

EUROPE

September / October 2025 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends,

We are well into the autumn "Mission Conference" schedule. In September and October I have preached Mission Conferences and/or Mission Emphasis Sundays as well as having meetings in three Bible Colleges in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Texas, Utah, and North Carolina.

It is encouraging to see how God's people continue to respond to the Great Commission. In every place I have been, the response has been above anything I could have asked for! There have been two salvation decisions as well as several dedications by young people to do whatever God wills for them. Please pray that the decisions made by these serious minded young people will be enduring.

I would like to share a story with you concerning one of the young ladies we raised while we were in Romania, Denisa Chifa. Denisa graduated from University with an accounting degree and met a young Romanian man who had attended the Bible College we started while there, Daniel Calin. Daniel was the son of a Romanian man who is a missionary to his own people. Daniel and Denisa were married three years ago. As you know, the conflict in Ukraine began about that same time. Several Ukrainian refugees came to the Timisoara area and many attended church where Daniel and Denisa are members. Daniel became burdened for them and told Denisa, "Denisa, so many young Ukrainian men will go to war and be killed and never hear the Gospel." He prayed about how he could possibly reach some of them and, feeling sure of God's leading, actually went to Ukraine and enlisted in the military to be able to witness to the men around him. Two days after his 3 month basic training, while waiting on his first deployment, his barracks was hit by a Russian missile and Daniel and several others were killed. When Carole and I talked with Denisa she was, of course, heart-broken. But through her tears she said, "Grandpa, Grandma, my heart is broken, but I wouldn't change anything - I'm so proud of Daniel for having the courage to do what God called him to do!" And Carole and I are so very proud of Denisa for her spiritual maturity and willingness to yield to God's will. Several Ukrainian soldiers have already contacted her with testimony of how Daniel's witness made a difference in their lives. I thought of the verse in John 15:13 "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

The world is full of people who, whether in war or not, are on the threshold of eternity. Who will be willing to obey God's will and give and go that they may know!

Carole and I want to thank you once again for helping us "do what God called us to do!" You have been so very faithful; please be assured that we are doing our best to be faithful stewards of that which God has entrusted to us.

Your Friends,

Ed & Carole Hembree