



St Michael's Church
Stoke Gifford



Mission Partner of the Month - November 2024 **Ruslan and Larisa Telpiz, Moldova**



Ruslan and Larisa Telpiz live in Gotesti, a village in Moldova, which is a small country in Eastern Europe, between Romania and Ukraine. Moldova is the poorest country in Europe, with very little paid work available.



Ruslan is the Pastor of the Baptist Church in Gotesti. His ministry includes leading Sunday services, preaching, baptisms, pastoral care and discipleship of church members and new believers. He is involved in social outreach and evangelism in Gotesti and nearby communities.



Larisa leads the work of the Day Care Centre. This is an after-school ministry held in Gotesti Church, which provides help with school work, Bible stories, food and games, in a caring and supportive environment. It is attended by 60 children aged 7-15 years. Many of the children have emotional, behavioural and/or spiritual problems because they are neglected by their parents or they have no parents. There are three teachers: Larisa, Mariana and Dinu. The Bible-based teaching and emotional support given helps children to be more obedient and respectful. Their performance at school also improves.



Seeds of faith and Christian values are sown in their lives, while they are still living at home. Many of the children will need to leave the country in search of work when they leave school.

Petea is a Deacon in the Baptist Church and is Ruslan's much-needed assistant in his busy ministry. Petea is married to Mariana, who teaches in the Day Care Centre.



Petea delivers food parcels, firewood in winter and clothes for poor people and he visits sick people. There are many elderly and lonely people in Gotesti. Petea organises a cooked meal for some of these people and shares the Gospel during the meal. People attending the meal can wash their clothes in the church's washing machines while they eat. Petea is involved with counselling some of the teenage boys in the church. He also does the maintenance work for the church.





Dinu leads the church's youth group and he teaches football to children, combined with Bible studies. He has also recently started as a teacher in the Day Care Centre, where he teaches and mentors the teenagers.



Andrei started Taekwondo classes for children and young people in September. Taekwondo is a martial art which is popular in Moldova. These classes include Bible studies.



Denis is a church member from Gotesti who feels called by God to plant a new church in Tiganca village. He leads a service on Sundays and a children's group on Saturdays and he visits people in their homes.

Denis hopes to start a Day Care Centre for children in this village.



Please pray:

- For children and adults in Gotesti to understand the good news and to accept Jesus in their lives.
- For the Day Care Centre for children.
- For the football and Taekwondo ministries.
- For the church plant in Tiganca.



For the church in Gotesti to be able to continue with these inspiring outreach ministries and others, further funding is needed. If you can help or advise, please contact **Mary Cottrell**.

Mary is the link person at St Michael's. Please speak to her for more information.

Other St Michael's Mission News this month:

- Alan Crofts and a party from the Deanery are visiting our partner Diocese in Uganda - and Alan will also visit SIITA Nest.
- Give thanks for the successful Brickworks South Sudan visit and linking up schools and children's groups here and there.
- John & Sarah Sutton still waiting for their house repairs to complete after the fire.
- Bristol Churches Night Shelter has now opened for the winter.
- There is only bottled water on Luke's OM ship at present - so no showers! Pray this gets sorted!
- Katia Rocks continuing to cover the leadership vacancy in her Florianopolis church.