

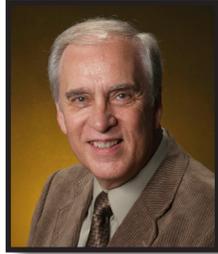


# Friendship INTERNATIONAL

A Ministry In Chile, Great Britain, Hungary, Romania and the USA



# UPDATE MONTHLY ... 2021



**Del Huff**  
Executive Director



## February, The Month To Express Love And Affection

*Here are some thoughts for this Valentine's Celebration, 2021, by Billy Graham's daughter, Ann Graham Lotz, whom Billy called, "the Best Preacher in the Family."*

On February 14, 2021, the world celebrated the day of love—Valentine's Day. For some, it is a time of special celebration ... for others, it is a time of special challenge as

there is no special person with whom to share this day.

If the latter is your experience and you are feeling depressed, would you consider this? The most special Person in all the universe loved you enough to give His life for you—and this Valentine's Day, He is longing not only to embrace you, He is longing for you to embrace Him.

Everyone needs a hug! And as you delve into the pages of your Bible, God will respond with His own arms opened wide.

As you seek Him, you will find that He will draw you nearer to Himself in an ever more intimate relationship. So get into His Word each day and begin now to enjoy His embrace.

When we are in the midst of a trial, instead of withdrawing or exploding or complaining, we need to run to our Heavenly Father, throw our arms of faith around Him, and embrace Him more tightly. Why?

In Psalm 84 the Psalmist gives us 3 reasons:

• **HE IS MY SONG** - Psalm 84:1-4

1. *How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!*
2. *My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*
3. *Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young— a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God.*
4. *Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.*

• **HE IS MY STRENGTH** - Psalm 84:5-7

5. *Blessed are those whose strength is in you . . .*
6. *As they pass through the Valley of Baka, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools.*
7. *They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.*

• **HE IS MY SHIELD** - Psalm 84:8-12

8. *Hear my prayer, Lord God Almighty; listen to me, God of Jacob.*
9. *Look on our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one.*
10. *Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.*
11. *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.*
12. *Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.*



**How long has it been since you wrapped your arms of faith around the One who loves you, and embraced Him?  
Don't let your problems or pressures or pain or pride keep you from doing so.**



### How Are Things In Romania?

by Adi and Tabita Muscan

We've heard the weather is like a freezer this month in America. We hope you, our friends are staying warm and safe. Here we are also experiencing very cold weather, especially during the night, but it's pretty normal for February, except the wind is hard and bitter.

The virus is still a problem for us. A lot of people are still suffering and dying because of it. The most concerning news we have heard about are the new variants of the virus coming from England and South Africa. Around us, in Arad and Timis county there are 17 towns under lock-down. It is by law to wear a mask everywhere you go outside the house, to keep social distancing and curfew between 11:00 pm and 5:00 am. If you want to go outside, or you have business you must go out for, you need a written statement of purpose and signed that you go at your own risk.

About the vaccine, until now, there are almost 1 million people who have received it, but there are 18 million more to go.

The big issue now is like in many places getting more doses, but at least the seniors over 65 and medical and school staff people have received the vaccine.

This situation still affects our ministry and especially at camp, because any public or private gatherings are still banned. There were some camps last summer, fortunately no one got the virus, but the leaders were caught for being responsible in organizing camps and they were fined harshly.

In the churches it is only possible to meet once per week, it can be more than once, but, the entire building has to be totally disinfected by a professional company and the cost is very high. Until now, we have not been meeting indoors at our church, but in March we will try to have our first meeting during the week.

There's not too much we can write about ministry happening here now. But, please pray for us because there are many, many hurting and needy people. The pandemic has brought a great cloud over our country. We help and try to encourage our family our friends and those around us, on a personal level, wherever we can. **We especially need your prayers at this time.**

And we are also praying for your country, not only because of the pandemic but we hear and see what is happening in your country because of the extreme political situation.

## Through a Wedding and a Funeral, the Love of God holds us Together

by Gwen Stone



February 2 has a very strange custom which involves pulling a ground hog out of its burrow in order to prognosticate whether or not there will be an early spring. Well, we didn't have any ground hogs, but the forecast of our future move to Romania seems to be that there will be delays. At this time, we are hoping to be able to move in June.

David's sister Susan has been blessed by the Lord bringing, Wesley, a wonderful Christian man into her life. On January 23, they were married in Mountain Home, Idaho. The ceremony was so beautiful not just because everything was pleasing to the eye, but mostly because everything was Christ centered and gave glory to God! It was a truly wonderful celebration with close friends and family. The wedding was small due to Covid, but the blessings and commitment are huge!



One week after the wedding, we received tragic news. Nikhil Ahdi (Bobby), another brother-in-law, who was from India, was killed in a head-on collision on January 31 just after midnight near Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was driving to Texas for work when the accident happened. Bobby was killed instantly, he was only 29. He leaves behind his wife, Ruth, who is

David's sister, and his parents and brother in India. Ruth and Bobby had only been married since May 18, 2019. We are all very shocked by his untimely death! David and I and our children had spent quite a bit of time with Bobby and Ruth. We intentionally made an effort to encourage and disciple our younger siblings as they were starting out in their marriage. Bobby's death is very difficult. We are comforted by having the assurance that Bobby knew Jesus as his savior. Please pray for those whom he leaves behind. His parents had not been able to see him since he had come to America 6 and a half years ago.

When I heard the news of Bobby's death, I was deeply disturbed, but I kept thinking of this verse from C.T. Studd's poem - **Only one life, twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last.** None of us has a guarantee of tomorrow. Do not wait to get right with God! He offers all of us forgiveness and fellowship with Him through Jesus.

Thank you for praying for us! The love of God is holding us together! Please pray for Ruth and for Bobby's parents!

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**Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree.**

Martin Luther

### We're NOT Giving Up!

Last year, because of COVID 19 we were not allowed to make one mission trip to Europe. It was, to say the least, disappointing and discouraging, especially when we wanted to do something for God's Kingdom and were restricted. We don't know what is ahead, BUT, we are putting two mission trips on our calendar and trusting God will make a way for us.

### TWO EXCITING MISSION OPTIONS

**July 9 - 25, 2021**

2 Weeks of Camp at

Friendship Camp - Romania

involved with camp staff

working with the kids / maintenance /

kitchen crew & more

**November 26 - December 8, 2021**

Christmas Markets and Orphanage Outreach

visit Europe Christmas Markets

in Germany / Austria / Hungary / Orphanages in Romania

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