

News and prayer info from Richard, Pinuccia, Stefania and Daniele Wilson

Number 82, November 2012



In the (new) church

November 4 will be another important day when the history of the church is written: it was the first service in the hall that we started renting. The sermon was on "The Gospel at the Centre" – a purposefully ambiguous title. Not only must the Gospel be at the centre of everything we do, but now we are able to proclaim the Gospel in the centre of the city.

This was already possible in the first week after the move. The part of the town where the hall is located had a neighbourhood festival the following Saturday, so we had an "open day" to present ourselves to the local residents. Apart from people being able to come in and look around, there were various activities organised for them. Pinuccia in particular (with a few others) prepared a "creative afternoon tea", where the children could make their own snack from the resources provided. They also received an invitation to the afternoon of the 23rd, where there will be Bible activities for them whilst the adults can attend a talk and discussion on "What do you think is the meaning of life?". This is in fact similar to one of Pinuccia's life long dreams, to run an after school club for children to present the Gospel to them, and maybe one of the first steps.

I remember many years ago, in one of my churches in Australia, that the minister called the Young Adults' group the motor of the church – we gave the impetus and the energy to a lot of the ministry of the whole congregation. It has been

great to see in the last few months that the young adults at Trento have been taking on the same role. They are those who are helping the church to grow, both by attracting new people and helping the others. In September they organised an intensive training weekend with speakers from England, Austria, and Italy, teaching not only the young adults but also others in the congregation, and people from other churches who came for the weekend. Last month there was another training weekend on worship, and in a couple weekends another such event.

On the computer

One of the most common questions I got from my web site used to be when there would be a version for Macintosh computers of my program to study the Bible. Now the common question is when there will be a version for iPads and iPhones. I send people to the site FAQ, which explained that I could not develop such a version, because I would need a Macintosh computer to do it, I did not have one, and could not afford to buy one to develop the program. But now a group from a church at Genova has taken up the challenge, and has bought and sent me a Mac Mini, so that I can write a version for the program for the many Apple users in Italy. Their generosity amazes me, and I thank God for the financial sacrifice that they have made to spread God's Word in Italian. It will take me a while to learn how to program on these operating systems and to translate the program into another language. But the computer arrived just in time, because it was just after I completed the second major version of the Android version (which

Richard and Pinuccia Wilson
via Zippel, 5
38015 Lavis TN, Italy
Phone: 0461240992
richard@laparola.net
http://www.laparola.net/richard/
Blog: http://richard.laparola.net/

**For changes to this mailing list
or for financial support, write to:**

European Christian Mission
P.O. Box 15
Croydon NSW 2132
(02) 97475446
ecm.oz@ecmi.org



currently has more than 11,000 users), and I have just a bit to do before a major release of the Windows version. So for most of the next year I can concentrate on this new project (in the time left over from my church ministry, which has the priority). By now my desk is starting to look like a real developer's studio, with two computers (and a laptop elsewhere in the house), a tablet and a phone with five operating systems between them, which I use to write and test the various versions of the program.

In the mission

October was a travelling month for us, with three trips for me including two with the family. It is not a lot compared to what I did in my single days, but more than what we usually get now in such a time period. First there was for me a meeting at Madrid for all the country representatives of the mission. Then the ECM-Italy prayer days a bit to the south of us, and finally a week at Lisbon for a retreat for the Australian ECM missionaries. I do not often mention this side of my ministry, but pray also for the roles that I do have in leadership in the mission in Italy and in Europe, and not just locally at Trento.

Upcoming events

23 November: The follow up meeting for those contacted at the neighbourhood festival, with a program for children that Pinuccia is organising

2 December: Sunday School market, raising funds for a school in India

22 December-12 January: "unofficial" trip to Australia, to spend some time with family

Church corner

Salvo is yet another one of those from the same town in Sicily as Pinuccia. He came together with Pippo, the elder of the church, twenty four years ago to attend university, and is still here. He is married to Beatrice, who is from Trento. They have an 11 year old daughter Emma, who is in my Sunday School class. Since he was converted just before he came to Trento, all of his training has been while he has been at Trento, in the church, through his own reading, and the conferences he has attended. Now he is one of the two preachers in the church, one of the deacons, and the treasurer. Being a banker, he is a serious person, and an important part of the leadership team of the church. Without him looking after all the renovation work for the hall, we would never have moved in. Beatrice is starting out in her ministry in the church, helping in the Sunday School class for the smaller children.

Points for prayer

- Give thanks for the God's provision of the hall, and the generosity of church members for the rent and Australian supporters for the chairs. Pray that it will be an effective means of putting the Gospel at the centre.
- Give thanks for generosity for the Macintosh computer, and God's help as I learn to provide Biblical resources for Mac, iPhone and iPad.
- Pray for our time in Australia.
- Pray for faithfulness for Salvo in his ministry of teaching and administration.



In the photo, Salvo takes a few minutes off from the bank, to help move the newly arrived chairs into the hall. Many of these chairs were bought with money generously donated by people in Australia.