

## In the church

Most of my time in the last few weeks has been spent preparing and leading Bible studies. This is the regular part of my ministry: nothing spectacular to write about, but what I am committed to and enjoying doing, and effective in seeing people transformed little by little by the study of God's word every week. There have been some good meetings lately, as I have been seeing people respond during the studies as they come to a deeper understanding of God's character and ways.

Since I have been busy preparing studies over the last few months, I have managed to get ahead in the preparation, and all are now finished until the summer break at the end of June. I just have to go over my notes the morning of a study, which takes a lot less time than the preparation. So I will have a lot more time now, until the middle of May, when I will start preparing the studies for the restart of the church activities in September. I will use this extra time to develop *LaParola*, my computer program and web site to read and study the Bible in Italian. This part of my ministry has suffered a bit over the last few months, as I have been concentrating on the Bible studies. I have been able to reply to e-mail enquiries and to do some small improvements, but not much more. Now I hope to be able to finish a few larger

projects that I have wanted to do for a while.

Last week there was another meeting for the group interested in the church's Rovereto church planting project. It is good to see the commitment and ideas of the people involved in this project. Apart

from the usual activities, the new plans for the next few months are to do a distribution of a magazine for young people at all the high schools at Rovereto towards the end of April, with an invitation to an evangelistic meeting on May 16. I don't know how many people will come, but it will be an interesting experience.

Pinuccia and I are also continuing with the Sunday School, Pinuccia especially with the overall leadership and direction. So she has

been doing some training for us teachers lately. We have also started preparing for the two big events of the Sunday School year, the end of school year presentation during a Sunday service, and then the third church children's camp which will take place for four days at the end of June. Since in our class we have been studying Saul this year, I am preparing to film a video clip of them for a song I wrote on the life of Saul, that we will show at the presentation. Then this year the whole family should be going to the Sunday School camp, even though our children are actually too young to

### Points for prayer

- That the weekly reading of the Bible together will transform people
- For the planning for the cell groups and youth group after the summer
- The evangelistic meeting at Rovereto on May 16
- The preparations for the Sunday School camp
- For Stefania and Daniele's spiritual, physical and social growth

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participate. But it means that Pinuccia and I can take turns in performing the different roles that we will have at the camp.

We have also started thinking about the Sunday School after the summer break. There will be some changes, with no less than 8 new children coming in, taking the number of children from 25 to 33 (that was a very fertile year!). But there will be some children leaving at the other end, having moved into the teenager age range. We want to re-start the Youth Group for these teenagers after the summer, although there are practical problems to overcome (for example, the seven teenagers live in four different parts of the province, with only two at Trento). But since two of the possible group members are daughters of the two elders, we can leave it up to them to work out when is the best time to meet.

## In the band and on the computer

A couple of weeks ago I played at a concert with the Lavis band, together with three other bands. Before the

concert, a member of one of the other bands searched me out. It turned out that he is a happy user of my computer program to study the Bible, had seen on my site that I played in the band at Lavis, and had been waiting for a few years for such an opportunity to meet me. As I often say, my program gets used a lot more than I know about.



## Upcoming events

*21 March:* Monthly service at Rovereto

*27 March:* Sunday School teachers training, that Pinuccia will be leading

*10-17 April:* ECM biennial conference in Spain, with all the family going

*18 April:* Monthly service at Rovereto

*16 May:* Monthly service at Rovereto - an evangelistic meeting to which we will invite all the high school students of the city

*30 May:* End of (school) year presentation of the Sunday School