

An Update From Our Teen Leader Erin Deale

With each group this month, I focused on doing some get-to-know-you games and team building activities for me to get to know them and them to get to know me. I find that games are a great way for me to connect with the teens since there is no language required. We can laugh and cheer together and the teens make more eye contact when playing games. When using a translator, they tend to make eye contact with the translator rather than with me, which makes it more difficult to establish relationship with them since we are communicating through someone else.

This month we met for the first time with all the groups (girls and boys) together to have a thanksgiving celebration. During this celebration we talked about Psalm 30:12 and being thankful for God and who He is in our lives. The kids enjoyed crafts and created activity stations and after had their first thanksgiving dinner (chicken leg, mashed potatoes and gravy). There was also some friendly competition between all three groups in memorizing their bible verses. Every boy in the boys group knew their bible verse by heart and was able to recite it to the large group!



TEEN GIRLS

This was our first time meeting with the girls since splitting the group into two (younger and older). Both groups shared they were happy that they were split into smaller groups and girls that had not previously shared during group were able to give their input during group activities. To make it their own, we had the girls brainstorm a name for their group. We played some get-to-know-you games and did some team building activities.

While Steffi was in Germany this fall for Missions Fest she set up pen-pals with the teens at her home church. This month we presented letters from youth group there and the girls were actively engaged in writing response letters.

In the past the idea of memorizing bible verses has been a bit of challenge for the girls. We spent time discussing bible verses and how they apply to our daily lives. This month we focused on verses that talk about supporting one another.



So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

TEEN BOYS

*"He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."
Ephesians 4:16*



We are very thankful to have found a new translator for the boys group. His name is Laurentiu and is a business owner in Brasov; he is doing a great job with the boys. This month we had couple of volunteers from Michigan who went with us to the village to play football (soccer) with the boys. It was a great time!

This month we presented a letter from the youth group in Germany and all five boys participated in writing a response letter. They shared that they were coming to this group separate from going to church and were learning about God at their meetings.

The boys have done a great job memorizing their bible verses and engage in discussion about what the verses mean and how they apply to our daily lives. It is great to see them making such an effort.



Our groups share Thanksgiving Dinner together for our monthly combined meeting.

Committed to Their Futures

We met with the Director of the school in Budila to begin establishing communication regarding the students who are currently in our groups. The Director immediately asked if we were at our limit for the number of students we could take in the group. She was also impressed that we pay for transportation, snacks and activities. We will be in regular contact with the Director in regards to the teenagers academic performance and school attendance. We are looking forward to strengthening our efforts to support the education of these teens.