

Dear friends,

October 2014

A lot has happened since we wrote our last full prayer letter to you. I attended the annual meetings of Wycliffe Bible Translators in Bulgaria which was a key time of prayer, planning and strategy for working together on Bible translation for the Roma. I presented the vision behind the newly formed Roma Bible Society and we discussed ways we could partner with Wycliffe and other like-minded organizations who are working with Roma. Kirsten went to a camp for missionary kids (MKs) in the Czech Republic.



Timothy came to visit us from Kansas City for 2 ½ weeks. We traveled to a Roma village in Croatia where we met seven families and I conducted a language survey to learn more about which dialect they speak. This is one of the largest Roma villages in Croatia with about 1,500. They use the Croatian



language for public communication, but there are also a few different Roma dialects spoken there in some of the homes as the heart language. The main dialect does not have any portion of the Bible in their language. It was great to have Timothy along (pictured here teaching the Roma kids to put together LEGOs, while I conducted a language survey questionnaire across the room. This family's house used to have no roof and the leaking and mold got to be unbearable for them and their six children. Through the hard work of our teammates there, and generous donors, they now have a new roof! Our teammates hold children's Bible clubs there at the house with this family as well. We also had a wonderful time meeting with the other Pioneers workers doing a great ministry in Croatia, friends we have known for many years. Ariela turned 3 and is lots of fun with her cute expressions and great imagination. She's pictured here with fellow Pioneers



missionary to the Roma, Lim.



I went to the annual meetings of the Gypsy Lore Society in Slovakia. We also hosted many guests, colleagues in Christ from the Netherlands, Bosnia, Serbia and Romania. Added to this were meetings regarding our Pioneers board here in Hungary, as well as planning, preparing and presenting about the newly founded Roma Bible Society at a mission consultation meeting, Roma for the Nations.

Matthew turned 16 (pictured right). We're glad he could go to Poland for a 10-day outreach with other MKs to teach English and start a youth group for Polish youth as part of a church planting work. He has started 10th grade of home school, and is learning a lot about graphic design and video editing. He and I went to Vienna for several days of graphic design with our partners at Operation Mobilization who design all our literature for Roma.



I traveled to southern Hungary with my Hungarian teammate, Gergely, where we taught two Hungarian Bayash women for about 16 hours on how to translate the Bible. It is a common misconception, I think, that missionaries sit down at a desk with a national and he (the missionary) translates. But it is always best to have a native, mother-tongue speaker do the actual translation, so a large part of the missionary's job is to train them how to translate and then coach them in the process and give them advice and correction along the way. In our two-day seminar we discussed many things, such as what makes a good translation, how you translate idioms and other figures of speech, what you do if the language into which you are translating has no word for something mentioned in the Bible, etc., etc. It was a fantastic time getting to know these two potential Bible translators.

Praise God for how the ministry to Roma just seems to be exploding with possibilities! All of this ministry requires a lot of money (our support, travel, salaries for national workers, books, software, conference fees, etc.). We currently need \$300 per month more in monthly pledges, which could be met with just 6 people or churches pledging (or increasing their pledges by) \$50 per month. Giving can be done by mail or online (see below for contact information). The budget for translating the Bible into a Roma dialect is well over \$100,000, and there are dozens of translations still needed. Please pray for the Lord's provision and considering giving as you are able. We are so grateful for your love for us and for the Roma people. Thank you for standing (and kneeling!) with us!

Todd, Pamala, Matthew, Kirsten, Daniel, Ariela

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Our vision: God's Word in the heart language of every Roma & Gypsy in Europe & western Eurasia

Prayer Requests and Praise Points for October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pray for Todd as he speaks tomorrow at the Roma for the Nations missions conference	2 Pray for good connections with other pastors & missionaries to the Roma	3 Pray for wise planning of specific action points as a conference body discussing Roma ministries	4 Pray for the Roma conference attendees as they take survey trips to Croatia, Serbia & Romania
5 Praise God for Mom (Barbie Hughes), 84 today. Pray for her health with high blood pressure & racing heartbeat	6 Pray for helpful networking after the Roma for the Nations conference	7 Pray that the conference attendees will faithfully follow up on specific action points	8 Praise God that our van is running well & that the brake repairs were quick & inexpensive	9 Pray for wisdom in project management: which to do & in what order	10 Praise God for the excellent Hungarian classes in our home school coop	11 Pray for God to work mightily among the Roma of Europe & western Eurasia
12 Pray for Pam helping the Word of Life (Hungary) students as they teach Sunday school at our church	13 Praise God that Matthew can help missionary friends with techy stuff here (there's no teen employment here)	14 Pray for wisdom in time management & strategy	15 Pray for Roma leaders to be encouraged through the conference & to pass that on to others	16 Praise God for Matthew & Todd's training in graphic design at OM East in Vienna	17 Praise God for the team in Vienna who do graphic design & layout for Roma Bible Union's projects	18 Pray God will encourage our Hungarian teammates who moved closer to Bayash Roma population, 2 1/2 hours south of Budapest
19 Pray for Jonathan to walk with God	20 Pray for Bob & Nancy Hitching returning to Hungary from the US & UK, to settle well & lead wisely	21 Praise God for faithful monthly financial supporters & those who give as they can	22 Pray for full time job in Kansas City for Timothy which will be helpful training for his future work & ministry	23 Praise that Ariela (3) is learning Bible memory verses eagerly!	24 Pray for Matthew taking the ACT in Budapest tomorrow	25 Pray for the thousands of dollars, & teams of Bible translators needed for Roma dialects in Europe & western Eurasia
26 Pray for Elizabeth & Stephen as they serve in Kansas City in a new church plant, for good experience for overseas ministry	27 Pray for Kirsten to grow spiritually, to eagerly learn & apply Scripture	28 Pray for \$300 per month more in monthly pledges for our support	29 Praise God for giving us good health & energy to serve	30 Praise God that Daniel loves his Sunday school class & home school coop each week; pray for continued good learning	31 Praise God for the Reformation. Today marks the 497 th anniversary!	

