



## Has it Been that Long?

by Al and Diane Mellinger, Bulgaria

We celebrated the sixth birthday of Kristina, the little girl who lives upstairs. We remember the day she was born. She was the landlords' first grandchild, and we were the first to be invited upstairs to celebrate. We have been at almost every birthday since.

Each year on Kristina's birthday we think about all that has happened to us and the work since we moved to Bulgaria. Some of what has happened is planned and organized, like the training conferences and pastors' training, but much more just happens in response to living daily for God.

We are praying for the families who live above us. They know we are missionaries. They know about God but have a superstitious view of Him (*If we do these things, God will be happy and be kind to us*). So they go to church services and observe religious days but do not show signs of really knowing God. Yet you will not find any nicer, friendlier or more helpful, serving kind of people anywhere. We just keep loving them and watch for opportunities to be God's hands and feet to them.

We know that in God's time we will see the life transformation for which we pray. We are not going to rush these families to accept Christ but will just keep showing them God's love by being a part of their lives.



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