

RICHARD AND PINUCCIA WILSON

SERVING IN ROVERETO, ITALY

With Daniele, Luca, and Mattia, and Stefania in Australia

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In the church

May was a busy month in the life of the church, which is normal each year when the better weather arrives, which makes more activities possible. We started by inviting everybody to our apartment, and cooking pizzas for about 30 church members, family and friends. Then there was a craft afternoon at which people from the neighbourhood of the church hall were invited, with a good attendance and a good atmosphere created. This was followed by a worship meeting that evening. The month concluded with the baptism of Stefano and Vanessa, who I wrote about in newsletter 130: a couple that started coming to church a year ago, and are maturing rapidly.

As well as these special events, it has been good to see the Thursday afternoon prayer meeting well attended. I have difficulties going, with family commitments often getting in the way, but it is encouraging when I do go.



Church Corner

Mariangela is a long time friend and co-worker. Her husband died young, and they were both converted through the witness of an evangelical doctor at the hospital shortly before his death. When I arrived she was already an active part of the church, and has served in many ways over the decades. She was part of the group who left the church at Trent to plant the church at Rovereto. Now she is involved mostly in various practical ways, like preparing the pasta for everybody at church lunches, and is always available to help. She is also one of the three people who lead the mid week Bible study once a month, which gives me a break. All this despite living in the mountains 80km away, and faithfully making the trip to Rovereto at least twice every week.

In the mission

The highlight since the last newsletter was the biennial conference of European Christian Mission in April. About 250 field missionaries, and the same number again of children, office staff, and friends of the mission. So that was a lot of catching up with people I have known over the decades in the mission, as well as people I have only met by email and Zoom. There was also, of course, good teaching and training. I also helped in the background, like subtitling the ministry report videos that were sent in. For the second conference in a row, the video that I produced (this time, for the “Church for All Group” of which I am part of the planning group) was considered the best of all the video reports.

Since I have various responsibilities in the mission, I had various extra meetings of the groups I belong to, and with people I support and that support me, as we all take advantage of this limited time of being in the same place at the same time. The children had their own programs, and our sons had been counting down the days to the conference for a couple of months. Even Daniele had some responsibilities at the conference, as he was invited, together with three other teenagers, to be part of a panel at a seminar on “Parenting Teens in a Mission Family”.

In the family

With the school year for the boys ending in 10 days (Pinuccia will continue until the end of the month), we are being kept busy with end of year dinners, concerts, recitals, open days, and shows at the theatre. As well as the usual school activities and extracurricular activities. But we will make it to the end! Shortly after the end of classes, Daniele will have his HSC exams (written exams in Italian and Mathematics, an oral exam on everything else). In the meantime, he will be (for the second year) the MC/presenter at his school’s end of year show. He struggles with the school work, but has found his niche and pleasure in standing up in front of an audience and talking.

Stefania continues to flourish in her course and church and social life and a hundred other things she is doing in Australia. The joys of youth in being able to do some many things!

In Australia

We will all be in Australia from July 6 to August 27. It is a shorter trip than usual, because school commitments

(exams, Pinuccia's work) made a longer trip impossible. We already have quite a few meetings booked in various churches and groups, but if you are interested in catching up sometime, get in contact with me and we can work out when would be suitable.

This trip will also be different from usual because it will involve a family reunion, with Stefania staying with us at least during the school holidays. And then on August 10 she goes to Indonesia for a trip for her course at the Bible College. We hope to use well the limited time we will have together!

In the last two newsletters, I asked for prayer for accommodation and a car to use, and we are grateful that these have been provided. You could also pray for an increase in our financial support while we are visiting. As is common with long term missionaries, our support has been gradually eroded due to inflation and a few long term supporters having to end support due to changes in life situations.



ECM-Italy prayer day; church music group; Mattia and Luca's concert; pizzas in our courtyard

Prayer and thanksgiving points

- Give thanks for the renewed activity in church, the desire to reach out and to pray together, and pray that it will continue.
- Pray for Mariangela, that she will continue faithfully in her ministries without tiring or discouragement.
- Give thanks for the encouragement received from the ECM conference, for the help we were able to give to others, and for the new and better friendships we made.
- Pray for a good end of school for the boys, and especially for Daniele's exams (written June 18 and 19, oral the following week).
- Give thanks for all the new experiences that Stefania is having, and pray that they will prepare her for a lifetime of service for God.
- Pray for our preparation for our time in Australia, and then our meetings and family time in those two months.
- Give thanks for the provision of a house and a car for our time in Australia, and pray that we would be able to raise more financial support while there.

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