



THE SAFETY LAMP

Bi-monthly Newsletter of the International Miners' Mission

"Introducing Miners to the Master"

Celebrating the work and witness of IMM in mining
communities around the world

Issue 398

June to July 2026

ETHIOPIA - CHALLENGE TO GET THE TRAINING CENTRE BUILT



Laying the foundation stone

We continue trusting God for His provision and guidance."

We at IMM are challenged to help if we can.

The pictures show the

progress made so far but the cost of materials is the main issue. £500 would help with the roofing of the new building. £200 would purchase much needed quality timber. Windows cost about £400 each. Any contributions would be a great encouragement to us and our friends in Ethiopia. Thanks for your help and prayers.

Pastor Taye Degefu , Director of Ethiopian Addis Kidan Baptist Church writes:

"Please continue praying for us, particularly for the Training Centre project and the ministry among the Miners. Because everything is becoming more expensive we are very concerned about how we continue and complete the remaining work.



David Shillitoe and Vicky Yorke (Trustees)



IMM news from southeastern Europe

ROMANIA

A message from Pastor Mihai Dragu, recently received with news of the ministry in the lignite mining area around the town of Targu Jiu.

Dear IMM, With deep gratitude before God, we are writing these lines to you on behalf of the "Maranata" Baptist Christian Church in Targu Jiu, Romania.



Photo of church with the young people

We regularly receive your prayer leaflets with requests for prayer in various countries where you are involved in ministry to miners and mining communities. We rejoice to see how the Gospel is being proclaimed to the ends of the earth and how God is using dedicated people for this calling. As the Word of the Lord says: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

Pray for us, please – times are difficult

The situation in our area is becoming increasingly difficult. The town of Targu Jiu has an economy in serious decline, many jobs have disappeared, young people are moving to larger cities in search of employment, and many young families emigrate



(group with pastor Mihai (centre))

We would like to thank you for being our partners in the work of spreading the Gospel and for your support in prayer. It is a great encouragement for us to know that we are being lifted up before the Lord by brothers and sisters who love God's work and desire the advancement of His Kingdom.

We also thank you for the financial support you have recently provided for the youth camp. This year, four children have registered for the MIA Christian camp, with which we cooperate. We pray that God will work in their hearts in a special way. We believe that investing the younger generation is a work of eternal value.



to other countries to find work. As a result our church is aging, and few people remain actively involved in the ministry here. There is a real challenge to find people to lead services. Apart from the mother-church in Targu Jiu, we have three daughter-churches – in Targu Carbunesti, Rasova and Sambotin – currently we have only three available to serve all these places. In order to cover the worship services, we have had to reorganize the schedule. Indeed, there are times when we are unable to cover all the services. For instance, the fellowship from Targu Carbunesti are required to come to a service at the mother church in Targu Jiu. During the winter the heating costs for the daughter churches are difficult to sustain.



Photos of 2 of the daughter churches

Personally, as the pastor, I am also employed by the State, so I often have to exchange night shifts in order to be present on Thursdays and Sundays for the church services and pastoral ministry. Even so, we continue to carry out evangelistic outreach, although the Oltenia region of southern Romania is very difficult. Many people's hearts have been hardened and they not open to the Gospel. But we do not lose hope, because we trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to convict and transform hearts. 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.' (Zechariah 4:6)

With brotherly love and sincere appreciation.

Mihai Dragu

UKRAINE— *A short message* *from Pastor Vasiliy Dmitrev*

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I have been recovering from my heart surgery operation. The doctor told me that part of my heart died – almost!!! But I thank God that I am still in ministry, although my heart often makes itself felt; the doctors say I need to take care of myself for a year!!!



We have been waiting for the documents to register the church; it will take the registrar three months to process them, but the process has at least been set in motion. Thank God!

At Easter there was a ceasefire for a day and a half – and that was it!!! We continue to be heavily shelled and bombarded with rockets and missiles. The front



be approaching us and things will only get worse, but we will stand firm and serve God for as long as it is possible.

My team and I praise God daily for IMM; for the fact that you have been helping us to serve the Lord for many years! This is especially precious when in the most difficult conditions and with our lives at risk, we carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ! May the Lord bless you with the riches of His glory.

Vasilij



NORTH MACEDONIA

Over the past year, Robert and Krasi Salmanov's ministry in Radoviš, has continued to focus intentionally on outreach to local miners, working at the nearby 'Bucim' open-cast copper mine. Robert has achieved this through relationship-based one-to-one evangelism supported by regular presence and hospitality connected with the church. Here, he has the opportunity to have ongoing Gospel conversations and now some miners and family members are attending services, prayer meetings and church activities. Krasi runs a creative workshop for the children. However, access to the mine itself is limited and subject to restrictions, so the work with the men working at the mine has focused on these personal connections.



Robert writes, "In April, we hosted a team from Sweden. While they were there, we hope to carry out street-evangelism here in Radoviš together. It was good to invite people to the church for 'Swedish Evenings'. We continue to work with the miners. Please pray for a number of them who have now heard the Gospel of Jesus several times, that they may respond and become rooted in Jesus."

left:- The Bucim opencast mine view of spoil heaps. Below left:- The Salamov family and right:- Evangelism in the town centre

