



# OSCER

*Making Disciples among Students in Romania*

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A Blessed Christmas to All!



## Merry Christmas!

Each year the celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus, is a special time for every Christian! There seems to be magic in the air that makes us all feel different at this time of year! We all try and unpack Christmas of all the secular wrapping and rejoice in the extraordinary news from the Angel, *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”*

At the same time, December comes as a time to evaluate and reflect.

This year we in OSCER—students reaching students in Romania, want to talk about what God has done among us and celebrate together: the miracle when we walked into the dorms in Iasi with the Good News, the enthusiasm and motivation among students in Cluj, and when we ask ourselves why we do what we do and the extraordinary joy that came when we celebrated in Bucharest the birth of our Savior. The Adventure continues amongst students *“From Him through Him and to Him!”*

Sincerely,

*Alex Ilie*



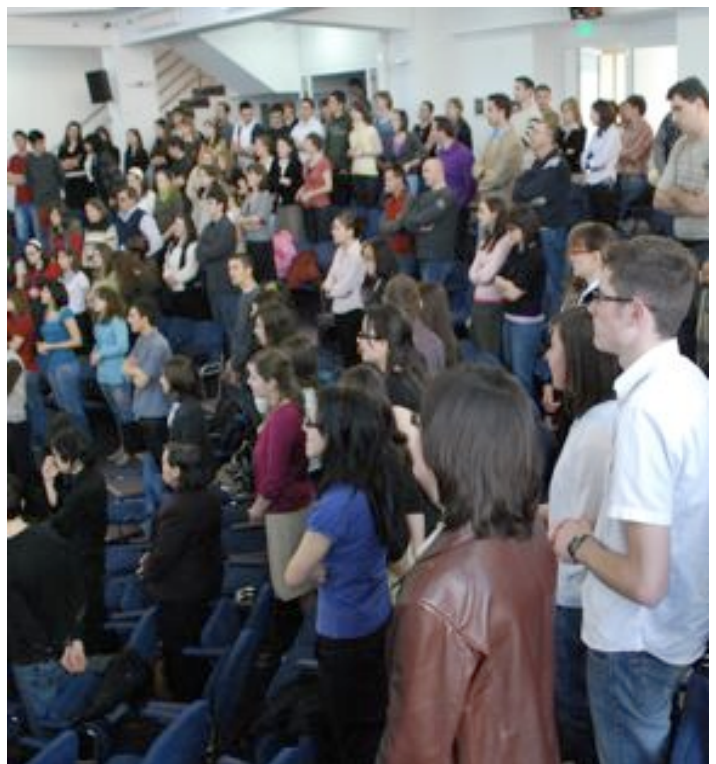
## Taking the Good News into the dorms in Iași



In 2009 the group in Iasi was marked with two big events, a week long evangelistic outreach in the Spring and then in the Fall in the two biggest dorm areas in the city. A group of OSCER students united together with students of Campus Crusade, Ecclesia Church, Nehemiah Church and another 6-7 churches.

Thousands of students heard the Gospel, hundreds of them were left thinking more deeply and a handful of them we have kept in touch with by inviting them to special events or discussions groups; a few of them have even come closer to Christ. God worked in the student’s hearts. Many said „I have never heard these things before” or „Tell me this again, don’t leave for the next room yet.” One students had a dream 3 days before, that 3 people would come to her and would tell her something important for her soul. Alos, one night at 3 am. an OSCER student heard some students arguing in the hall, „salvation is not by grace, but by works!” „How can it not be by works!” This was one of our goals, that students would begin to discuss the Gospel among themselves and it would be normal to discuss the Gospel in public.

*Emi Peia, Iasi*





## Motivational Retreat: Cluj



One of the annual events of our group is the retreat at Someșul Rece and the purpose of this retreat is to motivate the students, with a special emphasis on first year students in discipleship and evangelism. The verse Judges 6:14: Go in this might of yours... do not I send you? motivated us to think BIG, or more accurately, that we are students in Cluj put here with a purpose: to tell our friends about our Lord.

During the retreat we studied the Bible together, we had a times of worship and in small groups we tried to identify, to stimulate and to develop interest in forming new discipleship groups.

We put an accent on developing friendships with our colleagues, that do not yet know Jesus. Our free time was a tool to get to know one another better and to discuss ideas and challenges raised in the small groups.

Our joy after this event is that 15 of the 20 first year students have entered into discipleship groups. One encouraging testimony was from *Stefanei Lazarean*: "What attracted me to the group is the vision for our colleagues that don't know Christ. I have participated in other groups for students in other settings, but they lack the focus on those that don't know Christ. I believe that this fact makes this student group special and I want to get involved here!"

We can do nothing but be grateful to God for these dedicated students and to continuing to invest in them, as others have invested in us!  
*Ligia Dobie, Cluj*



## Bucharest: A Student Christmas

God completely blessed us on December 15 as the rented Hall in the center of Bucharest was filled up and there was standing room only!! We invited the Evangelical Choir and tenor Slavic Vuple for a concert of Christmas carols as well Dave Cox had a special message. Of the approximately 400 students about 150 of them were not followers of Jesus.

Besides the concert we offered free New Testaments and other Christian literature, we had a group presentation especially focusing on the ski camp and English camps and we offered students the opportunity to contact us for more information.

The mobilization of the OSCEB students was impressive as well. They invited their colleagues as well as passed out about 10,000 invitations to the concert. Here is a testimony from one in attendance:



*This year as never before I felt the need to be in an atmosphere of Christmas and this happened at the concert organized by OSCEB! For over an hour I had the opportunity to forget about myself and to be reminded about the true meaning of Christmas: The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The evangelical choir with divine voices, succeeded through the message of their songs to challenge me to want to be a better person, more tolerant and more optimistic in world always in a hurry and usually, as they reminded us at the beginning of the concert, forgets the true meaning of Christmas. (Alexandra, Engineering student)*

*Cristi Roman, Bucuresti*

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