Hand of HELP

May - July 2023

Weathered

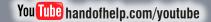




HAND OF HELP PO Box 496719 • Garland, TX 75049 HAND OF HELP OFFICE 1012 South Third Street • Watertown, WI 53094

f handofhelp.com/facebook

Toll Free: 866-371-7636 Ph: 920-206-9910 www.handofhelp.com info@handofhelp.com



Trip to Romania



What a privilege it is to serve the Lord Jesus. To be His hand extended to those He directs you to. His hands to reach out and give a brother or sister a hug. His hands to reach out and give a brother or sister a food package. His hands to reach out and give a widow some money. He describes us in body of Christ as hands and feet, and we all have a function to perform at His leading. That's why we offer up our bodies as living sacrifices so that He might use us for His glory.



I just returned from Romania after being away for three years due to the pandemic and the orphanage needing room to accommodate refugees from Ukraine, and I was blessed to see how the children are growing and maturing and how well they get along with each

other. To see the many widows that we visit as the Lord leads, doing well and strong in the Lord. We were able to get out to see 190 families due to perfect weather. One village we visited on the Ukrainian border would have been impossible to get around in if it had rained. The moment we finished visiting families and got back on the pavement, it started to rain.

Thank you for your support, both financially and prayerfully. I know firsthand that your giving is being spent exactly as you would want it to be spent. May the Lord bless you and keep you and make His face shine upon you.

Dave Edman



Please see more pictures from my latest trip to Romania on pages 6 & 7.

2 Hand of Help



Multilayered

If we have learned anything from the war in Ukraine, it is that war is often slow-moving and brings many surprises along the way. Just when you think you've got your bearings, that you're making some headway in dealing with one crisis, three more layers of difficulty appear that lead to others, and so on. It's not so much dealing with emergencies; it's juggling them, hoping you can keep track of all of them, and doing what you can where you can.

There really is no methodology one can employ to be prepared, and often we are forced to make swift decisions that, providentially, the Lord has often used to save lives. You learn to trust that urging, that whisper of the Holy Spirit, the more often it occurs until it becomes second nature.

Such is the case with the most recent flooding due to the bombing of the Kakhovka dam on the Dnieper River. It led to the extensive flooding of area buildings, some homes and greenhouses being wholly submerged in water, and the evacuation of over 40,000 individuals.



What the bombs hadn't yet destroyed was swept away by the floodwaters in yet another senseless attack targeting the lives and livelihood of civilians.

Due to your generous support and the Ukraine Emergency Fund we have established, we were able to purchase much-needed relief goods, including bottled water, food, and indispensable disinfectants, and have



them loaded onto a vehicle and ready to go before the area was even accessible. As soon as some of the water receded, with the help of a military barge, our team of missionaries was able to deliver the goods that were so desperately needed.



There is still much we don't know, and we will undoubtedly learn along the way, but one thing is certain – the Lord watches over His own.

With gratitude,

Hand of Help Staff





Trip to Romania







































6 Hand of Help













One Horsepower

While most of the modern world is caught up in everincreasing horsepower engines that can take you from 0 to 60 faster than you can say your full name, in rural

Romania, where time seems to have stood still, there is a pastor who had prayed for a one horsepower means of transportation. In fact, his prayer was for a tame, lazy horse that could get him from point A to B without requiring too much constraining effort.





Since pastor Dumitru's aging body is giving out, he can no longer walk to the churches where he regularly ministers or to the isolated homes where widows many await pastoral visits. With his wife, Dumitru periodically stops by many of the area's bedridden to offer up words of encouragement and deliver the Lord's Supper, a much-needed service in isolated regions of Scanteia.

Dumitru had found precisely the lazy horse he had been praying for, and the owner had initially agreed to

a payment plan that was within the budget of their fixed income. However, soon after, the owner demanded that Dumitru either pay what he owed in full or return the horse. He was devastated that this tremendous blessing



might so unceremoniously be taken from them, and they began to pray, trusting the Lord who had answered their prayers time and time again.

It was at that time that pastor Dumitru reached out to us asking if we might be able to lend him the money needed for the purchase of the horse. When we heard that the horse would be used to enable them to plow the soil of the hearts of men, we responded that we couldn't loan him the money but buy the horse for them outright. His smile says it all!



We thank God for His provision of livestock for the various needs that we encounter, and we thank you for coming alongside our ministry to make stories like this possible.

For His Glory,

Daniel Boldea

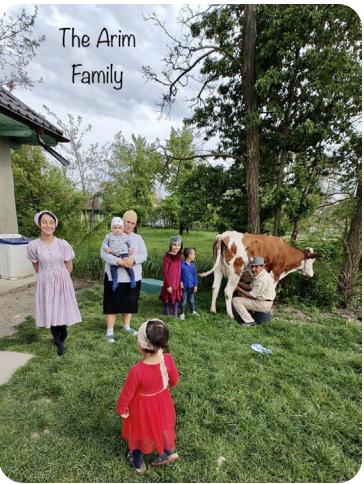
















A Need

We received the following request from Paul, our missionary partner in Gorj, Romania: "We are writing you and praying that the Lord would meet this need.

There is a young family with three children in our church that is in desperate need of help, and although we have done what we can, our resources as a congregation are limited, and the needs presented to us are many." The brother in question worked as a truck driver for some time and saved enough money to purchase a piece



of land with a ready-built foundation for a home, and took out a building loan for \$5,000, which is all the bank would extend to them. Soon after, he was involved in an accident and had to work for a full year just to pay off the debt he had incurred from this terrible circumstance.



While Stefan was working abroad to pay off the debt, his wife and children lived in a rented apartment, and being overwhelmed by having to take care of everything, she sunk into depression. The Serbans' situation got bad enough that they were contemplating divorce, and that's when the church stepped in, trying to help ameliorate the situation and keep the family together.

As a body, the church decided to help with the construction of their home, two rooms, one bathroom, and a kitchen, so that some of the pressure could be taken off their shoulders and the brother could be present and look after his family. Things are better between them now, as him being present with the family has made all the difference, and we thank the Lord for this. With God's help, the local church has built the home, put on the roof, and put in the windows, but we are still faced with finishing the interior.

The needs for completing this project are a source of heat, exterior insulation, and doors. We have done



all we can and now patiently wait on the Lord to finish what He has started. The cost to complete what is most pressing and needs to be done before winter is \$5,300. Any additional funds received for this project will go towards the completion of the home's interior.

We ask that you consider this need and pray to see what the Lord would have you do.

Hand of Help Staff



10 Hand of Help

Child of the Month

In 2018, when the Child Protection Agency contacted us, our team went to the local emergency center for single mothers and met Dumitru and Teodora. Their mother had been beaten, her eyes dark and swollen from all the bruising, with one ear cut, and barely able to speak. With the bit of strength she had left, she implored us to take her children and protect them.

The sight of the children next to their mother was disheartening. Lost glances, tears dried on their cheeks, and hardly able to mumble their names...the children were afraid to speak at all. They were on constant alert and ready to flee at the first sign of aggression. Their father hit them violently anytime they tried saying something, and now they are mere images of the children they should have been. Having witnessed much violence, abuse, and hardship, Dumitru and Teodora were reluctantly watching us from a corner of the room, uncertain of the future

One realization sent shivers down our backs – the children were supposed to return to their abusive father in a few weeks. Though the local authorities had called him in for questioning, he was not charged and was only given verbal reprimands.

We decided to take the siblings into our care and offer them a place of safety next to Robert and Ionela, their older siblings (who had already been with us since 2014). By God's grace, we have witnessed the children miraculously surpass the trauma in their lives and grow up harmoniously even when there seemed to be no real chance of that. We knew we had to be a hand of help and offer these two children the opportunity to live in a loving family.

Teodora (Teo, as most of us call her) was born in August 2012. Being two years older than her brother, Dumitru, we noticed how diligent and caring she is with him and how

she always looks after him with a genuine maternal instinct. It took us almost two months to see her smile for the first time.

Teodora is a very timid and sensitive girl. Surrounded by the loving care of our staff, she has made steady progress in various aspects of her life – social, emotional, educational, health, etc. She is cautious in making new friends, and we are glad to see that she was able to build up solid friendships with other children from our center.

She is part of our center's orchestra (playing the flute) and wishes to continue learning and practicing it. Teo is also actively involved in household activities like cooking and cleaning.

We can hardly believe she is in the fifth grade now! We thank God for working in her life in such an amazing way!

It was precious to witness seeing the mother at peace, knowing that her children would not have to spend another day in a dangerous environment. With your help, they were now safe, and we thank you for making these testimonies possible.

Please join us in praying for Teodora and her family that He would guide their steps and keep them in His arms all their lives.



Dear Brethren,

Galatians 1:8-9, "But if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."

You can't blame the devil for trying; it's what he does. You can rebuke him, most assuredly, but being surprised by the devil trying to deceive, distort, and derail the household of faith is akin to being surprised that a lion would attack a zebra. The lion's nature is to hunt, kill, and devour. The devil's nature is to deceive.

Since the devil's henchmen have been preaching another gospel for decades and have rarely gotten called out or denounced for it, it seems as though the enemy is upping the ante and setting about writing his version of the Bible. At least, that's what a contributor to the World Economic Forum proposed. In their words, artificial intelligence could rewrite the Bible and create correct religions.

Even though artificial intelligence is, by definition, artificial, requiring someone to program it, establish parameters and code it, my question is correct according to whom? Who determines what correct religions look like? It's not the program; it's not sentient. The program just does what it was programmed to do, so who will be the man, or Cabal of men behind the curtain? Who will determine what acceptable dogma is going forward?

Once this new version of the Bible is made public, how long before all the other versions are wiped from the internet? How long before it becomes a crime to reference any version other than the pre-approved one, which will undoubtedly expunge every verse and chapter that make the Bible unique and speak on the salvific power of Christ, His shed blood, His sacrifice, and His Lordship?

It's been proven time and again that whenever we are accused of overreacting, of making mountains out of molehills and being unhinged and conspiratorial,



whatever it is that the few still watching and warning are pointing to as what the godless have planned, it is precisely what they have planned. They'll deny it until they implement it without shame, remorse, or compunction.

It's not as though the Bible has not warned us of what the last days will look like, but until recently, how they would come about was still a mystery. As little as a decade ago, we did not have the technology to mark and track every human on earth; today, we do. We knew the enemy would attempt to implement a oneworld religion but were fuzzy on the details. Now the picture is becoming more apparent.

Seeing these things come about is not a reason for fear, but it does confirm that the time is near, and we must be ready for what is about to unfold. Know the foundation upon which you stand, and let no man sway you from it. Keep His Word in your heart, value it as the priceless gift that it is, and consume it daily so that when another gospel is hoisted upon the world, you will know the truth from the lie.

With love in Christ, Michael Boldea, Jr.