

# Hand of **HELP**



*December 2025 - January 2026*

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# *Unseasonably Busy*

God has graciously allotted seasons, and the wise adapt to them. As Solomon once noted, to everything there is a season, and a purpose for everything under heaven. The seasons he speaks of, and the seasons I am referring to, extend beyond the four most usually thought of, although I have learned to embrace the long Wisconsin winters and now welcome them as a time to slow down and, on occasion, catch up on much-needed rest.

Hand of Help's projects are typically cyclical in nature. We buy cows and build in the warm months, provide warmth by distributing firewood as temperatures drop in the cold ones, and distribute food as needed when the resources of those we have been called to serve run scarce.

This cold season has been quite different as we have had multiple requests for emergency building projects, both from desperate families and also from churches in remote areas of unreached peoples needing a gathering place before winter sets in and brings everything to a standstill.

As needs are made known to us and the Lord provides, we have continued to purchase cows well into the colder season as well. Try as the governments of the world might to spin the narrative in a positive light, the on-the-ground reality is that there are more hungry, naked, cold, and desperate people everywhere you look than in recent memory. We thank the Lord that we can continue to be a hand of help and respond, both in season and out!

Our doors are always open. We don't board up for the season or stop doing what we've been called to do. If there is a need and we can meet it, we do so with joy and gladness of heart.

The home of Vasilica Zaharia, a widow of only a few days, and her three children, is one such housing emergency. Florin died on December 8th after being in a coma for weeks and finally succumbing to the injuries sustained while riding his horse for work.

Florin was a hard worker and always provided for his family. With the little extra he was able to set aside, he started building a small home for his family. Unfortunately, he would never see it to completion.

We would like to come alongside Vasilica and her children and finish the project Florin started, which would require approximately \$8,000.

We know that God is a father to the fatherless and a defender of widows, and we trust that He will see this project to completion for the good of the Zaharia family but also as a testimony of provision to the villagers of Bocnita.

## *Vasilica Zaharia*





## *Mihai Lavinia Popescu*



Another emergent need we were recently made aware of is the home of Mihai and Lavinia Popescu in Gorj. They, too, have three small children. We visited them this summer, and though their dwelling is very small, they said it is sufficient for them to live in, but too small to continue having church services with the growing group.

Their desire is for a one-room addition to their home so that local believers will have an adequate place to gather for church services.

The Popescus came to the Lord only a few years ago, but have a burning desire to share the Gospel and their home with the community.

From their very limited means, Mihai and Lavinia started this project, praying it would be ready before winter sets in. We pray we can see this project through to completion, which requires approximately \$21,000, and that the villagers of Moi may assemble as the local body of Christ, reach, and have an impact on their community.

Thank you for another year of helping the least of these, and for your faithful prayers and support of this work! We look forward to less busy seasons, but until then, we work while there is still a need and while there is still day.

Philippians 4:19-20, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Hand of Help Staff



# Love Mercy — In Training

Micah 6:8, “He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?”

We are grateful to the Lord for the many children He has brought into our care at Hand of Help.

Our desire is not simply to raise children, but to “bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”



The Hand of Help children are truly blessed to have a team of staff role models surrounding them, not only to share the truths of God’s Word with them, but to lead them in the way they should go by personal example.

Parenting comes with many challenges, and anyone who’s raised children can attest to this truth. There are so many lessons to teach and virtues to develop in one’s young life, and each is important and impactful, helping to mold who they will be.



Praise God that He has equipped His children with His Spirit “both to will and to do for His good pleasure”, and as such, we are left without excuse.

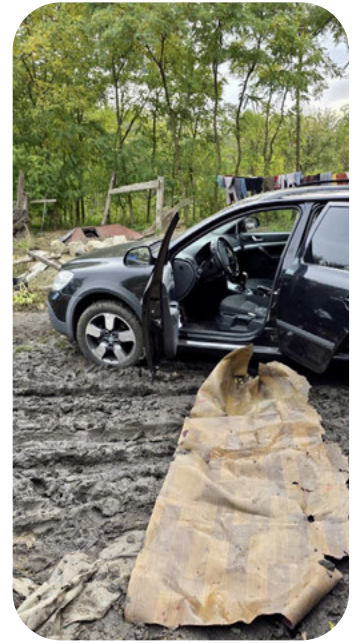
Please join us in praying that the children in our care will have tender hearts that respond to the Gospel and be filled with the Spirit, bringing about these virtues in their lives.

During a recent mission trip, some of the Hand of Help children were sent with the outreach team serving in the neighboring villages, so that they, too, might experience firsthand Hand of Help's other projects, ministering to the hurting and downtrodden in those communities.

Their time in the villages is not only beneficial insofar as reminding them of the poverty the Lord has brought them out of, leading to a greater appreciation for what they have, but also in instilling in them a deep love for mercy and people.

Thank you for making this fertile training ground possible!

The Hand of Help Staff



# Unseasonably Busy — Food Distribution



# *Unseasonably Busy — Firewood*



# *Unseasonably Busy — Clothing Distribution*



# *Unseasonably Busy – Cow Project*



Ungureanu family



Furdui family



Agafitei family



Afloarei family



Afloarei family cow

# Child of the Month

Luca B. (born in June 2008), along with his brother, Benjamin (last edition's Child of the Month), became a part of our family in the fall of 2025. He is currently a high school student specializing in Automobile Mechanics, but, along with his passion for mechanics, Luca is also excited about pursuing a barbering course. He has been proactively looking and has found one he would like to attend (the cost is around \$800, and we would like to help him with it so he can enroll). He desires to start practicing this skilled trade once he gets his diploma.

We are overjoyed to see Luca and Benjamin among our other children, not having to carry the weight of many worries on their fragile shoulders.

Soon after their parents married, they decided to move to Italy, where they worked for four years. After the birth of their second child, the family determined their best course of action was to move back to Romania.

However, after seven months filled with numerous verbal and even physical conflicts, some even in the presence of their children, the father decided to return to Italy and abandoned his family. He stopped not only providing for and caring for his family back home, but also communicating with them altogether.

Since then, Luca's mother remarried and has tried her best to provide for all her children. However, after the birth of two other children with her new husband, it became increasingly clear to her that they would not be able to adequately provide for the boys. Her second husband is doing his best to find enough work to cover all family expenses, but often falls short of meeting the children's needs.

Both brothers are currently in high school, but Luca had a hard time keeping up with his

studies last year - he was spending a long time traveling to and from school, could not always get there in time, did not have enough time to finish his homework or money to invest in his education and was so exhausted from all these issues that his grades reflected these difficulties. He was at imminent risk of dropping out of school.

Realizing this danger and the fact that Benjamin, who was recently admitted to high school, could end up facing the same problems, their mother asked us to take her boys into our care and ensure that they have a proper opportunity to grow up in an environment that would offer them all that they need, from housing, food, clothing, medical care to educational help and support. Years prior, she was a recipient of financial aid through our Brother's Keeper program, and, knowing our ministry's work so well, she did not hesitate to ask for help.

The brothers are now both part of our House of Joy. They are constantly in touch with their mother and siblings. We support them in visiting their family during weekends and school breaks. Oftentimes, Luca and Benjamin spend their time helping their mother around the house.

Please join us in praying for Luca and his family. We are thankful God has provided a home away from home for him, and we bring this child before our Father. May the Holy Spirit work in his life and bring him to saving faith! May He guide him in all decisions and comfort him as he navigates the challenges of this new chapter of his life. May his life be one of complete surrender and obedience to his Creator. And may our gracious Father give much wisdom to our staff as they come alongside many children. We pray that the seeds sown will bring forth much fruit!



# Dear Brethren,

Ephesians 2:4-7, "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

There are things in life that the world tells us should matter, must matter, issues we should prioritize and causes we should get behind, and, since they have decided thusly, we have no choice but to show the same dedication they do. The selfsame people who look their noses down on believers, who demean, mock, scorn, dehumanize, and dismiss us, have concluded that because some innocuous thing matters to them, it should, by right, matter to us as well. That's just neighborly after all.

If they don't, if we don't give them the prominence expected of us in our daily lives, if we are not as obsessive and utterly beside ourselves about one of a hundred things, we are deemed the lesser for it, deserving to be shunned and ostracized for not prioritizing the cause celeb du jour.

How can you not care that the climate is changing? How can you not care that the earth is cooling, warming, getting more humid, or drier? It is, after all, the existential crisis of our time! Because the Bible tells me the earth and everything in it will pass away, whether I hike the fifteen miles to work or drive my car.

The only existential crisis I can think of, the only one that matters beyond the handful of years we have on this earth, is that tens of thousands of souls are dying every day without having humbled themselves, without having repented, and without having known Jesus as their Lord and King. That is a terrifying, oftentimes nearly overwhelming reality that we, as believers, are constantly cognizant of.

Time itself is winding down, and everything is coming to a head. For the believer, that in itself is not a reason for fear or apprehension but for rejoicing. Everything the Word of God said would happen is happening, and soon the part about the Son of Man coming in the glory of His Father with His angels, and rewarding each according to his works, will likewise come to pass.

What will be the cause of men's hearts failing them from fear is what will cause the believer's heart to rejoice because, in

seeing the events of which Scripture foretells coming to pass, we also know that it is time to look up, knowing that our redemption draws nigh.

It seems as though every day there's some new imagined cataclysmic catastrophe everyone's telling us should be the thing that would strip us of the hope we have in Christ, that it's the thing that will cause us to dive into the pool of hopelessness they are wading in, and it's usually by those who never had hope to begin with.

It's not because they're looking out for your best interest, or they want you to be aware, but because they do not understand how you can have hope and faith and be at peace in the face of adversity and the expectation of those things which are coming upon the earth. It's not because they're kind-hearted souls that want to awaken you to reality; they're cold, glib, and callous souls who envy the hope you have to the point that they will insist you share in their hopelessness, for to them and their worldview, that is the only reasonable response to what is happening.

There are things that God tells us matter, and those are the things that genuinely do. Whether it's deepening our trust, growing our faith, or resting in His sovereignty, it's the things God says matter that we should prioritize and focus upon because they are of eternal consequence, and not some fleeting flash in the pan that is forgotten as soon as the new thing turns the corner and there's something else to capture the ever-decreasing attention span of the multitudes.

The full assurance that God made us alive together with Christ is one of those truths that should always be at the forefront of our minds, regardless of what is going on around us. Our Redeemer lives, and He is returning! So what if the nations rage and the people plot a vain thing? He is returning! So what if now, for a little while, we are grieved by various trials? Jesus is returning, and that is the hope we cling to as everything around us begins to unravel and the fulfillment of what has been foretold comes to pass.

Ecclesiastes 3:10-11, "I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

With love in Christ,  
Michael Boldea, Jr.