

# Evangelistically Speaking

Volume 14, Issue 11

November 2005

## Special points of interest:

- Mark your calendars for Youth Outreach University to be held in Conway, Arkansas on January 13-16, 2006
- Pray for the lost souls in difficult places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Southeast Asia and China.
- Dates for the 2006 ES Lectureships are set for April 7-9 and, as is the custom, they will be held at the Mars Hill congregation in Vilonia, Arkansas.

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## From Ted's Pen

Have you ever had to eat a bunch of your own words? Not very tasty are they? I have had to dine heartily lately on some of my words uttered in pure ignorance even though they were well meaning and I felt sure that they were true. After I came home from a trip to Romania in July - one that I made by myself - I boldly declared, "I will never go again by myself!" Our next trip was already planned and I had My Lady and our good friend and brother, Paul Morphis, scheduled to go with me.

We soon found out that because of physical problems the doctors advised My Lady not to go. You may think that I am some lily-livered sissy and maybe I am, but I sure hated to go without her again. But I still had Paul going with me and that would be OK.



I have been so blessed during the month of October, I find it hard to know where to begin in sharing my thoughts with you!

Most of that activity during the month was centered on the trip to Romania. This trip to eastern Europe was filled with a number of activities—all of which brought joy. It was an honor to be with the brethren in Craiova for the tenth time since the

We were all set to leave on the morning of Thursday, October 6 and arrive in Bucharest, Romania on the afternoon of Friday, October 7. Lo and behold, on the morning of October 5 Brother Paul called and left a message on the answering machine informing me that his doctor had advised him not to go either! So less than 24 hours later I was on the plane by myself doing just what I had said that I would never do again and eating some smart-alecky words that I had spewed forth just a few weeks earlier.

I have known for a long time that one should be careful in making statements about what he or she will or will not do. It is far better and wiser to say, "If the Lord wills, I will..." a certain thing. I am going to try to remember that from now on.



I arrived in Bucharest as scheduled having enjoyed a pleasant flight. On my way to Craiova, which is about a three hour drive, I received a call from Barbara on my translator's cell phone. She informed me that the doctor had told her that she would require a PET scan because he believed that the severe pain she had been having in her abdomen could be cancer.

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## Marty's Thoughts

church there began in 1997. I joined Dad there on October 14 and we are thankful for the many brethren who came to study the word of God with us.

The church in Craiova has had success at becoming what we would call a reproducing church. There are now four churches in the Dolj district, three of which have been planted since 2001. We altered our daily routine just a bit to accommodate some evening classes in those smaller churches. I am thankful for the chance to be with the brethren in Valea Stanciului and Cioroiasi.

I went to Romania with the intent of establishing my plans for 2006. I felt much like Paul did when he penned Colossians 4:3—"praying

also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word." I came away with the assurance that the Lord is opening doors!

On October 20 we traveled to the city of Moreni in the district of Dambovitza. This city of about 20,000 is located about an hour north of Bucharest in the foothills of the Carpathian mountains. We were met there by Cristi and Mihaela Dumitru, two Christians who host the church in their home each Lord's day.

We were overwhelmed by their hospitality! Until the past year they had worshipped with the church in Ploiesti, a large city near Moreni.

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## From Ted's Pen (Continued)

We had thought that cancer had already been ruled out or I would have never left her to deal with this alone. I wanted to turn around immediately and come back home, but she urged me to stay and I reluctantly did so. The test was performed on Thursday, October 13 and she called me about 5:00 in the morning on October 18 with the news that she did not have cancer. The doctor had called her about 9:00 Monday night to tell her the news and we appreciate him so very much for doing that. I could have flown home without a plane that morning! We thank God for His care for Barbara and we thank so many of you all over the land who prayed for her well being and for me while I was so far away. We will never forget you. Barbara has an appointment with a surgeon on November 8 to discuss plans for surgery for what they believe are adhesions in her abdomen. Please continue your prayers for her.

I was privileged to work in Craiova, Secu, Coiroiasi, and Valea Stanciului while I was there. I had many studies at Craiova during the day and then went to the other congregations at night. Marty joined me in the work on October 15 and I was very happy to see him when he arrived and have him working with me the rest of the trip.

The church in Craiova has been through some difficult times through the years. For a long time after the church began meeting in November 1997, not one person left the church and the spirit among the Christians was exceptional. However, as time went on Satan began his relentless efforts to hinder the work and he was successful to some degree. Some of those who seemed to be the strongest Christians have left the church over matters of conflict and that has hurt tremendously. I tried unsuccessfully to visit with and encourage some of these people, but they were not interested. So I pressed on with studies with the

brothers and sisters who were interested.

The church has been meeting in a very undesirable location all of these years. A lot of effort has been made to secure a better location and it is very good to know that very shortly they will be meeting in a building which has been renovated during the past few months. This should help the work very much.

It was a pleasure to work with the congregation at Coiroiasi. This congregation began when a couple from Craiova, Marian and Mary Dobre, moved to this village some years ago and began inviting people to Bible study and worship in their home. It was very slow, but eventually a few began to come and since that time 46 have been baptized into Christ. Some have not been faithful. Those who continue to serve the Lord meet in a nice, small building which was secured and then they did most of the work themselves in renovating it. Marian and Mary continue to work hard to reach others with the gospel and some of the brothers and sisters from Craiova go there each Sunday afternoon for worship. Approximately 30 children attend Bible study each week.

I also enjoyed meeting with the small congregation at Secu. There are four Christians there and they meet in the house of a Christian family. Someone from Craiova goes to Secu each Sunday to have Bible study and worship with these folks. There were four visitors who are not Christians the night that I went to be with them.

The church at Valea Stanciului meets in a neat little building

## Youth Evangelism University 2006

January 13-16  
Conway, Arkansas

*University of Central Arkansas*

which was bought and they renovated. I was privileged to be with them on Thursday night for Bible study and on Sunday for worship. I was really impressed with their interest and their desire to teach others the gospel. Again, some of the brethren from Craiova go out on Sunday afternoon to lead in Bible study and worship with the church at Valea Stanciului.

On Thursday, October 20 Marty and I left to go to Moreni, a city with about 20,000 in a beautiful part of the country. There are two Christians who live there and one other at Ploiesti, about 20 minutes away. We spent Friday with Cristi and Mihaela Dumitru and their daughter, Dianna, looking over the city and visiting about future possibilities to help the church there to grow.

On Saturday we went to Bucharest where the annual Romanian Bible Lectureship was being conducted and we got to see a lot of people that we have known for years and to enjoy some good lessons from God's word. One of the speakers was Brother Ion Fratostiteanu who is one of the Christians from Craiova. He has taught and baptized many people in all of the congregations mentioned earlier. The brethren provided a translator for Marty and I and we enjoyed hearing Ion and Brother Emmanuel Sandu whom we have also known since the beginning of our work in Romania. We got to visit briefly with Brother and Sister Dale McAnulty who have worked with the church in Bucharest for many years.

On Sunday Marty and I both spoke to about ten people who gather each week for Bible study and worship at the Dumitru's home in Moreni. It was such a pleasant time for us. I admire Cristi and Mihaela so very much for their dedication in serving the Lord and trying to share the gospel with others.

We left on Sunday afternoon for the hotel in Bucuresti and our trip home on Monday. On the trip to Bucuresti we had an accident when a car behind us hit us while we were stopped in some heavy traffic. We hit the car in front of us and four cars were eventually involved in it. Thankfully, no one was hurt and with the exception of some soreness for a few days we made it fine. We arrived safely on Monday night, two weary but happy guys, reunited with their wives.

Our schedule for November calls for us to be at Greenbrier, Arkansas Nov. 4-6 for a homecoming weekend and a series of lessons. We will enjoy that. We will leave on November 10 for Casa Grande, Arizona where the brethren have asked us to help with a special series of lessons on Missions and Evangelism. We will return home on Monday, November 14. Our plans are to be with the congregation at Cave City, Arkansas on Sunday morning, Nov. 20 and the Southside congregation at Batesville, Arkansas that evening. Our November schedule may have to be altered some due to Barbara's surgery which will be scheduled after the consultation on November 8.

### SUPPORT

We are nearing the end of 2005 and usually there are some brethren who make 'end of the year contributions' to our work. These contributions are vital in

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### CHURCH OF CHRIST WEBSITES:

<http://www.church-of-christ.org>

<http://cconline.faithsite.com/>

## From Ted's Pen *(Continued)*

helping us do the work that we do through the year. This year the increase in travel expense and Barbara's medical expenses have hit us pretty hard. If it is possible for you to help us with this kind of contribution we would deeply appreciate it. Without the love and support of so many we could not do this work. May God bless you as you consider our needs.

### LECTURESHIP

The 7th Annual Evangelistically Speaking Lectureship is scheduled for April 7-9, 2006 at the Mars Hill church building just off of

Highway 64 between Beebe and Vilonia, Arkansas. A great program of lessons with great teachers is planned. We urge you to mark your calendar and plan to be a part of this lectureship. Brethren, we love you and are grateful that God has blessed us with many dear friends and congregations who assist us in our efforts to reach as many as possible with the message of saving grace. Please continue to pray for us and help us in this work. We love you.

- Ted

## Marty's Thoughts *(Continued)*

The church in Ploesti stopped meeting in 2004 and the Dumitru family has been having services in their home each Sunday.

After much discussion, we are mutually excited about the possibility of working together in 2006. More information about that will be forthcoming once specifics are finalized. I can tell you that I am planning to take two teaching teams to Romania in 2006 and those teams need to be filled soon!

While in Romania we also had the chance to attend the National Conference for Christians in Bucharest. This annual event gives the brethren there the opportunity to meet, edify one another, and enjoy fellowship. There are now several hundred Christians meeting in more than a dozen churches in Romania and it is a fairly small community. This event gives those brethren the chance to gather for special time together.

It also gave us the chance to renew some acquaintances. It was especially gratifying to see Liviu Niculae and Emi Sandu, two brethren from Bucharest. Liviu and I roomed together in 1997 during the first teaching campaign in Craiova and I had not seen him

since. We heard Brother Sandu speak as well our good friend and brother, Jon Fratostiteanu of Craiova. What a special day!

On October 29 I had the chance to spend the day with a group of special men who are helping me plan the work for 2006. And it promises to be an exciting year!

We closed out the month with our sponsoring congregation—the Levy church in North Little Rock—for their annual Harvest Sunday. This event has come to represent a special occasion for Levy and those, like us, who work with them in missions.

Brother Evertt Huffard of Memphis, Tennessee delivered some timely lessons for which I am particularly thankful. The Levy family also uses this Sunday as an occasion to fund much of their mission budget with a special contribution. I know of few churches who celebrate mission efforts in such a way and I would encourage more to do so.

I look forward to sharing details regarding our 2006 plans in coming issues. Until then, please keep us in your prayers and God bless you for your support!

- Marty

### TED'S SCHEDULE

#### November 4-6

Homecoming Lectureship  
Greenbrier, Arkansas

#### November 10-14

Casa Grande, Arizona

#### November 20

Cave City, Arkansas (AM)  
Southside—  
Batesville, Arkansas (PM)

### MARTY'S SCHEDULE

#### January 6-7

Romanian Missions  
Conference  
Jonesboro, Arkansas

#### January 13-15

Youth Outreach University  
Conway, Arkansas

#### January 28

Campaign Orientation  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

#### February 25

Campaign Orientation  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Upcoming Schedule  
and Key Dates

### MISSION EVANGELISM GIFTS OF HONOR / MEMORIAL

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I would like to begin **monthly** contributions in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ beginning in the month of \_\_\_\_\_.

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***GIFTS OF MEMORIAL AND HONOR***

In Honor of

**SISTER BUELAH ARCHIBALD**  
*On Her 90th Birthday*

By

David and Carole Mayes

We're on the web at  
<http://www.evangelisticallyspeaking.net>