

# WORLD REACH®

*“PARTNER with us in reaching the WORLD with the GOSPEL OF CHRIST through the local CHURCH”*

Dear Prayer Partners,

March 2007

It was just 14 days ago that Botho was in Sibiu, a former German city in Romania. During communist times, the Germans were not well liked and, after the fall of the iron curtain, most of them immigrated back to Germany. Everything they left behind went to decay. Finally, the inhabitants of Sibiu elected a mayor with a German background. They stated that they built the city and that they should take care of it! And it works. The mayor helped to attract new businesses, old buildings were renovated, streets were redone, new shopping malls appeared at every corner and the historic city showed up with new glamour. And now in 2007, this city that is right in the middle of Romania is Europe's cultural capital.



All these positive developments began before Romania entered the European Union on the first of January. Meanwhile, there is a lack of working power because over the years the young people have immigrated, mainly to Italy and Spain, some to France. Because of this development, you find almost no youth in the churches. Of course, this has an influence on the overall spiritual situation. Is there any future for Evangelical Churches when there is no youth? Botho experiences this at Pacea Bible College, where he teaches. It is very difficult to motivate them for a training to serve God better when their friends go to foreign countries to earn a big amount of money (including the youth leader and the children of the pastor). The good aspect is that the decision to get pastoral training in Romania is very specific and well thought through nowadays. Bible College students are very well motivated. Please pray for them, that they will follow God's path faithfully.



**We want to introduce to you Ciprian**, a last-year graduate from Pacea Bible College near Sibiu. We ask you to pray very specifically for him and his wife. After his graduation, they moved to Modovia (a very poor region in East Romania) to be a church planter. His wife is a physician. So, the idea was to provide physical help and give testimony of God's great love by doing this. They chose a little village without a doctor and no evangelical church. But, just the fact that they moved in was enough for the orthodox priest to try to set fire to their home.

Their landlady was totally upset and went to the priest to find out why he did it. Obviously, this made him a little more careful. But, the threat is still there that the priest will again try to set fire to the home of Ciprian and his wife when they begin to share the Gospel. **Please pray for protection from God and that they will be able to talk to others openly about their eternal salvation.**

In our last letter, we wrote that we had the impression that, after seven years of ministry in Yalta (The Evening Bible School), our ministry would come to an end. This would be a big change in Botho's ministry because he has served in the Ukraine since 1992. **Now, the students and the church which hosts the Evening Bible School have asked for one more year. Please pray for God's guidance in this decision.**

In February, Botho was in Croatia again after quite a long time. We knew that a new start was possible because young people who came to Christ last year and those from a Home Bible Study Group had asked for seminars. The comments regarding Botho's ministry there were very interesting and encouraging. The church members who attended his seminars in former years longed for him to come back and teach the Word of God. Botho's fundamental Bible teaching is highly appreciated. We have now scheduled five seminars, one a month for 4 evenings. Botho and Rainer Ebeling (another missionary of TSS who teaches the Theological faculty at the University in Zagreb) will do the teaching.

Botho was accompanied by Anreas Knittel when he was in Croatia in February. **Andreas Knittel is interested in joining the ministry. Please pray for God's guidance and provision for him and his family.**

In March, Botho went again Croatia after a short stop-over coming home from Romania. His teaching about the Holy Spirit was very well accepted. He had a growing audience every evening - up to 30 persons.

**One more prayer request: In April, Botho will travel to Volgograd, Russia and Gisela will accompany him for two weeks.** We will talk about "The Principles of Christian Marriage" at 5-6 different churches. To accomplish this, a lot of miles need to be covered on Russian roads where most of the traffic drives like '*scrambled eggs*'. We need God's protection and strength.

Thank you for bringing us faithfully before the Lord in your prayers. We wish you God's joy when you celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Love,



Botho & Gisela Heinz

**World Reach – Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry**

PO BOX 26155 BIRMINGHAM, AL 35260-0155  
VOICE 205.979.2400 FAX 205.979.6289 EMAIL [info@world-reach.org](mailto:info@world-reach.org) WEBSITE [www.world-reach.org](http://www.world-reach.org)