

The Chalmers Family

Serving the poor and needy in Poiana
Matthew 25:31-40



Family Update

We can't believe that it has been so long since we wrote an update on our family news! There is always so much to share within the ministry and all the amazing things that God is doing but many people ask us how we are doing and what needs do we have. So here is a quick update on The Chalmers Family.

This year has been a very busy year, and although we say this every year, it has been extremely busy for us and a very physical year also. As well as the day to day work that we are involved in with the church and the village community, we have been involved in insulating 9 houses this year and also have had 10 teams come to visit and help the work within the village, delivering much needed wood to the familiesoops.....slipping into ministry news again!

Alex and Heather

We are both doing well even although it has been a physically challenging year for us it has also been a fantastic year so far. We have people on the teams going home exhausted but exhilarated, and changed. We tell them that they are here for one week, we do this all the time!

Alex absolutely loves insulating houses as it is challenging but makes so much of a difference

to the family for the winter months. This last year we have seen more doors opening to speak to people, because of the impact that we have had in the village since we have been making 'random acts of kindness' our goal in the community. It is a joy to see Alex speaking to people in the streets, in Romanian, and seeing him transformed in this way. Alex used to always take someone with him to help with the language, but not anymore. He is amazing and loving every minute of it!

Heather has physically helped with the house insulations this year as well and has loved the challenge and discovered a new skill.... skimming plaster. With us both being there it means that we can have conversations with the whole family when we are there, and that is what it is all about.



We love having teams and having some down time with them. Many of the people who come have been coming for years and so have become close friends over the years.



Heather loves the hospitality side of it all as well until they leave. Then we must say goodbye, which is not always easy, and then there is all the bedding to wash and dry ready for the next team's arrival 😊



Alex getting ready to support Romania in the European Cup 😊

We are still loving the church services and we are being challenged always to keep it fresh and not to slip into traditions and always ruts. It is exciting to see people grow and become closer to God. We have recently started a new Bible Study format which Heather translates and Elena, Andrew's fiancée proof reads to check for mistakes.

Andrew

It has been an exciting but also trying year for Andrew. He is such an integral part of the ministry and loves being involved with the house insulations. He is also very good at it. He still loves working with the children and we have seen him grow so much this year in many ways.

His biggest challenge has been work. It is possible to find work but it all depends if the firm that he is working for is willing to go the extra mile and sort out the paperwork. He is a Permanent Resident which is what causes the problems. He has found work several times

this year and it has not been possible for him to have a contract and be paid.

We have started the process of him becoming a citizen which will take a while after he has all his papers in place and then he must take an exam so we would value your prayers on this matter. He just wants to work and earn some money. It is frustrating knowing that he has lived here longer than in the UK and then we know people who leave here to work in another country and they get a job the next day.

Andrew also passed his driving test in July. He took the theory test in English 3 times and failed but then he took it in Romanian and passed first time! This has given him a lot more confidence and it is strange for Dad to be sitting in the passenger seat while Andrew drives.

Andrew and Elena have set the date for their wedding! 29th July 2017.



Andrew and Elena working on a house

It is going to be a big year next year as Alex and Heather also celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary.

This weekend we are travelling to Glasgow to meet up with our family and introduce Elena to them all. It will be a very exciting time as we haven't seen them for some time and will be a very new experience for Elena, who has never

flown before. Andrew has a long list of things in Glasgow and Edinburgh that he wants her to see, even although they are only there for 3 days!!

Alex and Heather are staying for an extra few days to have a much-needed break and to visit friends in Killingworth and share about the work here in Poiana.

We would appreciate your prayers for the trip. We are so aware of our parents getting older and although they are keeping well it has been quite a tough time for Heather's dad with age related health problems and not being as mobile as he would like.

Sad News

One piece of sad news is that the van has finally died. Two weeks ago, it broke down on the road and had to be towed to a garage. It was going to cost well over £1000 just to fix the engine part and then there is everything else. We just couldn't justify spending that amount of money on it and then there was no guarantee that it would be reliable again. It has served us well over the years but it means now that we have no ministry transport at all and only one car for 3 drivers. Many times, we must be in different places at the one time. We are having to make multiple trips in the car to pick up the children for clubs and have no vehicle to move items around ie wood delivery. We managed to sell the van for parts and we can put that towards a new vehicle which will help.

This is urgent need now and we would ask you to pray for a new vehicle and if you can help in any way then please get in touch with us.

Praise and Thanks

We are so thankful to God for all the things that he has enabled us to do and how He continues to use us here in Poiana. When we look back at what he has done we are just amazed! We may not be qualified in many areas but God has called us, equipped us and given us skills and knowledge far above what we could ever imagine.

We are so thankful for every one of you who prays for us, supports us and keeps in touch with us. We appreciate you all and honestly couldn't do what we do without you!

Prayer Points

- Please pray for all the items mentioned in the update with a few specifics.
- Andrew as he applies for citizenship and a place of work for him and the upcoming wedding.
- For continued health, protection and guidance.
- For continued provision.
- For a new ministry vehicle.

Please keep in touch and many blessings to you all,

Alex, Heather and Andrew

We are totally supported by the giving of others to continue to be here.

If you can give in any way, either as a one-off donation or a regular SO then please use one of the options below and THANK YOU!

Barclays Bank: Mr A & Mrs HF Chalmers Account No 40575453 Sort Code 20-25-69

Swift Code: BERCGB22

IBAN no: GB64BARC20256940575453

If you would like to Gift Aid the amount, then it has to be via Kings Christian Centre.

Barclays Bank: Kings Christian Centre Mold. Account No: 40595071 Sort Code: 20-25-69

Ref: The Chalmers Family (this is important so that we actually receive it)

If you need a gift aid form then please contact Howard Litherland, Kings Christian Centre, Mold.

