

Schloss Klaus
A-4564 Klaus / Österreich
Tel.0043 (0)7585 441

mission@schlossklaus.at
www.schlossklaus.at

BECK'S NEWSLETTER

Eberhard u. Elke Beck
Str. Romana 1
500010 Brasov / Romania
0040 368 808141 (priv)
0040 268 419870 (Büro, Fax)
eberhard.beck@pdf.ro
www.pdf.ro

January 2011

Dear friends,

We come from Christmas, looking back to a year where God has blessed us. And we want to look forward to the coming year and ask God to bless Romania more with His light and His presence in people's hearts.

PDF - MINISTRY 2010

A couple weeks ago we had a wonderful Christmas celebration as a team, where we just enjoyed the fellowship and God's goodness. We are thankful to work with a dedicated team. In 2010 two new team members joined us, Sorin, who became our maintenance man and temporarily as well ropes course administrator and Friedemann from Germany who replaces Denis and leads the construction work. Denis and his wife Dagmar married last summer and attend Bible school at Tauernhof Austria, and we look forward having them back this summer. Joseph Whipple left in July to start his College education. He contributed very positively to our team fellowship and ministry, developing the ropes course ministry. He connected very well with Romanian culture, and formed many good friendships. We certainly miss him, and ask God to bless him where he will serve Him. Eric Ostlind intends to join our team and take over the ropes course and outdoor ministry in July.



Our center is still under construction even though it is already used at the same time. It felt sometimes like a never ending project, but looking back we are grateful for all that has been accomplished over the past year. Grateful to God for sustaining us, for health and safety, for the funds to purchase the materials, and also grateful to the many people who again were involved in the building project, either by putting hands at work, by praying or by supporting us financially. In 2010 we mainly worked on the Main Building, installing the electrical installation, plumbing, and part of the in-floor heating. We also finished Denis' apartment and he moved there after his wedding. A group of volunteers from Josephs church in Alaska put on part of the

siding on the outside of the building. (Big building-big job) Finally we finished 3 bathrooms in order to use the building this winter for our ski camps. On the site, we built our natural sewage treatment station last fall. It feels like we will see at last a light at the end of the tunnel. With God's help we hope to finish the Main Building in summer 2012 and to start using the center all year then.

FUTURE PLANS

With this date, a new phase of our ministry will start. We need more permanent staff that is present at the center. We also believe that a Bible School program would be very beneficial for Romania, and pray about this.

Our own house in Rasnov takes slowly form. Remember, we received this house in Germany for free, dismantled it and transported it to Romania. The whole enterprise was quite an adventure and took us several times to our limits. We hope to move there in June to be present at the center, and it looks like we need our guest apartment for the new staff couple joining us this summer.



After 14 years of ministry in Romania we came to the conclusion that we need to stay a longer time in Germany. We hesitate to call it a sabbatical as this time will serve different purposes. Our children grew up in Romania and Jonathan will soon finish school. It is time to think about their future education, and we want to research possibilities in Germany. Starting a year round program at the center in 2012 will bring about several changes to our ministry. In order to prepare ourselves we want to have some time away from the business here. Our plans are to move from September until May 2012 to Germany somewhere close to our aging parents. There we know of a good school that our children can attend. We also would like to do some studying, maybe even taking a course at a seminary in the States by correspondence; however we have no specific plans at this point. It is also time to

catch up with some friends and relatives, which has not happened much over the past 14 years. We still don't know where to stay and how everything will come about but we trust God that He will open doors at due time.



FAMILY LIFE

We always enjoy visitors. This past year we enjoyed the visit of our dear friends, Lai Yong and Lai Chin from Regent College and their children Amber and Edward. Amber and Jonathan both were born in Vancouver, now they are 16. Especially Andi and Edward connected to the point that we called them twins. Hansi and Beata Widmann, Ebbes best friend from youth, visited at Easter, and the children connected very well doing sports and art work. Finally

in September Elke's parents visited for two weeks. We took the chance to visit places that we haven't seen so far ourselves and Elke's parents also helped us to advance with our house.

We spent our summer holiday in a small cozy cabin in Switzerland. As the concept of an ideal summer holiday becomes more and more diverse in our family, we finally agreed that everyone can suggest one activity and we will all do it together. Therefore we tried a glacier tour on a 4000m peak and nearly succeeded, enjoyed swimming in lakes and the thermal baths of "Leukerbad", watched the soccer world cup, and climbed several "via ferrata"s. We felt really refreshed afterwards and ready to start the full summer program in Rasnov.



School started this fall with a pleasant surprise. All three children have their school program in the morning. For five years, we had school in two shifts, morning and evening and the older kids sometimes finished after 8:pm. Now, we have again time for a family life and we feel the difference.

Elke writes

Since the beginning of this year I am part of an open women's group, we are 8 women, most of them working fulltime. Everybody has their challenges, at home and at the workplace. Some have lived with the Lord for many

years some are still looking for Him. Each one of us will use these gatherings to bring us closer to Him. This fall we also started a women's bible study in our church and I enjoy that very much. It is challenging but also very encouraging to study a book together. These contacts are very precious to me.

With gratitude we share this, and thank you for your prayer and friendship,

Eberhard and Elke with Jonathan, Anna, and Andreas.



For support use the following contacts:

From North America

you can write a check payable to Torchbearers and mail it to Torchbearers, PO Box 3340, Estes Park CO 80517. Please specify on the check or a note: "Torchbearers Romania, Project Center".

To send support **from other countries**, you can wire money directly to our bank account in Romania:

As. Purtatorii de Facle, Banc: Banc Post Brasov, Str. M.Kogalniceanu 13, 500173 Brasov

Swift Code: BPOSROBU, USD: IBAN: RO89BPOS08002610490USD01

EUR: IBAN: RO45BPOS08002610490EUR01