



Pelunca

ON THE FIELD

Edition 37 | October 2024

Hi everyone!

Unbelievable that it is already autumn, no more blissful forty-degree summers. But also a period I fully enjoy. Nice and fresh in the morning and evening, but still T-shirt weather during the day. Enjoying it!

Meanwhile, my hips are doing very well. I'm pain free, although I still have to watch what and how I do things, luckily I have my strict better half, who shoots out of her stall at the slightest sign when she sees me doing something I shouldn't be doing. So all in all, I certainly can't complain. We are very grateful with the result, with what I can do.

What a wonderful group: Love In Action

All, back to the summer. The summer months started with the unfortunate news that Global Encounters (team from America) could not come this time. We could not mourn this for long, because soon we had to prepare everything here for the arrival of Love In Action. How curious we were about that week.

But first, some people from our church in Romania came to help Jessica mow the grass and move wood so that more space could be created for the group. So grateful for all their help!

So a youth group from Wervik, of no less than 30 people, though with their leadership included. But what a great time we had! They were all young people who already carry quite a backpack, but all of them are worth their weight in gold. Also, the leaders are just wonderful people from whom we can all learn a lot. We visited several Roma villages where activities were held or food packages were distributed. Samuel organized a super fun hike that ended in wild camping. We went swimming in a beautiful river not far from here. Many fun but also profound conversations. In short, a tremendously blessed time!!!



Support project PeLunca

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BIC: NICABEBB

PayPal: www.paypal.me/PeluncaRomania

Support familie Priem

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Always mention: "familie Priem"

Tijs, Jessica and Kids

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Family time!

After Love In Action, we had Jonas and Bianca visiting with their offspring and we decided to travel to the Black Sea together for about ten days. Enjoying some vacation together and each other's company, because a lot of family time we often have to miss because we live far away from each other. We almost returned home with one less, though.

Our dear Jonas ignored my warning and discovered five minutes later that he better had listened. The waves were so big that it was almost impossible to get out of the water even though you were only 20 meters out to sea. Completely out of breath, he managed to fight back as hard as he could after a very exciting quarter of an hour. So anyone who knows Jonas, if you see him put your two hands at your side, tilt your head slightly, and say 'well well, Jonas!'

Haha, what a guy huh. Luckily he made it and we could continue to enjoy ourselves to the fullest.



Time for our camp in Varmaga

After the Black Sea, it was immediately time for our annual camp in Varmaga. Together with our youth and more children as young as nine, we had a mega blessed week there as well. Our dear friends from Carpathian Aid from Scotland were also there again and, like last year, paid for the entire camp again. What a blessing huh.

As always, it was a whole week, full of games, sports, recreation, craft activities, Bible studies and worship. It was wonderful to see how during the first evening so many walls came down during the time of prayer and worship. After a few days with intense evenings, we said we were only going to sing two songs, everyone was so tired. So after those two songs, everyone could relax a bit before going to bed. It started with two songs but it didn't stop there. We kept singing and also a lot of individual prayer was asked again. Only a few had left the group, but then even returned.

What a movement of God's Spirit. So many were touched so deeply, several gave their hearts to the Lord!



Gary helps to follow up

The following Sunday we even had seven young people attend church with us. Talk about a successful camp! Garry (from Scotland) has already started a weekly follow-up together with Simona via Zoom. Between now and next year, he will also try to come over two or three times to be with them. Meanwhile, we continue to do our best to get the youth to join us monthly to continue working with them as before.

Please pray with us for these youth, that the walls may stay down and that the youth activities may be and remain more and more filled with God's Spirit!



Quickly to Belgium and back home

After the camp we had a few days to get some things settled with some agencies regarding the center, and then it was off to Belgium. There was no time to waste, because we really wanted to be present at the beautiful wedding of our wonderfully weird Nimsy and her down-to-earth Marco. What a privilege that we were so warmly received there, that even our daughters were allowed to be flower girls and Lowie the ring bearer. It was quite an honor. You are a wonderful couple!

Furthermore, we were privileged to give several presentations during our stay in Belgium and many, many visits in too short a time. We also got to experience the first edition of the Flemish Fair. How beautifully organized that was by our dear home folks and the helping hands they received. I was enormously impressed. I didn't really know what to expect, but this was really amazing! On to the next edition.

For those who couldn't be there, if next year is at least as good then it's definitely worth fluorning the date in your calendar once it will be announced. Hopefully we too will be able to attend again!



Eyes back on the center once home

Back home from Belgium, the focus was immediately back on the center. Although we tried not to get too excited as the kids only had a week of vacation. But still, a lot had to get done, because unfortunately our project manager had made some mistakes which meant that the last files were not ready. And still aren't finished. Our project manager is a very good man, but one of the old school. And especially in recent years, Romania has really become Europe and laws and rules are constantly being changed and adapted. It is sometimes too crazy

for words. Anyways, it unfortunately did cause everything to become a bit behind again. But we are working on it and hope to open the doors for all our dear Roma children and their parents as soon as possible.

By the way, the center looks beautiful, inside and out! Last week Jessica and I went to IKEA together. It is a two hour drive, but what is that here for us. And Jessica just loves going to IKEA. Also for me such a trip always brings out my feminine side, after half an hour I then start complaining about everything and even

become unreasonable in the long run. Hahaha, just kidding ☹️. If we go purposefully I will gladly go along ☹️.

Blessed though to be able to prepare the center that way too with some new furniture, signs and frames. A beautiful testimony of God's love for those who are always deemed not worthy in society.



Our industrious Mircea

So, almost there. Soon I need check on my good friend Mircea. He's out here working, pipes were put in the ground to channel the water to the street so it doesn't get into our barn anymore. Because as we get more and more rain it also brings new water problems. Plus also the preparations towards winter have to be done. And because of all the work, and of course because I am still quite limited by my hips, Mircea comes to help us a bit. Always happy when he is here! One day we hope to be able to offer Mircea more job security. We take it with us in our prayers. Mircea is a man with one of the most beautiful and warm hearts you can find here in Romania! We are grateful to God that he also came our way during the first years here. He has helped us with so much all these years.



Do you like our project and would you like to help us, to give others a better life? This can be done by:

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Single donation or monthly amount.

Support project PeLunca:

IBAN: BE29 1030 4919 8064

BIC: NICABEBB

PayPal: www.paypal.me/PeluncaRomania

Support family Priem:

Family Priem

IBAN: BE24 8601 1087 6638

BIC: SPAABE22

PRAYER

- That all the files finally get through and we get the necessary approvals to reopen.
- That the final works will be brought to a good end.
- Hannes and Lynn are coming again with a team to renovate a roof, pray God's richest blessing on them.
- Pray for our children, for school, but also for them personally. They don't always have it easy.
- Pray for the many Roma children going to school for the first time or still. Pray that discrimination may be minimized and that they will be able to follow.
- Pray for our youth, for Garry and Simona.
- Pray for the necessary finances to be able to employ both Simona and Ovidiu.
- Pray that we may always remain in His will and never lack faith.
- Pray that people may see Him in us and that He will always receive all honor and glory in all we do!

SPONSORS



PROJECTS

- Create social surveys and help with basic needs
- Pe Lunca Family Files (PFF): build houses, rebuild, purchase stoves.
- Pe Lunca Food Parcels (PFP): Compose - distribute foodpackages
- Pe Lunca Child Program (PCP): Financially adopt a child
- Pe Lunca Build Program (PBP): Building a community centre
- Provide baby's with powdered milk
- Sort clothing and give packages to the families
- Child and youth activities (sports, games, relaxation, bible reading)
- Medical Support (Doctor, Purchase of medicines, ...)
- Social support (helping teenage mothers, provide ID cards and other papers)

THANKS

- So grateful for all that could be realized.
- Grateful that the center is almost finished, that the doors can almost open again.
- For the many blessed camps and groups/visits this summer.
- For a great time in Belgium.
- For our home team and what they have already accomplished.
- Grateful for Amen-Trust and their zeal for Pe lunca.
- For Carpathian Aid, for their dedication and help.
- So grateful for the many touches this summer.
- For the various fund raisers and generous donations.
- So incredibly grateful that God always shows He is there, for all He does, for His love, His faithfulness, His protection, His Father's heart!!!



Farewell from Pe lunca

I know, we have had a lot to tell you already, but one last important point. After praying for quite a while, we sat down the day before yesterday with Samuel and Annelies about our visions and desires.

In the past year it became very clear that Samuel's heart still opens the most during construction projects and of course that is not a main task within Pe lunca. Because of this, Samuel missed some challenge as he is like a fish in water in construction. So the question was: what to do about this? Samuel came up with the idea of being of service to other organizations with his many construction experiences. In this way he hopes to be a blessing to other organizations that need help with construction work or renovations to existing properties.

Then the next question was, can this remain under Pe lunca or better establish its own NGO? This could be done under Pe lunca, but in itself, building with other organizations then has nothing more to do with Pe lunca itself. Accounting-wise it makes everything more complicated, so that's why we decided that it would be better to start his own NGO. Samuel and Annelies are leaving Pe lunca, but of course we remain good friends. We remain at each other's disposal if necessary.

So, a new turn regarding the Pe lunca team, but we are all at peace with it. All for the Lord!!! I think I'll better stop writing now and save the rest for the next letter. God's blessing all!!! TO HIM BE ALL HONOR AND GLORY!!!