



# The Gross Family to Moldova



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As a child, I thought holidays meant rest, relaxation, slower pace, or even vacation. The recent holidays here in Moldova have been anything but that, mostly due to good things, though.

Our holiday season started with Thanksgiving. Since Thanksgiving is technically an American holiday, the curiosity among the people here allowed us to have a special meeting for teenagers in our town to

come and hear the Gospel. Stephanie prepared a Thanksgiving meal, our children dressed up like Indians, and I gave the Gospel. We had a great turnout with some unsaved teens present.

December arrived with planning meetings in the church to prepare for the Winter VBS at the end of the month. Stephanie once again cooked up a storm and provided meals two times for all those who came to the meetings. This may not seem like a big deal until you realize that people here struggle to have food in the winter time. With the cost of heating, higher food prices, and loss of certain seasonal jobs (like construction), Moldovans struggle through each winter. Stephanie is truly a real asset to our life and ministry here.

The Winter VBS went very well with an average of about 50 children each day. **The highlight was seeing about 8 children personally call upon Christ for salvation!** We also had two special guests during the week. We invited our Romanian teacher's

daughter to come, and she did! Though she was not one of those who we know trusted Christ last week, she clearly heard the Gospel multiple times and the seed was planted.

The other special guest was my brother,



Bible verse at Winter VBS



Joshua preaching/David translating



Joshua preparing food for VBS

Joshua. He came for a week, spent Christmas with us, preached Sunday (my first time translating someone else's message), and helped with Winter VBS. He worked hard, had a great attitude, and even learned a surprising number of words in Romanian. **Pray for Joshua as he continues to follow God's path towards missionary work, too.**

On December 22, our youngest son, Daniel, turned one. It is hard to believe that he was only six weeks old when we arrived here. Unfortunately, the poor little guy has had ear drainage (I'll save you the detailed description) for several weeks. The first week his ears were clearing up with what we were doing at home. Then he got another runny nose

## January 5, 2011

### Prayer Requests & Praises:

- Praise the Lord for about 8 children trusting Christ as Savior through VBS.
- Praise the Lord for God's sovereign direction in leading us to a Christian doctor for Daniel's health problem.
- Pray for the political situation in Moldova; there may re-elections again.
- Pray for Catia, Vasile, Aliona, Victor, Ducia, Qassim, and Gemima's salvation.
- Pray for Daniel's ears and sinuses to heal.
- Pray for my brother, Joshua, as he continues to follow God's will for his life.
- Thank you for your prayers and financial support!

and it came back worse. We called a missionary friend of ours (who is Moldovan and knows many people) to get some input on this whole thing. He got us in touch with a Christian doctor who works at the children's hospital in Chişinău. To make the long story not so long, we have now made three trips to Chişinău and are now having to give Daniel antibiotic injections twice a day at home. There is still the possibility of him being hospitalized. Even through this hardship, though, it has been wonderful to see God work out the details and guide everything. The Christian doctor in Chişinău has been a huge blessing. God is great! **Please pray for Daniel's nose and ears to heal and dry up quickly and without hospitalization.**

Thank you for your many prayers and sacrificial giving for us in 2009. Knowing that we have a great team of people and churches "holding the ropes" for us encourages us to press on in this new year. Thank you very much!