



Stocks Report

Ralph and Tammy serving with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship among the Romany (Gypsies)
December 2009

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We Wish You a Peaceful Christmas

As we celebrate this joyful season of Christ's birth we want to thank you for your support this past year. Your prayers have made a difference. Many of you volunteered to serve along side us and our Roma partners, impacting lives. Your financial gifts have enabled us to live in Hungary and be the presence of Christ among the Romany. Your efforts are gifts to us. We pray you will have a peace-filled holiday and a new year of God's blessings. We'd like to thank you and give you a glimpse of our ministry - click on this link to view a short video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPkdW_8sOB0



Please consider a gift to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Global Missions Offering. This Offering for Global Missions goes to our and other field personnel salaries, benefits and ministry expenses. This Offering is the primary way we and the other CBF field personnel are funded, making your gifts an essential part of spreading the Gospel and meeting physical needs in the world. For more information please go to: www.thefellowship.info/OGM Donations may be sent to: CBF Global Missions Offering PO Box 101699, Atlanta, GA 30392

Not sure what to get those "hard-to-buy-for" people on your Christmas list? Want to give a gift that will impact a life? Instead of shopping for a traditional gift this Christmas season, consider purchasing from the CBF Gift Catalog. Your designated gifts will assist to meet the needs of the unreached people CBF's field personnel minister among. For more information please go to: www.thefellowship.info/giftcatalog

Ruth School Staff Appreciation

"Your teachers are special and all of you are loved by God" was the message we gave as we went from classroom to classroom handing out gifts for the staff at the Ruth School for Roma children in Bucharest, Romania. In each room the students burst into applause with cheers and the teacher grinned from ear to ear. Clista Adkins and Tammy provided a week of surprises for the hard-working, dedicated workers at Project Ruth. The week began with signs posted around the facility that said the teachers were great, fantastic, loved, and appreciated. Each morning gifts were given with inspirational messages of "God loves you" and "You are special." One day a table overflowing with food and drinks was set in the teachers'



lounge and the director allowed an extra long break for the teachers to enjoy themselves. As they walked through the door with exclams of surprise we often heard, "All of this for us?" The week came to a close with the students having designed pages of appreciation for booklets presented to each teacher. Clista and Tammy worked hard each day to encourage the entire staff from the driver to the principal to the bookkeeper to the cleaning lady. Our message was the same to all "You are important to God and what you do matters." It was a great week!

Gypsy Smith School, November Session

The hallways were filled with accordion music and a melody of voices as the Roma leaders gathered at the Ruth Center for the November session of the Gypsy Smith Leadership Training School. Dr Glen Adkins taught on worship while Ralph focused on the Gospel of Mark. The Roma men were



enthusiastic with many questions as they received insights on planning worship and the various services that can be held as a part of a church. They delved into their Bibles as they discussed what the writer, Mark, had to say. At the end of the week a ceremony was held for Sorin who had completed the 16 required courses to graduate. Sorin was presented with a certificate and prayers were said asking God to continue to guide him in the ministry. The leaders traveled back to their villages to put their new knowledge into action in their ministry settings.

One Man's Junk, Another Man's Treasure Christmas in a Bag...

One of the fun things we do at Christmas is put together bags to be given out to the children in our Roma church in Csobanka. The families associated with the church live in



desperate situations where putting food on the table is a constant struggle. There is little left over for Christmas presents. We recently put our heads together with our colleagues, Glen and Clista Adkins, to plan the children's surprise packages. With supplies generously left from volunteer teams (thank you FBCs of Greenville, SC; Huntsville, AL; & Augusta, GA; and Emerywood

Baptist in High Point, NC), Smiley Face necklaces made by Buddy & Betty Jo Carrier, toothbrushes donated by the children at Northside Baptist, Bernie, MO, and candy purchased by generous gifts to our Roma Family Project we put together 25 gift bags. We even felt like Santa as we met the church leader in the grocery store parking lot to transfer the bags to his car. The bits and pieces left by the teams may have felt like "junk", but on Christmas morning they will certainly be "treasures" to 25 beaming Roma boys and girls.



Prayer Requests and Thanksgivings:

Thank you for your faithful prayer.

- Give thanks for God's son and the celebration of His birth during this season. Pray the Romany will come to know this greatest of gifts.
- Pray for the Roma of Eastern Europe as the cold weather sets in. Ask God to provide warm clothes and fuel. Ask the Great Physician to comfort and protect as the flu sweeps across Europe.
- Pray for the Gandhi High School in Pecs. Pray for a spirit of peace to prevail for students, teachers, and administration.
- Praise for the many blessings we saw during the Gypsy Smith Leadership session and the Ruth Staff Appreciation week in November. Give thanks for the opportunities to be God's messengers in making the staff feel loved and appreciated.
- Ask God to guide us as we continue in ministry in Hungary. Ask Him to help us make good decisions and show us the opportunities He would have us follow up on.

Don't Forget to Check Out our Ministry Blog

We update our blog as often as possible. Please take a look to see prayer requests, pictures and more details of the stories mentioned in our newsletter. Check it out at <http://stocksreportromaministry.blogspot.com>

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Want to know more about CBF's work among the Gypsies? Take a look at our team blog for stories and updates from other countries: <http://cbfgypsyministries.blogspot.com>