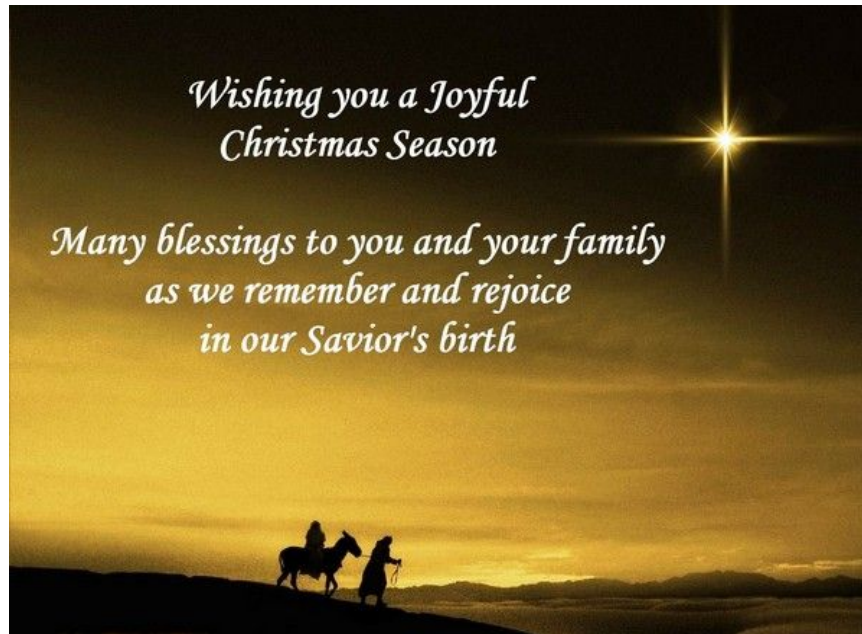


A Christmas Prayer from the Veritas Staff

We pray your spirit is light with hope, your heart is filled with joy and your holiday is blessed with the Glory of God. May God's love bring you peace at Christmas and always.



Elephants for Peace contest

Recently, a teddy bear caused discord among the children at the Children's Day Centre. This led to a discussion about peace and war and we decided to turn the apple of discord into an Elephant for Peace. Throughout the project we used "Tie on the Mouth" as a peace manifest.

The Veritas Elephant of the team of Peacemakers from the Veritas Children's Day Centre, guided by the talented visual artist Teli Iacşa, participated in the Elephants for Peace competition held in Baia Mare. Their image was used for the month of March in the Elephants for Peace calendar.



Riding and Archery Camp



From 26 to 30 June, 20 children and teenagers of the Veritas Children's Day Centre enjoyed a week of harmony in Toplița, surrounded by nature. They experienced horse riding, archery and lots of hiking. The children and teens made memories they will carry with them into the future. It was a time of great emotional fulfillment and unforgettable moments.

Health Camp a Great Success

Veritas Foundation hosted a health camp for six weeks in July hosting 120 children from Sighisoara and surrounding areas. During the camp there were interactive presentations about the human body, healthy nutrition, the role of activity and rest for good functioning of the body, as well as the importance of balance between body, mind and soul. Alongside these presentations, there were games specific to each day, in which children exercised and experience diversity, as young people from different social backgrounds, physical abilities and ethnicities participated in this camp together.



Healthy snacks, fruit and a hearty lunch which included items from the food groups we learned about in the presentations, were served. The camp, which was a great success for the children and for the entire community, was a part of the project "Your Health Matters" sponsored by the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of Trondheim - Norway, the Municipality of Sighisoara, the Sighisoara Social Welfare Department, and of course Fundatia Veritas.

Jan Hockensmith Laun – Veritas Friend for 27 Years



We mourn the death of Jan Hockensmith Laun, who passed away on October 8, 2023 after suffering from cancer for a short time. Her last visit to Sighisoara was in May of this year.

Jan was a professor of Social Work at Olivet Nazarene University in Illinois. She first came to Romania in 1996 with a group of university professors to learn about the Romanian Studies Program (RSP). She quickly became a fan of RSP and was very active in encouraging Olivet students to spend a semester in Romania. Each year in May Jan also accompanied a group of students for a three-week Romanian experience. Without a doubt Jan brought more American students to Sighisoara than any other person. Working alongside our Romanian staff, these students contributed so much to Veritas for many years through their fresh ideas, energy, compassion, and financial support.

Jan loved Romania, Sighisoara, Veritas and even after retiring, she still came almost every year, offering devotions, activities for elderly and special needs clubs, and helping out wherever needed. Jan was very generous. She always traveled to Romania with two huge suitcases full of gifts for staff and materials for programs.

Nine years ago, Jan married George Laun, a widower, and a very practical man. He gladly came with Jan to Romania and helped Ghita with all sorts of projects and repairs at Veritas. George was in total agreement with Jan's generosity, and her financial support for the Veritas Foundation. When Jan died, George suggested that her friends make donations to Veritas. Faith, kindness, faithfulness, generosity, and perseverance are traits that Jan has modeled for us. Let us thank God for her, and others who have been an example to us. May God give us the grace to finish the race well, as she did.

Evening of Togetherness



The Evening of Togetherness was one result of Veritas' participation in the Confer Project (through the Royal Margareta Foundation of Romania). The goal of this event was to awaken the interest of Sighisoara citizens about the needs of the community. During the event there was a tour of the Foundation and short artistic performances by all beneficiaries of the Veritas Community Centre. Thirty-six community participants, staff and beneficiaries, made it an

evening to remember. We all realized how much we need each other, and how each positive change requires initiative, faith in what we do, and support.

Staff have benefited from Confer project training in foundation development and were provided with practical information and support resources. Another result of this project was the development of a new website which can be found at www.veritas.ro. (English speakers, click on the small flag in the top bar.)

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our staff to grow in faith and wisdom.
- Pray for the projects that we are running and for the peace and wisdom of our leaders.

You can help us:

We want to organize summer camp called Jan's camp for 100 children from our program and from the community that includes: Artworks, music, sport and cooking in total- and the cost for that is \$4500.

All donations are tax deductible.

Online donations can be made at <https://give.ncm.org/donate/134477>

You can mail your donations to NCM (Nazarene Compassionate Ministries).

Put "Veritas Romania" in the memo line and mail to: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries PO Box 843116 Kansas City, MO 64184

In the UK, donations can be sent to the Titus Trust, c/o Dr. Paul Tarrant, 129 Mains Drive, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7JJ or directly to the Titus Trust (IBAN GB85 BOFS80-13- 53 06 0009 36) Bank of Scotland, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7AA.

Visit our website: www.veritas.ro

"Like" our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/VeritasSighisoara

