



Euheum euheum, attention, Attention! Here comes newsletter nine!

Where to begin... Ah, maybe with the three weeks we stayed in Belgium? Or not? Yeah, I guess I will start with that.

So, on the 22nd of March (that's right, the day of the bombings) we landed in Belgium to make visit after visit, but thank God also to speak about our project in several places. Our schedule was already pretty full when we arrived, but from day one Marie-Lou got sick. Five days of high fever, tired, feeling weak, ... So a lot of appointments were moved and we had to reschedule everything. After M-L was better again it went well for two days and then Lowie got it. So our time in Belgium was not only very



busy, it was also very chaotic. Nevertheless we tried to make the best of it and to enjoy our friends and family as much as we could.



Annual benefit, again a big success.

Thank you!

So on April 9 we had a very successful benefit again, with some fun children's entertainment, very good ham to eat, ... The money we raised was meant to be spend on the next transport and with the rest we could start renovate our barn (if there would be enough extra money). After we spoke and showed a small PowerPoint about our work here a nice guy stepped up to us and told us not to worry about the next transport because he wanted to pay for that! So everything we raised can now be spent on the renovation of our barn. Ain't that something! And now somewhere in September we can expect a truck full of relief goods. But that means that everything in our barn has to be sorted out and delivered and the renovations must be done by then. So this is going to be a big task!

I (Tijs) could celebrate my 25th (+6) birthday on the 12th of April and thanks to some dear friends I got some present surprises. Also our little Marie-Lou, or not so little anymore, became 3 on the 22th. Hip hip hooray!!

Our minivan, handy machine

On the 14th we drove back home with our brand new second hand minivan. Before we went to Belgium we sold our Peugeot (for money, sausages and home made wine) here in Romania, and with that money (without the sausages and wine) my cousin bought an eleven years old Ford Transit in Belgium. So we drove and enjoyed the two thousand kilometers back home, it was the first rest we experienced since long.

The minivan already proved how handy it is. With only the backseat out we can get 48 banana boxes in. We also brought some boxes with toys to several village schools and a whole bunch of medical material to the village doctor in Romos.



We had some very tense days with little Roberto, the newborn baby of Andrea (17) . She didn't have enough breast milk and no money to buy powder milk, so for several days, the poor baby had to live only on tea. The water they used to make the tea came out of a polluted well so the poor thing got very sick and underfed. They brought him to a nearby hospital and he immediately was transported with a helicopter to a bigger hospital in a big city. The mother couldn't go with

her baby and wasn't able to get to that hospital because it was a 3 hour drive. There was nothing she could do but wait and the only thing she knew was that the chances of survival where very low. The blood of little Roberto was brown so he had to get a blood transfusion. We asked people through mail and Facebook to help us pray. First Andrea got a message from the hospital that the situation was even

more worse but then the next day the doctor called back and said that Roberto was doing better after all. Meanwhile Roberto is home again safe and





sound and we have a sponsor who wants to pay for the milk powder and bottled water. The young parents asked us if we would like to bless their child and bring it before Gods throne. So we went, shared some bible verses, Jessica sang some songs and then we prayed for Roberto and his parents. It was a very special experience doing this for the first time.

Keeping our head up

We personally got some slaps in our faces since we came back from Belgium. Because of the serious thunderstorm that came by, our place for the children's programs was flooded again. So we had material damage and now we also have extra costs because we need to make a drainage to hopefully solve this problem. Also some household appliances broke down, we had some problems with our van, our other car is still not fixed, and our dog had a very serious viral infection which gave him a small chance on survival. Fortunately he's a strong pup and after 14 days he overcame the virus.

Oh well, certain things can come on our way trying to discourage us but we're keeping our head up. The victory is already earned so courageously we go on (though it is often with trembling knees). We are part of the biggest and strongest army possible, with the biggest and strongest War Hero of all times, and that's where we have to keep our focus on! Although it doesn't always seem like that, we know when we cannot go any further, He will carry us. So... Go go power rangers!!



Extra hands

My dad and his wife Micheline visited us and Dirk and Nicole also had some visitors from Belgium to help them with their renovation. Jessica, Micheline and Jenny (visitor from D&N) started making clothing parcels and while they were working I got a phone call that another baby was born in the gypsy village. The three ladies immediately started with a parcel for the newborn and its mama. So that same day we could go and make the young mamie happy with a box of clothes, some sheets, a travel basket so they can put the baby somewhere to sleep, ... Besides of what they received from us, they got nothing. In the next few weeks we will also start, together with Nicole, making the social surveys from the gypsy families that Dirk & Nicole normally do. Just to get to know the families even better and to have a better perspective about how to help them together with Dirk & Nicole.

Recently some other missionaries who are also active in the area gave us approx. 150 boxes full of clothes. That turned a half full

barn again into a full barn. But full or not, while Jessica keeps on sorting and making parcels, I'm already busy with upgrading our barn together with some gypsies. Also Marie-Lou helps us very zealously. So we already poured concrete and we can now start with making an extra level. It's a bit difficult to work like that because everything needs to be moved around constantly. Even Jessica has to move around constantly with the boxes to keep on working in the most uncomfortable ways. But hey, difficult works too. And in July and August we have many visitors so more work can be done. We're definitely looking forward to that.

"We hope to get some more sponsors for us as a family. An income we don't have, so we're completely depending, for food, clothes, ... on what people give us. If we could have a certain minimum of monthly sponsoring, we would know we can go on working here. Would you like to help us help others? 5€ - 10€ - ... Every amount, however small, makes a big difference to us. We thank you from our heart!"

Gods richest blessings to all of you! And thank you very much for following us!

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

Material assistance

(on a hold) You can always email us or our home team.

Financiële steun

- Can be a single donation or a monthly amount on the following account:
vzw Talmid Ministries
IBAN: BE82 0682 4052 5368
BIC: GKCCBEBB
Always mention 'Familie Priem'
- Or for us in person,
it can be donated on our private account:
Familie Priem
IBAN: BE24 8601 1087 6638
BIC: SPAABE22

Prayer

- That the renovation works may go smoothly.
That we will have enough finances to finish the whole barn.
- financial support for ourselves and our different projects. We also noticed that our house is not in such a good condition as we first thought it was. Our walls are becoming more and more moist, so we have mold, wood rot, sometimes water comes through our wall in the bathroom, ... Now we don't have finances to fix it so please pray that we will get some.
- For all our visitors this summer, that we will be a blessing for each other, that they may see God's work in what we do.
- For His guidance every day, that the people around us may taste of His love and would be willing to choose for Him
- People here are extremely superstitious, that obstructs them in many ways, help us pray to break through this.

Projecten

- Maintaining relationships, trying to help in what people need the most (basic needs as making wells, buying a second hand bike to go to work, food, ...)
- Learning more about the Romanian habits, but try to give them a different view where it is needed. Clothing parcels, handing out food parcels
- Children programs (playing games, sports and crafts activities), helping with homework, ...
- But most important: doing everything with the love of God so people can get to know Him

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Thanks to

- Our great Lord for He never leaves us
- Our home church: Effatha church Staden
- To all our sponsors, without you we could not stay here and go on. Thanks for helping us.
- Everybody from our homefront team
- Family and friends
- The Family Soetaert for their warm hearts and to take care of us so well, when we are in Belgium.

"Thank you very much for showing your interest by reading our newsletter, for supporting us and for all the prayers"

Groetjes Tijs, Jessica, Marie-Lou en Lowie Priem.