

Jim and Becky White
Missionaries in Germany

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Germany

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July - August 2021

This poor man cried, and the LORD heard *him*, and saved him out of all his troubles.
(Psalms 34:6)

TINCA, ROMANIA...

As a missions outreach, the Sinti have reached out to an impoverished community of Roma Gypsies in Romania. Their ghetto is generally comprised of single-family dwellings of rows of rough single room dirt floor shacks similar to farm outbuildings. An entire family is housed in a single dwelling which generally lacks furniture other than a stove. For some years, our believers have been sending truckloads of clothing, food, school supplies, and other necessities to this community and now some of the huts now have a newer, more stable section added to them with electricity. These are the first phase of changing the neighborhood. These changes were made with Sinti and German churches providing the money with the Roma doing the work themselves. (After we invest in the community, the local government helps with utilities. In the future the EU is to give the city grants that will provide low income housing and paved streets.)



The latest effort has been to provide mattresses (as many of those receiving a mattress have been sleeping on anything available that would keep them off the dirt floor). Our Sinti churches in Germany, and a sister German church, have funded the delivery of these mattresses, with the first load of mattresses being delivered in July. We will follow up with another load of winter clothing in October. In addition to this, our churches send monthly financial support for the kitchen that provides a warm meal each day to children. It is encouraging that as a result of the support provided to this community by our churches and Manna International, those who were impoverished children in the early years have had the opportunity to grow up in the faith in a more normal environment and are now the young families and new generation Christians.

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Example of recent improved home construction

BAYREUTH...our building was flooded! The water level rose to almost three feet in the streets. It will take weeks for the foundation to dry. Our hope is to start renovating sometime after September 15th. Until then we have found a temporary home in a restaurant at a local sport club. We share the space with a soccer team and an American football team. Bruce has taken over the leadership of Bayreuth until we can return to Europe. Please pray for God's blessings on this congregation and their outreach.

HAIMING, AUSTRIA...our first summer campground visit (June 23-26). Becky and I flew to the USA on June 28th due to my mother's sickness. Menele, one of our ordained pastors, stayed on the campground to continue the work. As a result, we now have a new congregation and, on Saturday, July 10th, Menele baptized 10 believers. They have since moved to Germany and the

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believers are showing through their lives the power of the Gospel. Menele and Remo will take the newly group of baptized believers (July this year) and begin regular Sunday Services in the city of Alzey (near Worms, Germany) where many of these people live during the winter.



MEADVILLE, MISSISSIPPI...my mother had pulmonary psoriasis and was hospitalized after signing a DNR. Becky and I flew to the USA on Monday, June 28. For three weeks my brother, my three sisters and I were with her around the clock. (I had the 7pm to 7am shift.) My mother prayed with us, sang with us, and re-told stories of our youth. We made many good memories. On July 16, 2021, my mother left us to join our Saviour and her mother in heaven. Her passing was very peaceful with no signs of her illness. Please continue to pray for me, my brother and my three sisters.

COVID IN MISSISSIPPI...immediately following my mother's funeral, many of my family became ill with Covid. Becky and I were staying with my sister, Brenda, and her husband, Mike, when all four of us tested positive. Becky had a much worse case than I. Her oxygen level was low enough that she could have been hospitalized. At that time we were told that there were only 3 hospital beds available in the State of Mississippi and we would have been restricted from visiting her in a hospital, so we decided to keep her at home. My family helped me provide care for Becky and a nurse practitioner came daily to make sure that Becky's lungs remained free. Because of her nausea after eating, Becky was not able to keep her blood pressure and diabetic medicine in her system. Almost immediately her sugar level went over 400 and her blood pressure was at 180. Just as all hope was failing, Becky began to improve. In the following days we saw progress in her oxygen level, sugar and blood pressure numbers and she could drink "Ensure" without getting sick.

Prayer Requests:

- We have postponed our return to Germany until January, 2021. This will give Becky and me time to completely recover from the virus. During this recuperation, we have moved into a cabin on my niece's property (about a two-minute drive from my sister).
- With the pandemic and restrictions in Germany, please pray that we will be permitted to return to the field as planned.

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- With my staying in the USA until January, the men in each local congregation have the opportunity to establish their leadership without a missionary on location.
- Covid Restrictions have offered (or forced) leaders in each local Church to find innovative ways to minister to their members. One example is counseling done via Facetime or Whatsapp on their cell phones. Please pray for these leaders.
- Pray for Menele and Remo as they mentor the congregation of new believers in the church in Alzey this winter.
- Bruce is overseeing both the Würzburg and Bayreuth congregations. Please pray for Bruce and Joanna to continue having the wisdom of God and physical strength to maintain their schedule.

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