

Reformation Romania

Planting a Confessional Reformed Church In Bucharest, Romania

OCTOBER 2016 UPDATE



ABOUT ROMANIA

- Romania is a country in Central-Eastern Europe in which live about 20 million people of which the majority are nominal Eastern Orthodox.
- The Romanian people traces its ancestry back to the Romanized Thracian populations living in the Northern Balkans. The Romanian language is a Romance language that evolved from Vulgar Latin.
- Romania is currently recovering after four decades of communism. The economic situation of the country improved especially since it became part of NATO in 2004 and a member state of the European Union in 2007.
- Bucharest (2.2 million people) is the capital of Romania and the 6th largest city of the European Union.
- Approximately 97% of the people living in Bucharest are Eastern Orthodox, 1% Evangelical, 1% Atheist, and 1% belonging to other religions.
- The only Romanian Reformed denomination that ever existed was formed in the 16th century by Hungarian Reformed missionaries but it died out in the 19th century.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I praise our Lord that, by his grace, the ministry of the *Evangelical Reformed Church of Bucharest* has now entered in its third month of existence. Here, in Bucharest, we are deeply thankful for the love and generosity of the URCNA people and churches which help make this mission work possible. Our prayer is that one day we would have a Romanian Reformed denomination that would be a blessing for the generations to come.

Since returning to Romania, I have been preaching through Hebrews on Sunday mornings and through Ecclesiastes on Sunday evenings. The book of Hebrews helps us lay a sound foundation in understanding the work of Christ and the book of Ecclesiastes helps us navigate the absurdity of this fallen world. In order to get the message out, we have been video recording the sermons and posting them on social media. This allows for more people to learn about our church plant and about the Gospel. We had several visitors in the past couple of months, but this last Sunday we had the first walk-in, our first visitor who learned about us through Facebook and YouTube.

On October 31st we plan to organize a Reformation Day meeting to celebrate the 16th century Protestant Reformation and present the important role that the Reformation has also for us today, as an orthodox recovery of the Gospel in the Church. We hope to use this meeting as a means to point people to Christ and introduce them to our church plant. Please pray for our small church plant and for the outreach efforts that are under way. Pray that the Lord would use his Gospel to bring sinners to faith!

Warmly in Christ,
Rev. Mihai Corcea

Evangelical Reformed Church of Bucharest

P.S. If you have any questions regarding Romania or about our mission work please contact me at mihaiorcea@christurc.org