



LttN Ministries Newsletter

Bringing
Light to the Nations

Volume 4, Issue 5
November - December 2006

Investing in Leadership

As the train rolls through the Romanian countryside, I pause to reflect on six wonderful weeks working with our brothers and sisters in Constanta in the south east of the country. This is like a second home for us. We have many spiritual sons and daughters and treasured friends in this part of Romania.

The primary reason for coming is to teach in the Romanian Centre for Cross Cultural Studies. This institution has been established to train young Romanians for cross cultural missionary service in their own land and in Muslim lands around the world.

The vision of Pastor Ghita Ritisan, a godly and visionary leader, the 'mission school' has already equipped and released over 30 young men and women into a variety of ministries since its establishment in 2001.

The class of 2006 was eight second year students. Glenda and I were thrilled to see the growing spiritual maturity evidenced by these young men and women. We thoroughly enjoyed our daily lectures on subjects like Spiritual Maturity, Mission Strategies, The Life of Christ, Christian Leadership and the Names of God. But more valuable than the teaching are the quality relationships that grow during our time together.



Gavin & Glenda with our graduate 'sons and daughters' during the November retreat.

Even more exciting is the ongoing relationships with our former students. To many of them we are spiritual parents. They come to our home, seek our counsel and respond warmly to our involvement in their lives.

A highlight of this year's visit to Romania was the opportunity to visit places like Babadag, Medgidea and Lumina where former students are working. (See the article on Babadag.)

On the weekend of 10—12 November, eighteen of our former students came to stay at our flat for a 2 day retreat. It is hard to describe our joy to have these young people around us and to hear of the things God is doing in and through them.

There was laughter, tears and lots and lots of love.

Yet another aspect of our ministry here is encouraging Christian workers. A number of pastors and their wives have come seeking a listening ear and a word of encouragement or advice. This is a precious privilege.

We have been requested to increase our regular commitment in Romania from 4 to 6 weeks each year. In faith we have agreed to this request and look forward to being with our friends once more in October 2007.

Vision for Turkey.

Cristi and Alexandra Vladoi are a remarkable young couple with a great vision. They dream of taking the Gospel to the Muslims of Turkey. Cristi is a graduate of RCCS. Both are training in medical fields in order to be equipped to serve the people of Turkey.



Each summer, they go to Turkey for 2-3 months. Their purpose is to continue language learning and develop cultural understanding. They have already had the opportunity to develop some significant relationships with Turks even sharing the Gospel with some. LttN encourages this couple through our mission fund.

Christmas Greetings



The year of 2006 draws to a close and the Christmas season approaches once more. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest, prayers and support for another year of ministry.

During this past year God has led us into many lands and given us the privilege to minister to many existing and emerging leaders. Without your help and interest we could not have sown the seed that God has put into our hands.

We trust and pray that you will have a wonderful time with your family and loved ones over Christmas. We pray that the year of 2007 will be one touched with the blessings and prosperity that the Lord has in store for you.

Ministering to Gypsies in Babadag

The town of Babadag is set among the hills and forests approximately 90kms north of Constanta. Here a remarkable work is being carried on by 5 graduates of the Mission School in Constanta.

The community of Babadag is approximately 10,000 people. Around 3,500 of these are Turkish gypsies. This is a distinct ethnic group who have a different language, culture, religion and family life to that of the Romanian people. Disadvantaged and at times despised by the wider population, the gypsies often struggle to survive.

Ten years ago an outreach work was launched among these people by Pastor Ghita Ritisan and people of Biserica Farul (Lighthouse Church). Today the work is continued by Luci, Mihaela, Raresh, Misha and Tamara, all RCCS graduates.

Glenda and I spent a weekend in Babadag as guests of the team and had opportunity to see and share in the work first hand. It was an experience we will never forget.

We arrived on Friday afternoon just in time for the evening service. What a thrill to join with twenty gypsy people for a time of worship and ministry. We were amazed by the faith of some of these dear people.



After Saturday lunch with the team, we walked to the nearby forest and then through the streets of the town. Before long we were walking through the area where the gypsy people live. The poverty and social problems were immediately obvious.

In the middle of this needy community we came upon a brightly coloured house with magnificent murals painted on the walls. "This is our kindergarten," announced Mihaela. Each day 20-30 gypsy children come to this house to participate in a wonderful learning journey run by the Babadag team.

One of the outcomes of this program is that children are prepared to enter the mainstream education system. This kindergarten is an interface with the gypsy community

As we walked through the streets, excited children ran up to members of the team. Parents greeted us warmly. It is obvious that the members of the team are highly respected by the gypsies.

Sunday evening the church gathered once more. This time about 40 gypsies were present. We were so impressed by the quality of the work being done by the team and the obvious fruit it is bringing in the lives of the people. We rejoiced in the privilege of being part of it all.

Involvement in India.

Through the years the nature of our ministry in India has changed. In the past where much of our time was spent conducting conferences for pastors and leaders, today we are much more involved in training future leaders.

Stage one of this year's visit took us to the YWAM base at Lona-vala. We gave several days speaking into the lives of the base staff. We have been encouraged by emails received telling us of the impact of that time.

Stage II took us to the nearby city of Pune to share with Pastor Joshua and Esther Motiwala of the Abundant Life Centre. More than 60 people attend sessions of the Bible School held several evenings each week. Evening outreach meetings filled the other nights. The Sunday morning service in this dynamic church was a truly exciting event. What a joy to be part of this rapidly growing and truly indigenous Indian church. We will certainly return.



Gavin teaches at the Abundant Life Bible College

The next phase took us further inland to visit Gavin's aunty Margaret Williams at the Pandita Ramabai Mukti Mission. The Mukti Retreat Centre was the venue for

the Korku Consultation, a gathering of some of the ministries who work among the Korku Tribal people. Although our full hopes for the Consultation failed to materialize, those who came benefited greatly.

The final weekend was a special time. On Saturday Gavin had the privilege of officially opening the new home of Prabhakar and Sandhya Salway. Prabhakar leads the Deepgruha Foundation an our partners in the ministry to the Korku. What a joy to rejoice with them in this provision.

India is always a challenge. But God clearly has a purpose for our ministry in this land. We already have bookings to completely fill our available time in India in September 2007. Other requests continue to come.

Back to Uganda

In the past year or so Uganda has emerged as our major mission field. We now spend over three months each year in this Central African country. Our work is to equip many of the pastors who lead rapidly growing churches in the towns and villages of the country.

Our principle strategy in Uganda is the *School of Advanced Leadership Training (SALT)*. This is a three year program involving participants in two schools each year for the three years.

We are due to return to Uganda in mid January for the next phase in our SALT School strategy. In Kampala we will participate with our

American colleagues in phase 5 of a SALT school among pastors of the 'Born Again' churches. This group will graduate in May 2007.



Salt Mbarara in June 2006

From Kampala we return to Mokono for the second phase of the SALT school for Baptist pastors of the Central Region. Approximately 40

pastors are expected to return for this school. We are the leaders of this school and our American colleagues work with us.

Then we travel 250 kms south west to the city of Mbarara for the final school. Here we have a group of 55 pastors from the 'Born Again' Churches. It will also be opportunity to finalize details to commence another SALT school in May for the Redeemed of the Lord Churches.

We ask your special prayer for the provision needed for this time of ministry. At the time of writing we do not have the resources required for this ministry trip. We believe God has this matter in hand. Please pray with us for the release of these resources.

'Sponsor a Pastor' in Uganda

For people living in the abundance of the West, real poverty is difficult to comprehend. Hearing your children crying at night because you had nothing to give them for supper. Having your children sent home from school because you could not afford \$10 for a term's school fees. Walking many miles because you do not have even a few cents to pay a bus fare. This is the reality for many of the pastors who attend our SALT Schools.

For every pastor who attends a school for one week it costs us approximately \$25 Australian Dollars (\$20USD). This is just the cost of food, a mattress and basic materials. It does not include any of our costs.

People around the world have found this a very manageable way to contribute to the needs of the church in Africa. A student in RCCS Romania gave us a gift to cover one pastor. A church in Romania gave us sufficient to pay for four pastors for a year.

If you would like to contribute to the training of pastors for the church in Uganda in this very practical way, send your gift to LtN Ministries either through the mail or via Internet (details on the back of this Newsletter). Mark your gift, 'Sponsorship Fund'. Your gift will be used directly to help us conduct the SALT Schools this coming January and also in May and June.

Literature Ministry Expands

The expansion of our literature ministry has been one of the exciting developments of the past 12 months. Our books have moved from the plastic spiral bound A4 manual format to 'proper' books.

Three books are currently in publication. *Appointment with Jesus* and *Prophetic Ministry Today* have been available for about 2 years. *Toward Maturity* was released in mid 2006.

Each of the books is now available in a variety of languages. *Appointment* is in English, Romanian, Russian, Lugandan and Runyongkole

(Uganda). Translation is almost complete in Marathi (India). *Prophesy* is available in English, Roma-



nian, Marathi and Lugandan. *Maturity* has been translated into Romania and will be published soon.

The biggest challenge with this kind of publishing ministry is the cost of printing in various languages.

Thanks to the provision of God we now have the equipment to produce our books in whatever format and quantity is required. This means we do not have to outlay for large print runs or find the storage space for boxes of books waiting to be sold. We simply produce as required.

Each of these titles is available at a cost of \$15 (Australian). Proceeds from the sale of books assists us to publish in other languages.



LttN Ministries Inc

Contact Information

14 West Kahala Avenue
Budgewoi
NSW Australia 2262
ABN No. 96 600 405 536
Phone: (61) 02 4390 2545
Fax: (61) 02 4390 2545
Mobile: 0411 351 482

Email: gavin@ltnministries.org.au

Web: www.ltnministries.org.au

WebLog: <http://spaces.msn.com/members/gavindw>

Our Mission:

To Model, Teach and Mentor life and ministry founded on intimacy with God and a dynamic personal spiritual journey.

Giving to LttN.

Funds can be sent to assist the ministry of LttN Ministries through the post, EFT or Internet Banking using these details:

Account Name: LttN Ministries Inc

BSB No: 704 922

Account Number: 10002391

Bank Name: CUS

Reference: LttN Ministries Inc

For Prayer and Praise

- Praise God for safety and health during our recent ministry tour to India & Romania.
- Praise God for the growing spiritual maturity evident in the lives of our students in the Mission School in Romania.
- Praise God for the wonderful work being done by the graduates of the Mission School. Many work among the disadvantaged Gypsy people.
- Praise God for the appointment of a godly couple to lead the Mission School in Romania. Sorin & Deborah Nicolae commence in December. We are thrilled.
- Praise God for the faithful workers who continue to advance the work among the Korku People in Central India. We rejoice in a new relationship between two of the groups working among the Korku.
- Praise God for the ever opening doors for this ministry.
- We plan a short break over the Christmas/New Year period. Please pray for real refreshment as we prepare for 2007.
- Please pray that God will raise up a suitable couple to join us in this vital work. The task is now much too big for us to do alone. We already have requests for 2008
- Please pray with us for the resources required for our ministry journey to Uganda in early 2007.
- Pray for the Ugandan pastors who are preparing to attend the SALT Schools in Jan and Feb. Pray for growing faith to see God provide the small contribution they are requested to make.
- Pray for our American colleagues, Dr Bob & Linda Stewart, Ps Len & Linda Morgan.
- Pray for those we need to join us from Australia for various ministries during 2007.

Family News

Being away from our family is one of the greatest demands of our traveling ministry. Your prayers for their safety and health is important to us. Here are a few updates from 2006.



Kelvin and Vivienne have had a great year. Kelvin commenced a new role at work, one which has stretched him in new areas. Vivienne has enjoyed having her mum around. Barbara lived in UK for two years up until June 2006. Little

Jessica has grown more and more gorgeous by the day and is now quite a chatterbox. By now she is aware that the 'bump' in mummy's tummy means a surprise is due in March 2007.

Mike and Libby. Following their marriage in February, both settled into increasingly busy schedules at work. They have begun to become more clear on their future directions.



A changing role at Dayspring Christian Church will enable her to give more time to the pursuit of her dreams in the medical field. Mike continues in his business activities.

Andrew and Belinda have settled into the joys of married life. Both Andrew and Bel faced the challenge of new responsibilities at work. Andrew has particularly enjoyed his interim appointment as Supervisor of the Gym at the Sydney International Aquatic Centre while his boss is on maternity leave.

A lovely part of the growth of our family circle has been the relationships we enjoy with each of our children's parents-in-law. All are keen Christians and we love being together.

Over Christmas this year we will be scattered across the continent. Kel & Viv head to Melbourne to see Viv's family. The rest of us will spend time in Queensland catching up with various relatives and friends.

Thank you for your prayers for our family. We are thankful that all of them love and serve the Lord.

