



1,000 / 40 for 40: Day TWO



Church this morning went really well! Each time someone new got up to speak we tried to count how many words we could at least recognize as sounding somewhat familiar! And a lot of the people on our church can speak English as a second language so we were really able to communicate well!

Prayer Requests

Here are our quick, specific prayer requests for July 30, 2017.

- Derek's back pain seems to be getting worse, not better. He's got a good regimen of icing and stretching and moving so it doesn't seize up. But he's hurting. Please pray for healing.
- Tomorrow we start our first full week. We've got a lot of logistical things to accomplish - getting the things we need for our home, getting our pantry set up, paying for our mandatory healthcare insurance, setting up a language tutor, and learning the bus system. These things will span all week so we ask for prayers in getting accomplished what we need to while also slowing down and recognizing that every person we meet is a chance to build community and not just check off something from our list.

Who We Met

Breakfast on Saturday morning was the first meal we ate in our new house - the "Rooster House," as Elin has dubbed it. Its namesake comes from the rooster statue perched on the roof, but as found out this morning, it could also come from the fact that there are a large number of roosters in our neighbors' yards. We decided to eat our breakfast on the back patio, as the beautiful carpet that lay under our dining room table wouldn't make a great place mat for the kids. It'll need to be removed as soon as Derek's back is up to the task of moving the table! As we were eating we saw an older man climbing a ladder above the fence that separates our yard from his.

"Bunaziua!" ("Good day!") we said.

He replied in kind but quickly proceeded with a slew of other Romanian words which we clearly don't yet understand. That was a good sign that our accent didn't completely give us away! When the man paused for a moment, Derek said, "Nu vorbesc Romaneste." (Which I'm pretty sure means "I don't speak Romanian.") Using significantly fewer words and more hand gestures from that point forward, he introduced himself as Nicolae, and we introduced ourselves before he descended the ladder.

Please be in prayer for our neighbor Nicolae. The previous resident built a very tall fence because Nicolae was always wanting to chat and was a bit overwhelming. But fences don't seem to keep Nicolae out, as he

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with our new neighbor. Pray that God would help us to be good neighbors and that He would be drawing Nicolae closer to Himself.

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