



1,000 / 40 for 40: Day TWENTY ONE



The flowers came from Veorica in the town center. I'm so happy with how my little arrangement turned out and it makes me so happy to have them in my

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There was a Pentecostal concert in the town center tonight that we went to toward the end. It was interesting to see how many people came for the entertainment. But afterwards we didn't see anyone "going down front" to speak to anyone or learn more.

Prayer Requests

Here are our quick, specific prayer requests for August 18, 2017:

- We have a family tradition where Derek and Elin cook pancakes and either bacon or sausage every Saturday morning. We've done this for months and it's a hallmark of our week! Tomorrow morning Ionutz from church will be joining us for breakfast and then going with Derek on a hike. Pray for Ionutz, as he is walking a hard and lonely road in his faith right now. Pray that we might develop a friendship with him that would be an encouragement to all of us. Pray for their safety as they hike.
- The usuals - Catalina's hips and pregnancy, friends for Elin, decision about Kindergarten and which one, pastor for our church. THANK YOU!

Who We Met

Today we walked down to the market to buy a watermelon and pay our phone/internet bill. Right across from the fruits and veggies stand is a flower stand. Elin has developed an affinity for flowers probably more than I have. She asks for flowers every time we pass somewhere that sells them, and this past year for her birthday she told Derek's mom that she wanted flowers for her birthday present! Love that girl! So as we were paying for the watermelon she was looking at all the beautiful flowers and begging to get some.

The owner of the flower shop came over and noticed how much Elin and Atticus were enjoying the flowers and said something with the Romanian word for "pleasure." She picked up two beautiful little blue flowers and handed one to each kid. I asked her how much and she told me "free." They were so pleased and said thank you! The lady pointed to my belly and then called her daughter over and told me that she said pregnant too. So I started talking with her.

Her name is Veorica, and she and her mom own the flower stand. She spoke a little more English than I speak Romanian, so we were more or less able to communicate well. She's seven months pregnant with her first child - a boy!

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which I also loved! We bought four - one of which Elin wanted to take to Mrs. Sikes, one of our missionary friends. As we were paying Veorica's mom came to bring change and handed me two more of the white flowers for free. They were both so kind! And they made a fantastic arrangement in my moscow mule mug!!

Later this evening we went to the center to see the Pentecostal concert. On our walk home we saw Veorica again, and she waved and said hello. This is the first woman I've met outside of our church who I know I can see on a regular basis since I know where she works. And perhaps my love of flowers can turn into an evangelistic opportunity!

Please pray for Veorica tonight. Pray for her and her baby! I'm not really sure why, but she's the first person I've met outside of our church who I immediately wanted to get to know more - maybe because of the pregnancy bond. She had this beautiful twinkle in her eye and showed equal interest in me to make me think I would really like to see her again as a potential friend. I will definitely be going back to her flower stand on a regular basis. Pray that the Lord might guide this relationship and possibly turn into a friendship. And of course, pray for Veorica that she might know Jesus as her Savior if she doesn't already!

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