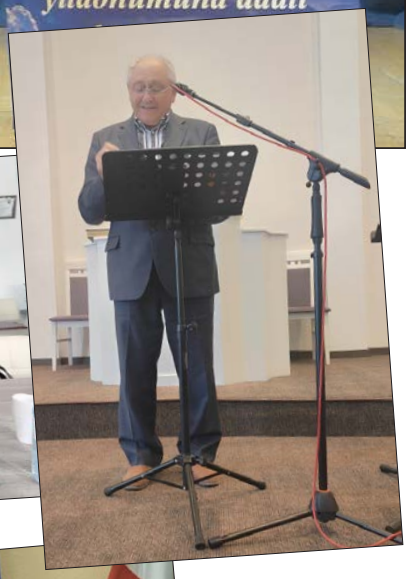
Meeting with the Gagauz people



Many speeches were given at the jubilee.



Meeting with the mayor of Comrat.





Mattias signed a copy of the New Testament in Gagauz.

During a few lovely days in late September, I had the opportunity to visit the autonomous region of Moldova known as Gagauzia. Our group's mission was twofold: to attend the celebration marking the 20th anniversary of the Gagauz New Testament, and to meet with friends to discuss continuing the translation of the Old Testament—parts of which have already been translated. We had been invited to join the trip by the Institute for Bible Translation.

What made the journey particularly interesting is the fact that Breadgate International in its early years as a mission organization, was heavily involved in Bible translation and distribution throughout Eastern Europe. Against that backdrop, accepting the invitation felt important, as the trip connects, in a sense, with our own history.

One question raised during our visit was whether God speaks Gagauz. Oh, He certainly does! That is why it is so important for this people to have the entire Bible translated. The Gagauz language is closely related to Turkish and is spoken by around 180,000 people. The challenge is that the language is not widely used in daily life; Russian is predominantly spoken in the wider community. At the same time — especially in rural areas — there are entire villages where the residents, together with their local congregations, speak only Gagauz. In recent years, the language has





Katja, Sanna, and Gun. Katja is the person planning to move to Gagauzia to work on the translation of the Old Testament.

been introduced in primary schools to foster interest and prevent it from dying out.

We met people who cannot read Gagauz, but can sing songs in the language. The group's mandate was to examine the prospects for revitalizing the translation work, with the aim of translating the remaining books of the Old Testament.

Two representatives — Sanna and Katja from the Finnish Lutheran Mission— accompanied the trip, having already been involved in this work. The plan was to send an exegete, in this case, Katja to the region to potentially deepen the translation effort — a project that is underway, but needs a boost to move forward.

During our time in Gagauzia, we met with representatives from all the denominations, as well as the mayor of Comrat, to hear their views on their language and its future. On behalf of The Institute for Bible Translations and the Finnish Lutheran Mission, we are praying and continuing discussions on how we might support this work.



Gagauzia - some facts



Gagauzia is an autonomous region of Moldova, much like Transnistria, which borders Ukraine. Gagauzia gained its autonomy in 1994 and covers an area of approximately 1,800 square kilometers. About 180,000 Gagauz people live in the area, though Gagauz populations are also found in Ukraine and Turkey. The language is also understood in the countries of the Caucasus, on the other side of the Black Sea. It is spoken by approximately 180,000 people, of whom about 115,000 reside in Moldova. The regional capital is Comrat. Gagauz is the official language, but Russian is spoken in everyday life. Politically, Russia has exerted significant influence over the region, and much of the Russian impact on Moldova originates there.

Meeting with the municipality's social worker

During my visit to Moldova and the town of Glodeni, Pastor Igor had informed me that we would be visiting a care home for the elderly and that I should be prepared to give a brief greeting.

So, we got into the car and drove to the venue where the gathering was to take place. We entered the room where I expected to meet residents of the care home. However, something didn't quite add up, as I knew that care homes and elderly care in the region didn't operate quite the way they do in Sweden; nor had I heard of any such facility existing in the town.

Upon entering, I was met by a number of people already seated around a long table. I had never met any of them before. There was a uniformed police officer among the attendees, so I surmised that the meeting was official in some capacity. It soon turned out that all the municipality's social workers had been summoned to the meeting to brief elderly residents on various matters of importance to them. Pastor Igor and I had also been invited. I had to rethink my approach — and quickly. What was I going to say? This was a completely different group of people than I had expected. It all worked out fine in the end.



The group of peole that had been summond to thos meeting.

The reason we had been invited was that the municipality — after 16 years of providing targeted aid to residents in the form of food parcels and bread — wished to thank us for our efforts. One of the ladies at the meeting added: "Even though I don't attend that church myself, it is true that they help people, as I have personally benefited from their goodwill." This was a wonderful acknowledgment—from both the municipality and a local resident — of the work the congregation has carried out through the support we were able to provide.

After the gathering concluded, anyone who wished was given a bag of groceries to take home.

Contact info
International Office
Breadgate International
P.O. Box 311
S-573 24 Tranas
Sweden

Email breadgate@ftm-mission.org
Internet www.breadgate.org
Phone +46 140 31 13 21

US ADDRESS
Worship Center
2384 New Holland Pike
Lancaster PA 17601
USA

Newsletters

Bank Transf.
Bank name: SWEDBANK
SWIFT/BIC: SWEDSESS
Account nr: 81505544310444
IBAN: SE4780000815050544310444
US CHEQUES should be written in the WC's name and sent to the US adress. Beneficiary Breadgate Int'l.

Paypal

Website