

# Reformation Romania

Planting a confessional Reformed church in Bucharest

NOVEMBER 2019

Dear brothers and sisters of the United Reformed Churches,

Greetings from Romania! I am thankful to our Lord and very glad to write this report. Several positive developments in our mission work have brought great encouragement to us. Here is what happened since I last wrote you:

We organized a conference with Dr. Michael Horton who lectured on Sola Scriptura. Promoting this protestant principle is a key component of our outreach since the Eastern Orthodox value the church fathers and the church fathers are clear on the authority and sufficiency of Scripture.

About 50 new people attended the meeting and we were glad for the opportunity to meet people and discuss about the Reformation. Most participants were from Bucharest, but we also had people driving several hours to attend the conference. We see an increased interest in the Reformation coming from several other cities. One person from Bucharest who came to the conference has since then continued to attend regularly our Sunday services.

We finalized two publishing projects: Reformation Sketches by Dr. Godfrey and the Canons of Dort. We were glad to see an increased interest in our books as more people discover them. Other two titles are now in the last stages of the editing process: a biography of Calvin by Dr. Godfrey and a new edition of the Heidelberg Catechism. Next year we hope to publish a book on prayer and a biography of Cyril Lukaris, the patriarch of Constantinople who became Reformed.



*Dr. Horton teaching in Bucharest*



*Meeting new people at the conference.*



*The Canons of Dort ready for delivery to the people interested in Reformed theology.*

As new people started attending our Sunday services, the old meeting place became too small. We started looking for a new place and by God's providence we reached an agreement with a mainline Hungarian Lutheran church in Bucharest. We now use their sanctuary after the end of their service. We meet at noon which is not an ideal time but it has provided us with the opportunity to have lunch together every Sunday. Having a more traditional church building helps remove some of the barriers we have in reaching out to the Eastern Orthodox people.



*Our new meeting place.*

We rejoiced in the profession of faith of Sebastian, a young man who grew up as an Eastern Orthodox in Transylvania but in the recent couple of years has discovered Reformed theology. Two years ago when we first published the Heidelberg Catechism he found our website, asked for the book, read it and then we started corresponding. This fall Sebastian moved to Bucharest to study at the university and he became member of our church.



*Sebastian (middle) being welcomed as a new member of our church plant. Elders Hooper (center left) and Taylor (center right) from Christ URC Santee were also present for the annual oversight visit.*

We are encouraged to see how a publishing project from two years ago is bearing fruit in the present. We often do things for which we do not see an immediate result but we are thankful the Lord is at work even when we can't see that.

Several other new visitors are regularly attending our Sunday services and one of them has also started the membership course. Because some of the visitors are students, we are looking forward to starting a midweek meeting for students in a coffee shop downtown. We hope those meetings will be a good opportunity to meet new people and discuss matters related to faith and life.

We are thankful for your support and we are encouraged to know that you are praying for us. Please continue praying for our church plant in Bucharest. Pray for the visitors who attend our meeting that the Spirit might work faith in their heart. Pray for all the outreach projects that the Lord might use them to draw people to his church.

Warmly in Christ,  
Rev. Mihai Corcea

*P.S. Donations can be directed to  
Christ United Reformed Church Santee,  
10333 Mast Blvd, Santee, CA 92071  
(please specify your support is for Romania)*