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Del HuffExecutive Director

Spring Time Is . . . Preparation Time For Summer

Spring is one of the most beautiful times of the year. In so many ways, it is the time we prepare for camps at Friendship Camp but also for the opening of our music and art school in Belize.

We want to share with you some of the upcoming activities for this summer and beyond, as well as introduce some of our workers who are giving of their time and talents to help us prepare for the camps and the music and art school. We are praying the Lord will use them to His glory, and their efforts will be a blessing to many children and adults.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank the Lord and friends who have already generously given in order to do the preparation both in Romania and Belize towards preparing for ministry this summer, making it possible for many children and teenagers to be a part of our camp program and starting our adventure at the Cayo School of Music and Art.

This month you will read about the ongoing needs to be ready in Romania for camp season as well as the needs and prayer requests for the opening of our school in Belize.

God guides and directs our steps, so we can fulfill His great purpose for us. Proverbs 20:24, "Since the Lord is directing our steps, don't try to figure out everything that happens along the way." You may not understand it, but you can come back to this core truth: God knows what He's doing, and His plan for your life is good." Many times, we see His direction most clearly in hindsight. We think we know the best way to do something and question every bump along the way. But when we look back, we realize God has positioned us through those bumps to experience something far greater than we could have imagined. (Ephesians 2:10).

Please include Friendship International in your plans for this summer.

We value your prayers and support.

ROMANIA UPDATE by Adi Muscan

Not sure how the weather is where you are, but here we have a real mix of everything, hot days alternating with rainy cold days.

When we are at home it's easy, you just stay inside where it's warm and comfortable, but when you are at the camp, it's a different story. Especially when it rains, everything is all wet, muddy, and cold. I think the nights are the toughest, we have some cold ones, around 39 degrees. But with God's grace and mercy we are doing just fine, and beginning to see several projects completed that were planned for these days.



The Scottish team (9 people) is doing a great job with all the projects we planned. They came on Wednesday, the last week, and will leave Saturday, this week.

They worked on the tepees (tent's needed total rebuilding), the playground area (needed total rebuilding), painted the buildings around the camp, set up the wood railings for the new cabins, and other things that needed finishing on the inside of the cabins.



I can tell you, it was a lot of work, and still there is more, but with God's help we will be able to accomplish everything, before the camps start în July.

We are so grateful to the Lord and to the Scottish brothers who have come once again to help us. Please pray with us that the men will stay healthy and safe as they work as fast and hard as they can.







Has The Lord Put It In Your Heart To Help?

Camp Sponsorship Program You can make it possible for an orphan or gypsy or

You can make it possible for an orphan or gypsy child to go to camp and experience Jesus this summer.

For only \$75.- per week you can make a world of difference in a child's life, for life!

You may send your donation, marking clearly how you would like it used, to:

Friendship International P.O. Box 50884 Colorado Springs, CO 80949-0884

Or go to our website - friendshipintl.org, click on the "Donate" button at the top, after you reach the Give to FI page, select the fund - Send a Child to Camp.

CAYOSCHOOL OF MUSIC & ARTS

To begin this progress report, I have been reminded of a passage of scripture I have often used at such a time as this.

In Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 we read, "Everything on earth has its own time and its own season. There is a time for birth and death - planting and reaping - killing and healing - destroying and building - for crying and laughing - weeping and dancing - for throwing stones and gathering stone - embracing and parting. But, He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."

For friends who know me and my character, they know, often, things can't seem to happen fast enough, and yet I have been known to say, God is teaching me patience, so I'm putting this matter into His hands and just keep trusting. In your time, Lord.

It seems that this vision for a school of music and art, has been evolving and coming together much slower that I would envision, and yet, now I'm seeing that this not only has to happen in God's time, but also it has to happen for the community of Mennonites in Spanish Lookout's time.

But, I'm excited to share with you several events that continue to encourage me in efforts moving forward.

1. Location - permanent / temporary We believe that this property we shared

We believe that this property we shared last month could become the permanent location for our school.



A good friend of mine whom I attend early morning men's prayer meeting with, is paving the way for me to meet with the community counsel and allow me to share the vision for the school. And we are praying that two things will happen.

Firstly, the counsel will give their blessing for the school to be established within the community.

Secondly, they will be willing to give us permission to use this beautiful piece of community property for the school.

But, even if the counsel agrees with both of the points mentioned, it will still require having classes at a different location until the school is built, which could take several months. So the next step is to find a temporary facility in the community where our school could locate. This has been an ongoing process, trying to find a suitable fit for us. But, just before leaving Belize the last time, the Lord brought an idea into a discussion I was having with one of our school committee members. He is now the principal of the German school and he mentioned that next year, the student enrollment is going to be significantly lower than hoped for, but, it could allow us to use a couple rooms temporarily. The German school board has already met and approved this idea, but now, we still need to have the approval of the Church board, which meets the end of this month. PRAY for good results at this meeting.

2. New concept for the school campus In a discussion with one of our expat choir singers, I discovered she is an architect, and works from home for a company in the States. I showed her my rough draft of the first floor plan and told her I really need a more serious realization of what the school should look like. And God laid it upon her heart to take on the challenge of drafting a very unique concept for our school, in four

modular units, all connected by an outdoor

3. Fundraising for the school.

This brings up a significant challenge. But here again the Lord reminds me, if it is to be, it will be. This has been such an amazing part of the story.

A friend of mine in the city where I live in the states, sent me an email some time ago and asked, do you have any specific project your mission is working on at the moment? I responded and said, as a matter of fact, I do. I told him about our music and art school in Belize. And he replied "what a coincidence." I have a friend I give financial advise to, who is looking for projects to give sizable donations to. And he specifically wants to help in the literacy education of children in third world countries." Long story short, I met with this generous man, his name is Larry. You'll probably be hearing more about Larry. But he has already committed to matching funds of up to \$60.000.- this year. Next year, possibly

This was another confirmation to me that God is in this vision. My prayer is that there would be 6 friends or churches who would be able to donate \$10,000.- or 12 friends who could give \$5,000 to match Larry's gift of \$60,000.

With this money we will be able to begin building the first 2 modules of the school.

I don't know what your situation is, but I do know a lot of our long-time friends have advanced into their senior years. We've asked the Lord what He would want us to do the rest of our lives. I have to say, this is, for me the perfect way to end my race, doing something for God's kingdom here on earth, teaching children, teenagers and adults how to share the Gospel story through music and art. Maybe you've asked the Lord what He would have you do for Him that would have eternal value.

Please make this a matter of prayer and don't put it off to be in touch with us, soon, if you are interested, either by phone or email.

Cost of building the 4 modules

- Approx. sq footage 3,200
- Total Cost \$240,000.-

Tax deductible receipts are available. You may send your donation, marking clearly how you would like it used, to:

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Or go to our website - friendshipintl.org, click on the "Donate" button at the top, after you reach the Give to FI page, select the fund - Cayo School of Music & Arts. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor. 2:7-9