

*Blessings Poured Out* by Dan Owens



AT THE CIVIC LUNCHEON DAN OWENS SHARED CHRIST WITH MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE MAYOR OF ARAD GHEORGHE FALCA, A PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL.

Solomon told us that “A generous man will himself be blessed for he shares his food with the poor”. How right Solomon was! Day after day, our team went into the villages outside of Arad to give to the poor; and they were blessed by doing so. The first day we were there, Alan Stewart, a long time EMM board member, told us how he led a crippled man to the Lord at one of our eye-glass clinics. Later that afternoon when Alan and the rest of team went out to the homes to distribute ‘Happy Boxes’ to the poor, Alan ended up at this very man’s home. He went inside and gave them the gift and the family began to cry. You see, they live on only \$50.00 a month that is given to them by the government. When you have a wife and 4

children, that does not go far!

In a period of 4 days you helped us give out over 1,200 pair of eye-glasses and almost 200 ‘Happy Boxes’ to people who were truly in need. Our team filled the boxes the day we arrived in Arad and began distributing them the very next day. The boxes contained the following: sugar, flour, oil, rice, pasta, canned meat, cookies, dish soap, detergent, a hand knit beanie cap, and of course, a lot of love.

The impact of the humanitarian work was immediate. As we spent time sharing and praying with the people in their homes, it was easy to invite them out to a meal that evening that was hosted by EMM and the local churches. Many of those people came and professed Christ when I

preached or when Pastor Dale spoke. The day before we left, Pastor John from one of the village churches told me that because of the work our team did in his village that week, he had 45 new people at his church on Sunday. Praise the Lord! One pastor told Dale that a lady they had prayed 3 years for had come to Christ. Praise the Lord, He blessed the generosity of our EMM donors that helped provide all these good things.

Yes, we shared food, but we also shared spiritual food. In the city of Arad, EMM hosted over 15 meal events which were well attended. In the setting of a nice restaurant in a hotel, people of all walks of life came with their friends. From the disabled to elite politicians, all heard the same message of love, repentance, forgiveness, and faith. One blind man at the disabled luncheon said to me, “I cannot see with my eyes, but I can now see with my soul and that is more important.” Let me tell you, that fired me up for the rest of the week! Teachers, doctors, husbands and wives, teenagers, and retired people all came bringing their non-Christian



DAN OWENS PREACHED THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST AT MANY MEAL EVENTS TARGETING DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE. OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE DAYS OVER 500 PEOPLE COMMITTED THEIR LIVES TO CHRIST.



EMM BLESSED THE “LEAST OF THESE” BY PROVIDING A LUNCH FOR THE DISABLED. “ONE COULD SENSE CHRIST IN THE ROOM,” DAN SAID, AS ABOUT TWO DOZEN OF THESE SOULS OPENED THEIR HEARTS TO CHRIST’S LOVE.

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ALAN STEWART AND JANET NOWEIR BUILD THE BOXES WITH JOY.



GARY LOSEY HELPS TO ORGANIZE ALL THE PACKAGES OF FOOD ITEMS FOR THE HAPPY BOXES.



PASTOR JIM POLENSKY AND PASTOR DALE GUSTAFSON JOIN THE TEAM IN BUILDING HAPPY BOXES.



OUR TEAM BUILT ALMOST 200 HAPPY BOXES WHICH WERE ALL DISTRIBUTED IN VILLAGES OUTSIDE OF ARAD.



THIS MAN (SPORTING HIS NEW BEANIE) AND HIS WIFE RECEIVED A SURPRISE VISIT AND A HAPPY BOX. THEY BOTH MADE A DECISION FOR JESUS AND ARE NOW BELIEVERS.

## Blessings Poured Out (continued)

friends with them to hear the Gospel.

One church truly blessed me as they shared that 220 people from their church had brought over 600 people to the events to hear the Gospel and many had come to Christ. It's a reminder that evangelism is really about relationships: people bringing people. Someone even brought the Mayor of Arad and a member of parliament to a special lunch and it is our prayer that the message took root in them.

As a result of our partnership with you, the churches in

Arad, and the surrounding villages, we were able to see hundreds come to Christ who are now being brought into the fellowship of the church. You were generous in giving to Mission Arad, and I trust that God will be generous to you and bless you. Speaking of blessings, the beanie caps were handmade by a dear woman I've known for many years by the name of Marcia up in the Bay Area. She had made over 400 of them and wondered what she would do with them. She just wanted to be used of the Lord and bless people with her caps. Then she heard about us going to

Romania. To make a long story short, I was able to go to her home and pick up 200 of them, take them to Romania, and put one in each 'Happy Box'. Now, how blessed do you think she is, knowing that her small gift touched the lives of 200 people? Yes, Solomon still has it right: "A generous person will be blessed." So keep blessing others and thank you for blessing me!

Dan Owens

## Jesus Loves Gypsies

When we arrived with Happy Boxes for this family of gypsies they were shouting with joy, clapping, and dancing around. Even the dogs were happy.

These families all live together in a very small area and survive on about \$50 a month. The young girl in the blue sweater is 14 years old and she just got married. Her sister in the red scarf is 21 years old and pregnant with her 7th child. The woman in the green sweater is their mother. She told us that she worries every day when her husband goes out to find work that he will not make it home, or that he will die of a heart attack.

We told them that we were bringing two boxes of goodies to them as a gift because we love Jesus, and asked if they knew who Jesus was. The woman in the green sweater



said that her husband told her that Jesus tells us to turn the other cheek. Gypsies are looked down upon by many in Romania. Praise God that she had some knowledge of Jesus and valued His teaching. When we asked them if they were to die today if they knew where they would go, their faces turned very sad and the woman in green pointed down

to the ground. We shared the Gospel message and told them just how much Jesus loves them. Praise the Lord, this family decided to accept our boxes, and the most precious gift of all, the gift of salvation.

Jill Griffin

## Team Testimonies



delivered food boxes. One of the last homes we delivered a food box to on the last day was to a very poor family where the wife/mother was paralyzed. I had the opportunity to

“It was so exciting to be able to personally share the Gospel with dozens of people on an individual basis during the eye glass clinics and then in the homes of people as we

share the Gospel with the family and they all prayed to receive Christ into their lives.

I believe God prepared the hearts of many as people

“During the mission trip I was given a very personal blessing from the Lord. Although I have been active for years in the prayer ministry as an intercessor, I have always had a private fear that I wouldn't know what words to use to share Christ with someone if the situation came up. Over time it had become an emotional stronghold to the point that I had avoided opportunities to share the Gospel. During the trip to Romania I prayed for the Lord to break this fear and give me the ability to share the love and salvation of Christ with others. On our third day of ministry during one of our eyeglass clinics, I met an 86 year old woman named Gaffia who admitted to

me that although she knew about Jesus, she didn't know if she was going to heaven when she died. She also mentioned that her mother had died at age 86, so she didn't know how much longer she had on this earth. I was suddenly filled with a deep desire for Gaffia to come to know the Lord's love. The words began to come - simple thoughts that made His sacrifice and loving gift easy to understand. What a joy I felt that day as Gaffia chose to welcome the Lord into her life! God was so good to me -before the end of the



day, I had the opportunity to lead 7 more people to the Lord. Not only did God pour out His grace on these new believers, He broke through my own fear as an evangelist and gave me the confidence I needed to share His love.”

*Janet Noweir*

“It was such a privilege to see the Holy Spirit work in so many lives this past week. As we shared the Gospel with men and women who have so little, you could see the Lord

work in their hearts and the emotion just poured out. I think it was obvious that He had prepared hearts in advance of our visit, and many of the people we met were ready to

make a commitment to Christ. What a blessing and privilege to be part of that miracle.”

*Steve Hannah*

seemed to be so receptive to the Gospel. Men and women would begin to cry when we started talking about Jesus. They were willing to listen and in a number of cases prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior.”

*Gary Losey*  
Festival Director



LOCAL CIVIC LEADERS SELECTED THE HOMES IN MOST NEED FOR THE “HAPPY BOXES”. STEVE AND MARCY HANNAH BRING THIS MUCH NEEDED GIFT TO A GRATEFUL WOMAN.



OVER 1200 PAIRS OF EYEGLASSES WERE GIVEN OUT BY VICKIE CONTE AND THE OTHER TEAM MEMBERS.



NOT EVERYONE RECEIVES CHRIST, BUT ALL ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY BY TEAM MEMBERS LIKE DAVE WACKER, A LONG TIME BOARD MEMBER.



JILL GRIFFIN HELPS THIS YOUNG BOY WITH NEW GLASSES AND TELLS HIM ABOUT JESUS. HE PRAYED TO RECEIVE JESUS INTO HIS HEART.

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*Dan Owens'*  
*devotions will be*  
*returning soon!*

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**Mission Arad Team**

DWAYNE TUZON  
VICKIE CONTE  
JANET NOWEIR  
JILL GRIFFIN  
ALAN STEWART  
BEN OWENS  
MARCY HANNAH  
STEVE HANNAH  
MIKE MADDING  
JIM POLENSKY  
DALE GUSTAFSON  
DAN OWENS  
GARY LOSEY  
DAVE WACKER



COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ARAD WERE VERY RECEPTIVE TO THE MESSAGE PASTOR DALE GUSTAFSON BROUGHT TO THEM.



ONE PASTOR CALLED DAN'S MESSAGE, "PART MARRIAGE COUNSELING AND PART EVANGELISM" AS DAN SHARED WITH A PACKED HOUSE OF COUPLES. THERE WERE SEVERAL HUSBANDS AND WIVES THAT CAME TO CHRIST WHILE HOLDING HANDS AND PRAYING.

***Planting Seeds for the Future***

Often people hear the Gospel and are not ready to respond. This moving story from one of Dan's interpreters is a reminder that God takes the seed we plant and continues to fertilize it.

*"Marcel (one of the pastors from a local church plant) and his wife, Neliana, who works for the hospital in their village, had invited two guests, a lady doctor and a nurse, to the Medical dinner on Friday night. The dinner went really well, both guests left with good impressions. On*

*the way home they were still discussing the message. The aspect of the shortness of life, the real meaning of it, and how unexpectedly death can appear.*

*They had a half an hour drive back home, and on the way they were passing by the home of the doctor's best friend, a lady in her mid-40s, and they noticed an ambulance and another hospital car in front of the house. They stopped, and the lady doctor rushed in to see what was going on. Her best friend had just died of a heart attack.*

*When the lady doctor returned to the car to go home she said to Marcel, Neliana and her nurse: 'I can't believe that she left unprepared (it was obvious that she was very, very shocked). Had it happened to me, I would have been unprepared too.' The lady doctor was very touched, and as Marcel says, this will help build a bridge to continue to talk to her about decisions you have to make in this life, before it's too late."*

*Diana Rotcu*

***The Seed Keeps Bearing Fruit...***

This past month I have heard from some of our ministry friends in Tarapoto, Peru, Mbale, Uganda and Andra Pradesh, India. From each place where we have ministered, I hear encouraging stories of the legacy that EMM has left behind. Each one tells of church growth and of on-going evangelism as a result of our partnership with them.

One of the emails I received was from a pastor in Tarapoto,

Peru where we ministered with a team earlier this year. Pastor Rodriguez, a missionary from Cuba to Peru, shared how the Festival de la Amistad (Friendship Festival) totally changed his ministry. Just prior to the festival he had only 23 people in his church. He encouraged his church to get involved in the festival and, as a result, more people came to Christ. As of this past week Pastor Rodriguez said that his

church has quadrupled in size and he now has over 100 people attending services!

Making disciples is what we are about. Your gifts to EMM have long-term effects in the Christian community around the world. The Bibles you help us provide are a significant part of the follow-up process for new believers. Thank you for all you do for evangelism and for EMM! Your continual support allows us to spread God's love to people in need.



HUNDREDS OF BIBLES WERE GIVEN TO NEW BELIEVERS IN TARAPOTO, PERU THIS PAST JULY. OUR FESTIVAL THERE IN MAY HAS CONTINUED TO BEAR FRUIT.