



# For God's Children INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 434, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502-0434 | (712) 328-3776 | www.fgci.org

January 5, 2021

Valley Christian Church  
20270 Iberia Ave.  
Lakeville, MN 55044

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your contribution. [See your giving record below.]

It's hard to believe that I didn't get my feet on the ground in Romania or Moldova even once throughout the entire year of 2020. I so miss the children and adults we serve, as well as our staff and friends there. But, praise God, He gave us plenty of opportunities to serve our kids anyway! I am so very thankful for you our supporters for your faithful giving all year, and that we have an amazing bold and creative staff of nationals in both Romania and Moldova who were able to continue in personal ministry with our kids throughout the pandemic lockdowns. You can't stop the spread of the Gospel!

As 2020 ends, we look back on a most unusual year. Isn't it good to know that God is in control and that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)? This really has been a good season for us to put our trust in His care and to let His "peace that passes understanding" (Philippians 4:7) sustain and grow us. We are all looking forward to 2021 with the anticipation that God is going to do something surprising to reveal how the past year has been a refining and defining experience for our lives.

Here at FGCI, we are gearing up for another exciting year of ministry with our kids as we prepare to provide hope, dignity and love in Jesus' name to each one of them.

May God bless you in the new year. Words can't express the gratitude we have for you and your partnership in our ministry.

love in Jesus,

*Joel Burkum*

brother joel burkum  
Executive Director

*Thank you!  
and Happy New  
Year!*

Hope,  
dignity  
& love  
in  
Jesus'  
name

Gift Date	Amount	Designation	Detail
12/10/2020	\$300.00	General	
<b>Gift Amount Total: \$300.00</b>			

**Gifts Year to Date: \$3,600.00**



**For God's Children**  
INTERNATIONAL

## a personal note

from joel burkum

FGCI Executive Director

January 6, 2021

Dear Friends,

The light of Jesus shines brightest in the darkness. We live in a world of spiritual darkness and confusion. There is one simple answer...Jesus. Today, is Epiphany for Orthodox Christians. It's the day when God revealed the Light of Jesus to the Gentiles living in darkness (Matthew 4:16). The first Gentiles to receive this light were the Magi we read about in the Gospel of Matthew. We aren't exactly sure how they discerned that the star they had seen in the East would lead them to Messiah Jesus. But, somehow, when they saw the star, and they understood this sign as pointing to the newborn King of Israel.

Jesus told His disciples, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16/KJV). There is something very powerful and compelling about light. We seek to let the light of Jesus shine all over Romania and Moldova and wherever else we live and serve.

In just a few days you will be receiving our 2020 FGCi year-end ministry summary. But, I wanted to include this "mini" Personal Note preview with our December contributor letter to highlight a few of our Romania and Moldova Christmas activities this year.

Unlike other years, I was unable to travel to Romania and Moldova this Christmas, but our wonderful staff of nationals in Romania and Moldova were able to purchase and distribute food gifts and do a lot of ministry with our kids and needy families during the Christmas season. Here are a few snapshots of what our staff was up to this December.

Thank you for your generosity and support. We wish you a Happy New Year! And we look forward to what God has in store for us in 2021. Let us keep our eyes on Jesus, and let us keep the light of Christ burning bright into this new year.

Love in Jesus,

*Joel Burkum*

brother joel



**Top to bottom:** 1) Mama Nootsie takes gifts and food to a family in Zebil, Romania; 2) Nootsie and FGCi volunteers visit one of our Little Lambs families to deliver food, gifts and encouragement; 3) Young people from Vulcanesti re-enact the story of Jesus' birth during a Christmas program; 4) Roma children singing a Christmas carol during a Christmas program sponsored by FGCi.



**Left and above:** Nootsie delivers food to needy villagers in Zebil, Romania.



**For God's Children**  
INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 434, Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0434 | [fgci@fgci.org](mailto:fgci@fgci.org)

**You may donate online by visiting [www.fgci.org](http://www.fgci.org)!**