

# SERVING THE LORD IN ROMANIA and the BALKANS

NEWS FROM THE ANDREASEN FAMILY



March 2026

## Life as the Body of Christ



Deacon Mihail Clucer teaching the children of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bucharest the Lord's Prayer

Recently I traveled to Bucharest to pick up some visitors, but also to assist with the Liturgy (Divine Service) in Bucharest. The congregation there is taking on its own life of teaching the faith and living as a body of Christ. Vicar Trifa arranged for me to pick up some members from their home to bring them to church. During fellowship it was wonderful to hear the members talking and asking about each others lives. They offered help to those that were having certain challenges and enjoying one another's company.

But while we were in fellowship, Deacon Mihail Clucer took the children of St. Paul's for a little time of teaching. It was a beautiful moment to capture.

I sent him the photo later and he commented, "They know what temptation is!" It is such a joy to hear the knowledge of God's people, especially to hear children confess the truth of God.

It is such a joy to see the congregations of the Romanian Church live together living and growing in faith as they also reach out to others with the love of Christ.



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## Keeping "Asia" in Eurasia



Lutherans of Almaty Kazakhstan: L-R: Rev. Andreassen, Rev. Burtsev, Student Shuklin (at Riga) , Mr. Ben Goehring, Vicar Jesse Liebmann, Rev. Kaus

At the end of February I had the privilege to visit our sister church in Almaty, Kazakhstan with Vicar Jesse Liebmann and Mr. Benjamin Goehring. Their presence was necessary for their Russian language abilities to serve as a translator and generally keep me out of trouble. The only Russian words I picked up over our 3 days were polite words and how to request another shot of vodka. Rev. Burtsev was a gifted teacher!

The church has a history spanning back over 100 years from Germans who lived in the area. At one time Lutherans in the Almaty region numbered over 3,000 with somewhere near 300 congregations and 70 pastors. As recently as 2012 there was even a seminary. Changes occurred rapidly after the ethnic Germans moved back to Germany in the 1980's and 1990's. Challenges furthered due to changing political situations making public work outside the church property more difficult.

Rev. Aleksander Burtsev and all the pastors of the church (all named Aleksander) serve under difficult circumstances, but serve their flocks faithfully and especially seek to serve the youth through education programs. Their own and the youth of their country are the future of not just their nation, but the church. Pray for them that they might continue to serve faithfully and that we might quickly find supporters to support their work in a future FORO. If you are interested in this work please reach out to us!

-Rev. Jordon Andreassen



Lutherans in Almaty have a history that extends over 100 years.

# Family Updates

ROMANIAN  
*Apostles' Creed*  
**BINGO**

Find someone who knows what these words mean:

"Cred" (4-7)	"Tatăl" (8-11)	"și în viața veșnică." (4-7)	"Maria" (4-7)
"Fiul lui Dumnezeu" (8-11)	"În iertarea păcatelor" (8-11)	"Cerului și pământului" (8-11)	"a fost răstignit" (8-11)
"Amin" (4-7)	"Pontiu Pilat" (8-11)	"s-a înălțat la ceruri" (8-11)	"Duhul Sfânt" (8-11)
"a treia zi a înviat din morți" (8-11)	"În Biserica cea sfântă" (8-11)	"Isus Cristos" (4-7)	"Dumnezeu" (4-7)

## Language Learning

Because Brasov will be the new Regional Headquarters, there are lots of new missionary families coming to town. Jordon's Romanian is excellent and so he is helping teach the English Expats here parts of the Romanian Divine Service so that everyone can better participate on Sundays and know what they are saying.

Above is an example of an activity we did before Lenten services began.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- For Rev. Bojinov and his congregation in Sofia.
- For the faithful Lutherans in Kazakhstan
- For Pastor Sahar and Maria Sadlovsky-Gold in Israel whom Jordon mentors that they and their family would be kept safe amid bombing threats.

### WE GIVE THANKS FOR:

- New friends and opportunities in Brașov.
- God's faithfulness in trials.



Simeon enjoying the last snowy day we had, Benjamin's 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday, the girls while on an outing together, Kurtos or Chimney Bread is a delightful snack and are very fun to watch being made, Mucenici is also a yummy snack traditionally had on March 9, The Feast of the 40 Martyrs. Quite a few ladies learned how to make Sarmale, a Romanian cabbage roll dish. Ethan unfortunately did not last long in preschool. We will try again next year but he is pretty happy to get to hang out with mom at home. Benjamin and Aaron have started riding their scooters to school.



*There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](http://lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."*

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Rev. Jordon Andreasen. Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod OR  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861  
On the memo line include **Andreasen-Romania**

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