

Del Huff
Executive Director

Spring Is Bursting Out



For believers, spring is a reminder that God is all about making things new. In fact, Jesus promised to make everything new one day (Revelation 21:5). In the meantime, He gives us glimpses of the coming attractions through spring.

Growth

“He who delights in the law of the Lord is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do, prospers.” Psalm 1:3 (NIV)

Starting Over

“As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” Hosea 6:3 (NIV)

Provision

“I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil.” Deuteronomy 11:14 (NIV)

Enlightenment

“Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.” Deuteronomy 32:2 (NIV)

Peace

“Why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Matthew 6:28–29 (NIV)

ANOTHER FIRST, ANOTHER SURPRISE AT CAYO SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ARTS



What a beautiful sight to see approx. 160 people; our students, their parents, their grandparents and friends attend on March 29, our first Celebration of Completion of two months of lessons or group classes. We were amazed at how many people came to the event.



To make it a memorable occasion we had a program that included introducing the teachers and school staff, who in turn presented, by category, their students with a beautiful certificate of completion. Following the presentations, each teacher had selected one or two of their students to share what they had learned in the two short months. There were students who played the piano, the guitar and violin.



And we had a wonderful wall exhibit of our art beautifully created by our students.

This was the first time for our school to host such an event but it was also the first time our students had ever been a part of such an occasion, and especially for several of them to perform in front of so many people. What

a memorable event. At the closing of our program we invited our guests to stay for a light lunch and get acquainted with each other and take time to enjoy the very colorful display by our “artists”.

To conclude our evening, we took part in a very Mennonite tradition. We gathered around and sang some of the old hymns and Gospel songs they suggested. What a wonderful way to finish off the evening, singing praises to the Lord. After the planned program there was an opportunity for guests to visit our classrooms and to register new students for the beginning of this month.

We are experiencing some wonderful challenges. We need more teachers and we need more financial resources. It’s amazing how the Lord has led us to some excellent teachers, but we need to have at least 2 teachers for every subject so we have a substitute when one can’t be there. And finally we have some definite financial needs. We need one more piano, we need funds to buy more teaching materials. There is also a need for sponsorship of our students. There are many parents with large families. They would like to send multiple children, but it is limited because of the cost. We would like to offer lesson scholarships.

- Cost of piano is approx. \$2,000.- / Teaching materials and supplies - \$1,000, which includes, music, cleaning supplies, printer toner, office supplies, printing, etc.
- Scholarships for students - \$10 for class lessons/\$12.50 for Private lessons.

Please check the bottom right hand corner on the back side of this letter for donation instructions.

TWENTY YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP CAMP

2006 - 2026

God put the vision for a camp in Romania for kids and youth in the heart of the founder and director of Friendship International, Del Huff, years before the camp was purchased and built. But it wasn't until our music group, *A New Song* - Romania was on tour in the states and began announcing the vision in churches, that a man in Ohio came to us and responded to the challenge, and donated enough money to buy the property and begin construction on our "Cowboy Town" in Romania. More on this story in the months to come.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Eph. 3:20-21

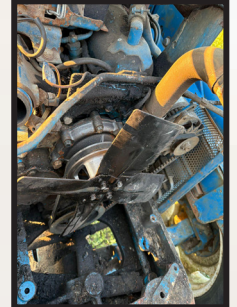


by Callum King, Camp Supervisor

It's hard to believe that this year we will celebrate 20 years of Friendship Camp! As we look back we can only thank God for his faithfulness over the years and for the privilege it has been to be part of a ministry which has seen thousands of children come and hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord!

Three weeks ago we had a visit from Chip Riley from Alabama - one of our most faithful ministry partners. Chip has been leading two weeks of summer camps with us each year for the past 18 years. We had a great time together meeting with our team of young leaders for this summer and preparing the camp program as well as discussing future plans.

Right now it's the time of year again when we begin to prepare the camp for the summer season. Spring is here and as always there is grass to cut, trees to trim, things to paint and plenty of maintenance jobs to keep us busy!



So far we've started the work by cleaning out some areas of forest on lower side of the camp to provide more shaded areas for small group discussion times during the summer. As always there are things to fix and last week we needed to take some time doing repairs to the camp tractor which is now more than 40 years old - this year a new water pump and starter motor. We are not really tractor mechanics so after putting it all back together we were more than pleased (and slightly amazed) that it started on the first turn of the key! The grass cutting can now begin!



Since the beginning of Friendship Camp one of our unique features has been the teepee tents and cowboy wagons. Originally these were all wooden structures with canvas covers. Several years ago however we made the decision to turn the wagons into more permanent structures with roofs, windows and doors and these have proved to be much more practical and appreciated by the campers (especially when it rains!). This year it will be time to work on the teepees!

The teepee canvases have now come to the end of their lives and are no longer usable. This was our second set of canvasses since starting Friendship Camp and they have lasted about 9 years. This year, instead of canvasses, we will clad the teepee structures in insulated sandwich panels and install doors and windows for light and ventilation. Not only will this make them fully waterproof but will make them usable even in colder weather as well as the summer months. The cost will be around \$1000 per teepee. We look forward to a team coming from Scotland in early May to help us complete this task. But first, we are going to need the funds to buy materials.

If the Lord puts it in your heart to help, start by praying for this summer and if you can help financially, read the information to the right .

It's Tax Return Season!

Please consider these 2 project as you receive your tax returns. This is an opportunity to invest in the future of children in Romania. It's imperative that we upgrade our Teepees for this summer and make it possible for children to come to camp by investing directly in kids through camp sponsorships. These are the most necessary projects to begin as early as next month for the construction and for us to be able to invite children who normally would not be able to attend !



The cost for 6 teepee covers is \$1,000 each.

The cost for one child to attend summer camp is \$75.- per week.

**Here's how you can help
Make checks payable to -**

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

OR - go to e-Giving at www.friendshipintl.org, go to Donate button at the top of page and follow instructions for donating. **Indicate which project you would like to support.**