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# ROAD TO ROMANIA

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Volume 1, Issue 1

February 2005

## Life is Never Going to be the Same!

Dear friends,

I remember the day when Paula and I first confirmed that she was pregnant with our first child (we call him Stephen now). One of the first thoughts that crossed my mind was, "Our life is never going to be the same!" It was a thought filled with both anxiety and excitement. Now, nearly 14 years later, we're facing another moment of "Our life is never going to be the same!" Only this time, it's not about a new child; it's about a totally new way (for us) of serving Jesus our Lord. Most of you know that we've been exploring a call to missionary service in Romania for sometime, and most of you also know that we were officially approved for this last October (2004). Time frames are getting more concrete now, and we're looking at moving our family to Arad, Romania (western Romania near the Hungarian border) sometime between November of this year and early January, 2006. This used to seem like a long time away, but now it's not so far away!

As we look back over nearly 13 years of ministry and three previous mission trips to Europe, we are always mindful that we haven't done it alone. God has always provided people on whose shoulders we have been privileged to stand. We have faith that this move to serving Jesus in Romania will be no different, and this is why we write.

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Before we can transition to Romania, we must have three kinds of ministry partners: prayer partners, one-time financial gift partners, and on-going financial gift partners. We're asking that you consider supporting us in one or more of these ways.

**1. Prayer Partners** – Our mission board is asking us to have 300 committed prayer partners before we go to Romania. We will be sending regular correspondence to our prayer partners. We and the people of Romania need prayer: for us to be spiritually and otherwise prepared and for God to be preparing the people with whom we will be working. J.O. Fraser was a church planter in Southwest China during the early 20th century. In a letter to his prayer partners in England he wrote,

I am feeling more and more that it is, after all, just the prayers of God's people that call down blessing upon the work, whether they are directly engaged in it or not.....We are, as it were, God's agents - used by Him to do His work, not ours. We do our part, and then can only look to Him, with others, for His blessing.....I believe it will only be known on the Last Day how much has been accomplished in missionary work by the prayers of earnest believers at home. And this, surely is the heart of the problem. Such work does not consist in curio exhibitions, lantern lectures, interesting reports, and so on. Good as they may be, these are only the fringe, not the root of the matter. **Solid, lasting missionary work is done on our knees.** What I covet more than anything else, is earnest, believing prayer, and I write to ask you to continue in prayer for me and the work here. (*The Prayer of Faith*, J.O. Fraser, Overseas Missionary Fellowship (IHQ), 1995, p.6)

Would you be willing to pray for us on a regular basis?

**2. One-time Financial Partners** – We need to raise just over \$50,000 in "start-up funds" prior to moving to Romania. These funds will cover things like our deputation salary (June-Dec, 2005) household set-up costs (appliances, dishes, shipping our stuff, etc.), purchasing a car and computer equipment on the field, airfare to get

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there, and travel costs to the various churches we will be visiting over the next few months. Since our travel to churches begins in April, these one-time gifts are welcome anytime after, well, NOW! This entire budget must be raised “in cash” before we can leave for the field.

**3. On-going Financial Partners** – Things like our salary, kids educational costs, housing, and on-going field ministry expenses once we’re on the field are funded by gifts that people commit to give on an on-going basis (weekly, monthly, etc.). Beginning January 1, 2006, our need will be \$80,000 *annually*. Please understand, we don’t get paid this much! This represents the average of what it costs our mission board to keep two missionaries (Paula and myself) on the field for a year. These amounts must be raised in “commitments” before we can leave for the field.

We have enclosed our prayer card (put it somewhere where you’ll remember us often) and Partner in Ministry form. If you would like to be a ministry partner with us, please complete the form, keep the pink copy for your records, and mail the rest back to us. Financial gifts should be made payable to “Free Methodist World Missions” with a memo of “Dunns Start-up costs.” You can mail your gift to the PO Box on the form, to your local Free Methodist church if you attend one, or to our address (next column).

Thanks in advance for your partnership in this adventure. We are very aware that this is something we cannot do on our own. We want and need to be an extension of you...the Body of Christ reaching around the world. If you have further questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Scott and Paula Dunn ❖

## PRAYER CALENDAR

MARCH 7 – MEET WITH UNITED CHURCH OF SOUTH VIENNA BOARD OF MANAGERS (SCOTT’S MOM’S CHURCH)

MARCH 12 – DISPLAY TABLE AT LEAD (OHIO CONFERENCE TRAINING EVENT)

APRIL 3 – SPEAK AT LIVING WATER FMC, DALTON, OH

APRIL 20-28 – SCOTT IN HUNGARY AND ROMANIA FOR REGIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE (SPEAKING APRIL 24) AND INFORMATION GATHERING IN ROMANIA (HOUSING, ETC.)

MAY 1 – SPEAK AT ONTARIO FMC, MANSFIELD, OH

MAY 13 – COMMISSIONING SERVICE, AKRON, OH

MAY 22 – SPEAK AT GALION FMC, GALION OH



### RESPONSE CHECKLIST

- Complete Partner in Ministry form
- Keep pink copy for yourself
- Mail the white and yellow copies to:  
The Dunns  
5950 Galleon Court  
Hilliard, OH 43026
- Mail financial gifts to:  
Free Methodist World Missions  
PO Box 535002  
Indianapolis, IN 46253  
OR Your local Free Methodist church  
OR The Dunns (address above, check payable to FMWM)
- Memo line marked “Dunns start-up costs”