



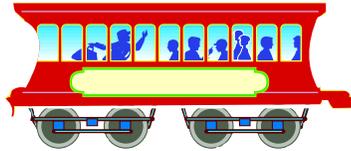
Winnie's Newsletter

A take-home paper for kids!

ROMANIA

The Streets of Bucharest

About one out of ten people in Romania lives in Bucharest. The Dâmbovitza River flows through the city. Buses, cars, and trolleys move people along the streets, and a subway takes them under the streets. Most people have homes in the city and travel to work in the factories in the suburbs.



On her way to school, Alina passes buildings that are hundreds of years old—sitting next to new McDonald's and Pizza Hut restaurants. She also passes by other girls and boys her age who aren't on their way to school. Sadly, thousands of children have no families or have left home. They live on the streets and in the underground sewers.

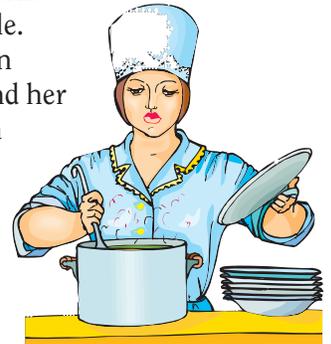
Alina is thankful for what she has. Her apartment is in a large gray high-rise building. These buildings were put up during the years when the Communist government forced many people to move from the country to

work in factories in the city. The apartments have electricity, but no bathrooms or running water or heat. Still, Alina is thankful to have her own bed and a family who loves her.



Alina

Salut! Hello! Welcome to Bucharest, the capital city of Romania, and Alina's home. Alina and her brother and parents live in a small apartment in this city of 2 million people. Her father works in an electronics factory, and her mother is a cashier in a department store. Alina is glad her grandmother lives with them too. She takes good care of them and cooks great food!



Pofta buna!

For breakfast, Alina eats eggs, cheese, and bread. During the week, the family eat their big meal in the evening. They start with a nice hot soup—just the thing on a cold day! Before eating, they tell each other "*pofta buna*"—enjoy the meal. After the soup, Mom and Grandmother serve meat, potatoes, and a vegetable. Ground pork, beef, or lamb is often served as a spicy sausage-shaped meatball called *mititei*.

Alina also loves Grandmother's *sarmale*, ground meat mixed with rice and rolled in grapevine leaves or pickled cabbage. At the end of the meal, they thank Mom and Grandmother, saying "*Sarut mâna pentru masa*" (Kiss your hand for the meal).

Romanians Need Jesus



One day in Romania in the early 1900s, George Bradin read a leaflet sent by a friend in America. It told of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. George and his wife prayed and began to speak in other tongues. God also healed Mrs. Bradin. They

told their friends, and on September 10, 1922, they started a Pentecostal church in their house.

Most Romanians belong to the Eastern Orthodox church. They used to believe the Pentecostals were a cult, with wrong beliefs. The Pentecostals had to meet secretly. The government said it would not allow any Pentecostal churches, but still more people joined them. Finally, in 1950, they got permission to meet openly. They organized the Romanian Pentecostal Union—with 36,000 members!

Some U.S. Assembly of God missionaries visited the churches during the hard years of Communist rule. In 1992 the first missionaries came to stay. Today 15 missionaries work with the churches to reach Romania, from the youngest to the oldest.

Every year thousands of unmarried young girls have babies. Many leave their babies in the hospital. At a place called Touched Romania, missionaries and a local team care for them and find homes for them. They also have a home for young mothers and teach them how to care for their babies. Coins For Kids and BGMC have provided lots of money for equipment and supplies to help these girls and their babies.



Another ministry, Kidz Romania, helps kids all over Romania. The missionaries travel to poor villages to tell children about God through outreaches, VBS, school assemblies, and summer camps. They also train children's workers in hundreds of Romanian churches. They use puppets, clowns, music, and dramas to draw crowds of kids—and their mothers and grandmothers.

BGMC is helping to reach the kids in Romania by providing our missionaries with children's ministry equipment and supplies, Sunday School materials, children's church materials, and Bibles.

Some churches, often with the help of missionaries, have preschools and kindergartens to help children learn about God and prepare for school. Many of

these churches reach out to Gypsy people. It is hard for Gypsy children to go to school. As churches help kids with schooling and teach them about Jesus, their parents want to hear too. Many Gypsies have found Jesus! BGMC is helping to reach the Gypsies by providing money for their churches, and by giving them Christian education materials, videos, and Bibles.

Pentecostal churches are full of young people who want to live for Jesus. They study the Bible in youth groups, camps, and conferences called Peniel. Some answer God's call to become leaders and go to the Bible schools.

Is 2,600 churches enough? Romanian believers don't think so, and they keep starting new ones! In one village, a family moved their seven kids into one bedroom and enlarged another room to make a house church.

Romanians are very good at starting new churches. But there are still hundreds of villages with no churches. Magazines, radio and TV programs, and Web sites help tell people about Jesus. But many more need to hear.

BGMC is a big help all over Romania, including the Romanian Bible schools. BGMC funds are used to buy whatever is needed to spread the gospel message in Romania, including books, Bibles, TV programs, teaching supplies, and lots more. Thank you for giving to BGMC to help reach the people of Romania.

LET'S PRAY...

- for our missionaries and for the pastors and workers in Romania.
- for the church members as they reach their neighbors, and for the many new churches.
- for the Peniel youth camps and conferences.
- for the children of Romania. Some live in poor villages, some in large, crowded cities. Some live with relatives while their parents work in other countries. Some need foster care. Gypsy kids live hard lives. ALL Romania's kids need to know Jesus' love.
- for a new children's TV program.
- for the Christian young people who are studying in Bible schools, and for those training to become missionaries.

