



DECEMBER 2021 PRAYER LETTER

Over the past 18 years here in Moldova, we have watched as the celebrations and traditions of Christmas have changed in the country, but also in the churches here. Our first many years here on December 25th, stores and businesses would still be open and the majority of people would be working and no decorations would even be put up until the 25th. Most of the country still celebrated Christmas on January 7th according to the old Julian calendar. Unlike in North America, Moldovans do not usually give gifts at Christmas, but instead their New Year's celebrations are the time of a big feast and presents. This is just one more way that we have observed over the years, of how the Soviet Union tried to de-emphasize God in the people's lives, and instead put the emphasis on something that distracts from the true meaning of the season. Over the years, as people have immigrated or gone abroad to work, many here in Moldova have started to celebrate Christmas on December 25th like in the West. Being an Orthodox country, many people talk about Christmas as the time of Christ's birth. They know bits and pieces of the story, but that is all it is to them, just a story. **Please pray for us and for the members of Maranatha Baptist Church, that we will use every opportunity that we have this Christmas season to share the true meaning of Christ's birth here on earth over 2,000 years ago, and how He came to be our Prince of Peace through the salvation of our sins.** As we meet together and celebrate His birth, we do not want to forget that His main reason for coming was to die for our sins.

Along side our Christmas eve service, Sunday Morning service, and a church fellowship, we have asked each family of the church to put together some care packages for people in need this time of the year. **Please pray for this to be a blessing to those who receive the care package, but that it will also be a blessing and a time of growth for our church as they learn to give to others, instead of waiting to receive something themselves.** Thank you for your prayers and support this last year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. May the Prince of Peace reign in each of our lives over this next coming year.



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Praises

1. Spiritual growth
2. Church Auditorium

Prayer Requests

1. Members to come back to God
2. Sharing the true meaning of Christ at Christmas

