



Cheryl VanZandbergen <cheryl@cityviewcc.net>

For I know the plans I have for you

1 message

Alex & Cami <alexandcami.v@barnabas.org>
Reply-To: Alex & Cami <alexandcami.v@barnabas.org>
To: Cheryl <cheryl@cityviewcc.net>

Sat, Jan 18, 2025 at 5:44 PM

For I know the plans I have for you.
(Jer 29:11)

Our Father knows the plans He has for us

January 2025

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11-13

Dear **Cheryl**,

It's so encouraging to look ahead in this new year with the assurance that our Creator and Redeemer has already made plans for us, and that these plans are good plans, to offer us hope and a future with Him. His invitation and desire for us is to glorify Him and walk with Him. There are moments when God may seem distant, but in reality, He's constantly pursuing us with His love and invitation to join Him in what He's doing in this world. It is so comfortingly safe to know that when we seek Him with all of our hearts, He can be found, and He hears our prayers and answers them. We're blessed to experience these truths daily as a family, and we wish this for you too at the beginning of this year, so that the presence of our Heavenly Father, His Son and the Holy Spirit will stay with us all until the end of this year and the end of our lives.



Great opportunities for 2025

We look forward to the special opportunities the Lord has placed before us in the new year. Some of them will involve our continuous commitment to serve His local and cross-cultural workers at the “Oasis with the Father” in the summer, women’s conferences, training cross-cultural workers, serving in the churches in the diaspora or visiting least resourced missionaries on the field. However, we’re also planning new initiatives, such as a Member Care pilot training for member care providers in Romania; a world Think Tank to come up with best practices for contextualizing Mission education and Member Care worldwide; consulting for a small team who are working to start a mission agency for a Romanian denomination. We’re grateful to the Lord for these invitations and we’d like to invite you to pray with us that His will is done in all our endeavors.



Spain – AVA women’s conference for cross-cultural missionaries

I (Cami) have always enjoyed doing women’s ministry, but in the past few years, I have had the honor of serving cross-cultural missionaries together with an exceptional team at AVA conferences. In a few days I will be travelling to Spain, where we will get together with over 100 women serving in 50 countries. As in previous years, I have the privilege of inviting along two Romanian workers. Besides serving as a Christian psychotherapist, I will also be leading daily small group meetings for the duration of the conference. No one else can understand the heart and challenges of a missionary woman as another missionary woman! Therefore, they have such a great need for encouragement, fellowship and care, and we have seen the difference this event makes in their life and work to spread the Gospel across the world. Here are the translated testimonies from two Romanian missionary ladies who attended the event in previous years:

“This was a special experience for me, despite the long trip, and I thank the Lord for this amazing time. I have received the peace my soul needed so much. I loved meeting other missionaries and sharing our experiences, I was encouraged, and I left with my heart full of joy and more courage to proclaim the Gospel.” (E., Romanian missionary in Cyprus)

“AVA – a place, a time, burdened women, His presence and... me.

Getting a place at this conference was a miracle. When I arrived, I wondered ‘why am I here?’. Hearing the testimonies of the other women, I thought about how blessed and problem-free I was compared to them. I didn’t understand why I was there until the second day, when I met with my counsellor. Then she opened my ‘file’. I was horrified at how well I had been hiding, I had put myself aside pretending I was doing well, to the point where I even started to believe it! I had hidden behind the problems of those around me and behind daily chores and tasks so well that I couldn’t find myself anymore. And the most painful part was that I couldn’t find the One who mattered to me most – my Lord and Savior, Jesus.

His Word, praise and worship songs, fellowship, encouragement, time to meditate – precious time I needed so much, prayer, His love and presence, healing, freedom, joy! – this was my experience at AVA.

The last sentences I wrote in my journal after the last day of the conference read: ‘I am free! I went to bed as light as a feather! I slept through until 5.30 a.m. I don’t even know if my roommate snored. I didn’t hear her. I think she slept well too :). Today, I must climb the mountain and be with the Lord :).’

While at AVA I realized how much I needed this time to find myself again, time to find Him again. I was strengthened by the presence and testimonies of the other women. I wrote down everything I learnt so I can find myself in case I get lost again. I shared these truths with my sisters in the community where we serve and with my friends, because they too needed to be encouraged.” (A., Romanian missionary in Far East Asia).



There is no greater joy or fulfilment for us than to facilitate fresh, authentic, transforming encounters between our Lord and His children, such as these. We’re constantly experiencing this joy, but during these events, the glory and presence of our Lord is almost palpable.

As we step into a new year, we want to tell you once again that we cannot do any of this without you! Your constant prayers and generous giving are reaching the ends of the earth! Thanks to you and the gifts you sent we can continue the work our Father has for us this year. We want you to be as encouraged as we are that our Lord is working tirelessly across the entire world to strengthen and prepare His bride for His coming. Maranatha!

Serving together,
Alex & Cami
Lavi & David

Donation means investment. [Click here to invest now!](#)

Copyright © 2025 MailChimp, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this e-mail because you are our praying partners for the work God is doing through us in Romania

Our mailing address is:

MailChimp
Bucharest
Bucharest 021211
Romania

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

