

# AUSTIN HIRTH



JULY  
2017

exploring for the gospel  
ROMANIA & BEYOND

## AN UPDATE FROM THE FIELD

I am overjoyed to report that I am in Oradea, Romania safe and sound! I cannot begin to express the gratitude I have for each and every one of you! The support has been amazing and I would not be here without you all. My last newsletter stated that I was 2/3rds of the way to being fully funded to embark on the journey. With your help I was able to reach my goal and purchase my tickets to Oradea! Just to know that I have such amazing people faithfully backing me financially, as well as prayerfully, is immensely valuable to me. So again, THANK YOU so much!

## Here in Romania!

I arrived on July 5th to the Budapest airport, where I was picked up by a church volunteer named Alin, and driven to Oradea. I was able to obtain a great apartment near the city center and quite close to the public transportation systems. I am still adjusting to the new time zone at around the 1 and a half week mark, but that is pretty normal according to what I've been told. I'm obviously blessed to be serving at a church in a country in which I have prior experience,

but I have much of the language to re-learn. It's a good thing that I love learning and alas, it's all part of the joy of being here! All my housing, billing, and day to day responsibilities are beginning to fall into place and are almost completely in place.. Now on to the ministry!

The first Sunday upon arriving happened to be a Church picnic. This took place after a long series of Missionary Team visits. It was very beneficial as far as meeting some church members I'll be serving alongside in a more relaxed conversational manner. I was able to spend time talking to the band I'll be playing with. They're absolutely wonderful people who expressed so sweetly how happy they are to have me. They love to practice their English with me and vice versa with Romanian. I've been chuckled at quite a few times for saying things incorrectly, but I somehow love it! Like I said, all part of the process and God is teaching me patience... not my strongest suit! During the picnic we had a baby dedication (which the Romanians call Baby Blessings) and a short time of acoustic worship. As I sang with my new church family I felt so at peace and happiness filled my bones. It was a great kickoff to what I know will be many amazing stories.



CATHEDRAL IN DOWNTOWN  
CENTRU NEAR IMPACT CHURCH



THE FIRST YOUTH  
GROUP MEETING



PLAYING DRUMS ON MY FIRST  
OFFICIAL SUNDAY AT IMPACT



MY HOME WHILE  
HERE IN ROMANIA



ARRIVAL IN ROMANIA!

The following Friday I went to my first youth group meeting. The average youth group age here is about 15-28 and includes college and young adults. The majority are in their late teens and young twenties. So I fit right in! Adi (the pastor of Biserica Impact) said he would like me to start leading acoustic worship with the group after some time getting to know them, so as to create a more authentic relatable set of relationships. There were a good number in attendance and they broke out the Bibles and started discussing a topic. This week was about God's promises and how we can sometimes ignore them for the material thing that we see right in front of us. I'm excited to grow WITH these people and also lead them in some areas. I can't wait to get to know these great people.

The next Sunday I was introduced to the church and played drums with the worship band. An awesome time of worship that brought back great memories from my childhood as the whole church was engaged and singing in Romanian. It was a great moment that I certainly won't ever forget. I know God has me here for a reason and I'm loving to see that reason unfold. Also multiple young

men approached me (quite forwardly as many Romanians can be) and asked if I would be willing to teach them how to play the drums. This meant a lot to me because I had a vision about teaching music to some kids here. Coming up in just a week will be the youth retreat. We will go to the Carpathian mountains where we will be camping for 5 days. I'm hoping to get to know people more closely and build some strong bonds. You may be receiving this newsletter in the middle of the trip or after, but prayers for God to work through me in their lives would be appreciated.

I want to be very clear about how thankful I am to be here and how much your support has emboldened me to do what, quite honestly, was a little scary for me! I pray that God's grace and peace be with you all. Continue to pray for Biserica Impact (the name of the church) and the effect that they have on the community as well as for the people of Oradea. This is just the beginning! Until next time, Te iubesc! (I love you!)

- Austin Hirth

## Partnership & Support

You can support me by either going online to [www.globeintl.org/members/hirth-austin](http://www.globeintl.org/members/hirth-austin) and selecting the online giving tab OR mailing it to:

Globe International  
Attn: Austin Hirth  
8590 W. Highway 98 - Pensacola, FL 32506

