

RICHARD AND PINUCCIA WILSON

SERVING IN ROVERETO, ITALY

With Stefania, Daniele, Luca, and Mattia

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Many years ago, I had a regular “Church Corner” in my newsletters in which I presented some of the people in the church, to avoid talking about and asking prayer for church events all the time, when the real soul of the church is the people. Since we attend a different church now, I thought it would be good to do this again. Then I thought that a “Computer Corner” would be good as well, to mention some aspects of my computer ministry that are less well known because I rarely or never talk about them.

In the church

Continue to pray for the ongoing ministry and discipleship in the Rovereto church. It is not always spectacular, but it is where God is working most. This includes the public meetings at Ala, which are tending to be happening every two months now - the last was in mid November, the next is planned for mid January. Denzel, the main church member who lives there, wrote about the

last meeting, “I want to thank you all for the meeting we held yesterday at Ala. It was fantastic and touched many hearts”.

One ministry that I mentioned in my last newsletter that did not go ahead was the course on Christian Personal Development, which was supposed to have four monthly meetings from October to January. Unfortunately Pinuccia’s friend who will be running the course had health problems in her family that she had to deal with, and the course was postponed to sometime in 2024.

A special meeting in the Rovereto church that I found encouraging was an evening that had been planned as a praise night to practice singing some of the church songs, but turned out to be quite different. The hall was packed as some came from the Trento church to join us. In particular, the teenagers of the two churches came instead of having their usual meeting, lowering the average age and raising the average energy of the meeting. We told everyone that they could bring an item to praise God if they wanted to, which meant that the music group only played four songs. Two people brought texts to read, Pinuccia read a poem she had composed some years ago, the children sang a song, the teenagers played two songs for all to sing (the first time they had played for others), the Pakistanis played and sang a song in Urdu, others presented a brief message or prayer, and in small groups we thanked God for what he had done for each one of us personally. It had become a celebration of diversity, creativity, and fellowship in worship.

Church Corner

Salvatore and Anna are long term friends and partners. Although originally from Naples, they were already at Trento when I arrived there. As well as attending the church at Trento, they were pillars of the group in the Valsugana valley (where they live) for many years. Then they were two of the group sent from Trento to form the church at Rovereto. Anna says that the move is what made her ministry really flourish as there were suddenly lots of opportunities to serve and few people to do it. Currently she welcomes people to church, teaches in the Sunday School, and always helps in the kitchen. Salvatore is a great personal evangelist, and many have come to church and to Christ because of his witness. He also leads the church service every second week.



Luca and Mattia singing with the rest of the Sunday School, with Daniele and Stefania helping.

On the computer

Last month I finished my latest project for my Italian Bible site *LaParola*. Starting from some open source code, I worked for several months correcting errors in the code, modifying it so it was more multilingual with a bias towards Italian, and converting the texts I already use to the format that the code uses. Previously (ie for the past 22 years – it was about time the site was updated!), a user would type in the reference to a Bible passage and a page would be opened with the text. If they wanted to see the context of the passage or another passage, they had to start again typing another reference. In this new section of the site there is a continuous text, so the user can scroll up and down to read more. There are many more new functions in this new part of the site, but since it displays in English to people with an English operating system, you can try it yourself at <https://www.laparola.net/app/>
Some hints: If you click the three horizontal lines at the top left of the site, you will find some of the extra functions. If you click a commentary name to change it, you will find two of the resources (BDB, MNT) I created myself, rather than just receiving or translating.

Computer Corner

Although the ministry of my web site is something I mention often, the reality is that not even I don't really know how much it does, let alone you. Here is just one example from an email I received recently:

I am 38 years old and live in the province of Rome. About 10 years ago, my wife and I were blessed to know the gospel and we committed ourselves to live according to the Scriptures, especially the New Testament. Over time, as well as other people, especially brothers in Christ, I became and still am a user of the website *laparola.net* through which I study the Scriptures, prepare lessons and teachings that I share with brothers and people who show interest. I do this free of charge, without any form of compensation. I would therefore like to thank you, for the effort and support provided through the site over the years without asking anything in return. Know that you have contributed to the spiritual good of many people, whom you may never meet in person, who are indebted to you, myself included.

Prayer and thanksgiving points

- Continue to pray for the regular teaching and discipleship that Pinuccia and I are involved in, and that God will keep giving the church opportunities at Ala.
- Pray that the obstacles that have prevented the Christian Personal Development course from taking place will be overcome.
- Give thanks that we can praise our Lord and Saviour together in many different ways.
- Give thanks for the decades of faithfulness and availability of Anna and Salvatore, and pray that they will continue to see much fruit from their service.
- Pray for a good use of my time and wise choices on what I should work on in my computer ministry, while keeping up the ministry in the church, in the mission, and in the family.
- Pray for the unknown users of my site and apps, that they will grow spiritually by using what I make available.

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