

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

Number 84a, July 2013

Although we are well into the school holidays, this week is the first time that it really feels like it, with all the family at home. There have been too many other activities keeping us busy in the meantime. So we have six days to enjoy the Trento summer, before heading to Sicily to spend some time with Pinuccia's family.

The main activity for us was the children's camp, which we put a lot of time into preparing. We all had a lot of fun there, building spaceships, going to an observatory, dancing with the stars, listening to Professor I. M. Smart (that was me) and his robot S-147-4-5 ("S" for Salmo, ie Psalm) talk on astronomy, doing English gymnastics, and lots of other activities around the space theme. After making Daniele cry last year by scaring him whilst impersonating a pirate, this year I made Stefania cry when the Professor sacrificed himself to save humanity from an asteroid, and would not return. I think it is due more to having sensitive children than to my acting ability.



Around these activities, we taught how great and powerful God is who created everything, how small we are in the universe, and yet God is with us, knows us, and cares for us. The last day we brought it all together, that God knows how to save us, has the power to do it, and wants to do it. It was a bit disappointing to hear from the children the same (wrong) answers to the question, *What do we have to do to be saved?*, that they gave at last year's camp, that is read the Bible, pray, go to church, etc. However I am

encouraged that I was a couple of years older before I finally understood the correct answer, despite having heard it many times before. On the other hand, there was a good time talking with the parents as they came to pick up their children, and one father in particular was very interested. Pray that he will in fact come to church one day, as he said he might, and bring his three children. With almost half of the children (10 out of 22) not from evangelical churches, the camp was a bit different from past years. And a special moment was when one of them, Alessandro, who has come three times now, decided to stand up and say in front of his friends what God meant to him.



There were lots of other events in the church last month, as was usual for the end of the year. First there was the end of year presentation of the Sunday School. We farewelled three children who will be moving on to the youth group after the summer break, two of whom have grown up in the church, and who I have taught for 4 years. I had fun putting together a highlights video of 10 years of their Sunday School career, although I did not manage to embarrass them as much as I hoped! Then there was a celebration for the baptism of seven people in the church. There were two who were part of the youth group that we started almost eight years ago, so it was pleasure for us to see them continue to grow in their faith. There were also two international students, which is a reflection of the changing face of the church lately.

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



In the family

Now that the pre-school year has come to an end, there was also the end of a small era for us – five years of trips to the Lavis pre-school. Stefania and Daniele will both be at the infants' school from September. Pinuccia hopes that it will not be the last time at the Lavis pre-school for her, because there is always the chance each year that she will be offered a job there rather than somewhere a bit further away. We'll have to wait a couple of months now to find out for the next school year. In the meantime, we hope to keep in contact with the school through our children's (ex-)teachers: the father of one lives downstairs in our apartment block, and we already have a good relationship with the other outside of school. For example, she asked me to book the plane tickets on Internet for her holiday this summer.



Points for prayer

- For all the children at the camp, from the church and not, that they would really learn about faith not works. Also for the families of those not from the church.
- Thank God for his work in the lives of the seven baptised people, and pray that they will persevere.
- That Pinuccia will be offered a good job next year.
- For Daniele as he prepares to start school.
- For our time in Sicily, that it will be good for us as a family and that we will be a blessing for those we meet there.
- That I would be able to prepare well, that the Bible studies and computer program will be a help for many people.

On the computer

With a break from church and other activities for a couple of months, I will be working on a few projects, although I am sure I will not get as much done as I would like. This week I just finished a new version of my Bible program for Android, and released the first version of a program for Macintosh. Having written the program for Macintosh means that I have already done a lot of the work required for a version for iPhone and iPad, which will be the next big project I will work on in the coming months. For the church, I also want to prepare as many studies (on Abraham) as I can before the meetings restart in September. This is not only so as I can get a head start, but also because I will be preparing some notes for all of the group leaders to use, to help them prepare and to have a unified message as we teach.

Upcoming events

July-August: a few weeks in Sicily with Pinuccia's family

20-23 August: ECM Italy Prayer Days

9 September: Conference on "Revival in the Bible and in history" with Collin Hansen.

11 September: Back to school for Stefania and Daniele; Pinuccia starts on the 2nd.