

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

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In the church

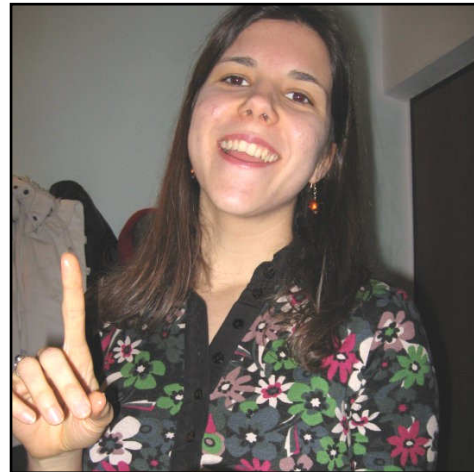
I am enjoying my new role in the church. Instead of going from one Bible study group to another most nights, I now belong and lead only one. But now I am spending a lot more time visiting the other groups and spending time with the leaders, especially the new leaders in the church that God has raised up in the last few months, and are starting to replace those who were sent to Rovereto.

I have known that I would have this different role since last May, but it has become clearer still recently for a couple of reasons. First of all, the other group that I was leading had to close. With six families with almost 12 children less than six years old, it just was not practical any more.

On the other hand, I have been able to get the group at the university going again. I asked Fosca (see the side bar) to consider restarting and leading it on a Wednesday, and the following Sunday I was excited to receive an e-mail back saying that she would do it – and her enthusiasm showed in having already started to contact people, find a room, get advertising done, etc. As well as her, there are two other post-graduate students in the church, who were part of the group at the university when it was last running a couple of years ago. But since they are already involved in or leading the Youth Group and social-cultural ministry (Daniela), or the Young Adults and Sunday School (Karina), they will mainly have just a support role. But there are two first year university students in the church now, so the group could be a great help for them, and they for the group. One of them, Jessica, is the daughter of Angelo, the elder who went to Rovereto, and was born a month after I arrived in Italy, so I have seen her grow up in the Sunday School, and led her in the Youth Group for three years. I came to Italy 19 years ago mainly to help the witness at the

university, and although I can not do it myself anymore it remains a place where my heart is, and it gives me great joy to be able to be a part of it still so much time later, and also to a new generation, literally. So at the end of the month we have invited all the students, and someone who works for the national student movement who will come from Bologna, to lunch after church to talk about what they can do.

Church corner



Fosca is from the island of Venice, and came to Trento to study Philosophy at the university. Through the witness of a fellow student and the meetings of the Young Adults' group, she was converted about 3.5 years ago. This did create some problems with her relationships with her family, although they seem to have accepted it now. After graduating, she spent a year off working at Venice and doing various courses on the Bible and theology in Austria and Norway. In June she went on a mission trip to Israel. She returned to Trento last month to start a Master's degree in International Economics. She has just begun her first experience in Christian leadership, restarting and leading the group at the university. I will be meeting with her to help her, especially at the start for the preparation of the Bible studies.

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

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



In the family

Stefania is still enjoying school, after her first month there, and looks forward to going there. Except Monday mornings, when she has German, and she does not understand anything. Although as she is an evening person, the 7 o'clock wake ups are hard for her to cope with. Daniele is a bit less keen on pre-school now, however, as he wants to go to "big school" like his sister. Although once we got him a lunch box like Stefania's, even though he does not need one, he was a bit happier. Stefania has also started rhythmic gymnastics classes, which combines two of her interests, namely dancing and



First day of school

jumping around. In fact her teachers have nicknamed her "butterfly" (in English) because she is always jumping gracefully around.

This year we are enjoying an extended Spring. I usually wear a jumper by mid September, but there is still a warm sun most days at the moment. So we took advantage of the good weather and brought forward Stefania's birthday party. This has been the first year she has been able to have her party in the park. It was just as well that we could go to the park, because Stefania's circle of friends has roughly doubled in the past few weeks. As well as inviting her friends from pre-school, there was a new group of friends that she has met in infants' school in these few weeks. Too many friends for our lounge room now.

Upcoming events

October 30: launch lunch for the university group

November 5: training day for the Sunday School teachers, that Pinuccia organises with someone from outside to do the training

November 20: Sunday School outing, with the new children who came to the camp in July

December 4: Market run by the Sunday School to raise funds for an Indian school

December 23-January 6: In Sicily with the family

Points for prayer

- Give thanks for the changes in my ministry, and the renewed enthusiasm in has given me
- Pray for the new leaders (Fosca, Daniela, Nick and Jenn, Andrea and Karina), and that I would be a help to them
- For Pinuccia's leadership of the Sunday School and training of the teachers
- For Stefania and Daniela at school, and their growth in the Christian faith
- For Pinuccia and I as we continue to meek new people at Lavis, that we could be good witnesses
- For Fosca and her new ministry