



1,000 / 40 for 40: Day THIRTY



So it's 6:30 am Monday morning when I just woke up and realized we forgot to actually send this update yesterday! But technically the East Coast is still Sunday so we made it!

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Here are our quick, specific prayer requests for August 27, 2017:

- It's hard to believe we have been in Romania for more than four weeks now. It seems like it's been both way longer than that in some ways, and shorter than that in others. But now we are beginning to get to the point where we have routines down and we are feeling more comfortable. However, we know that routines can become ruts, especially when our lack of language skills mean we have the same conversations over and over again. Please pray that God would revitalize our hearts each day. Pray that he would energize us and give us fresh eyes for the people we know as well as the people he puts in front of us. Pray that God would continue to fill us with a passion to learn and that he would equip us to learn well and to learn quickly. Pray that God would help our family to be proactive with each other and to love each other passionately.
- The usuals - Catalina's hips and pregnancy, car, the visa process, friends for Elin, decision about Kindergarten and which one, pastor for our church. THANK YOU!

Who We Met

Since my hips and back hurt now, I've been walking to the grocery store and then calling for a taxi to take me home with the heavy load of groceries. There is a taxi service that I just call and they send someone. I know just barely enough Romanian to "order" the taxi: "Eu am nevoie de masina la Kaufland, va rog" (I need a car at Kaufland, please.). And usually there is just a simple response with some number and minutes, letting me know how soon the taxi will be there. The "script" is as easy as that!

Well one evening I went to the store after we got pizza out for dinner, so it was after dark when I was done shopping. I called the taxi service like normal (well, it was maybe my third time calling!) and suddenly the lady on the line said something I couldn't understand. She was asking me something and I clearly couldn't answer her since I didn't know what she was saying. I told her I only understand a little Romanian, tried to apologize, and ask again. But even then I couldn't say much of anything. She tried to repeat herself but didn't really do a good job of hiding her frustration and annoyance. Finally she just hung up on me.

I couldn't call back since I knew she would say the same thing, and it was

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to be two women standing over their own groceries near me, fussing over their own groceries. I timidly walked up to them and tried to explain in Romanian - that I couldn't speak much Romanian and needed a taxi. And then thank goodness one of the women started speaking a bit of broken English back to me! She and her mother helped me call the taxi service and were even kind enough to wait with me until the taxi got there. That gave me a few minutes to talk to them, and I learned that the English-speaking lady is named Erica, and though I learned her mother's name I don't remember it because it was very unique and I didn't know how to pronounce it well.

I was so grateful that the Lord sent me help in our community, and I pray that I will run into Erica and her mother again one day when I'm able to speak more Romanian and can truly say thank you to them. Please pray for these two ladies and that the Lord would protect and watch out for the people of Codlea as much as He watched over me this night of need.

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