

Encourage & Equip

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Please pray...

Praise for:

- An encouraging & blessed time in Australia with family & friends.
- A safe & uncomplicated journey back.
- God's protection over Luca & his recovery.
- Brothers and sisters that hold one another in prayer.
- God's sovereignty and care for his children.
- An edifying time at our local church's Autumn getaway.
- God's provision through our partners to enable us to serve here.

Prayer that:

- We would be an encouragement & blessing to our church.
- Sunday school teachers would find ways to share Jesus & the grace filled gospel.
- Adi and I would know how to support Anna & Luca as they continue to adjust at school.
- God to raise up more financial partners for this coming term.
- God would guide our steps as we develop our ministry of encouraging and equipping local children's workers.

Dear Friends and Family,

Our first prayer letter back in Romania, and as you read on you will see that it is has been anything but quiet. 'Only God knows what tomorrow holds' continues to be our theme and thankfully we've had a lot of experience with this and we keep trusting in God's sovereignty, rather than our own plans and desires. Reliance on God through prayer continues to be another major theme in our lives. We are thankful for the overwhelming peace that comes when we bring all things to the Lord in prayer and are covered by the prayers of our brothers and sisters, and for this we thank you.

The Last Few Days in Oz...

When we sent out our last prayer letter we were under a week away from heading back to Romania. What a week it was! As well as being able to join in with Bible studies and Adi attend a men's breakfast at Burwood Presbyterian, we were blessed to spend time with our dear and close friend Anna Tovey, who travelled from NZ to spend our last five days together. We did the "touristy thing" and went to Olympic Park indoor pool, ice skating and a ferry trip to Manly for fish and chips on the beach. A highlight for Anna (and me) was her having both



of her godmothers (and namesakes) together for the first time since her birth, when Jocelyn kindly joined us for a wonderful time together at the Australian Museum. We are so thankful for all the precious memories that our family were able to make with so many of you. We graciously appreciated all the generosity, encouragement, empathy and support that we received during our time in Australia. Whilst at times it felt rushed and always too short, we treasured each moment and are thankful to all you who helped make it possible.

Not a Smooth Landing...

Whilst the flight back may have gone exceptionally smoothly (praise God), these first two months back have been anything but smooth. We arrived on the night of Wednesday 7th September and by Friday afternoon Luca was in the emergency ward after a 3-metre fall onto concrete resulting in a fractured skull and two cranial hematomas. What ensued was almost two weeks of hospital stays, multiple CT scans and other tests and anti-seizure medication. We kept in communication with a smaller group of family, friends and churches who kept us covered in constant prayer and encouragement. The whole experience was rather surreal, but prayer kept us grounded and trusting in God's care for his children. Thankfully there have been no ongoing issues and thankfully the latest CT scans showed that the fracture is healing and both the hematomas have reabsorbed. We are so thankful to God for His protection over Luca and that an even more serious injury didn't occur.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

PSALM 145:4

Starting back up...

For those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, September is the beginning of a new year in many ways. Anna bravely managed to start a new school year the morning after arriving back. Whilst the first few weeks were rather rough (understandably with all that happened with Luca), she is back into a rhythm and making progress in Yr 1. It is still very evident to her that she is 'different' to the other children, but we are thankful for an understanding teacher and supportive friends the Lord has blessed her with. Luca's start to his final year of preschool has been very interrupted, but we are thankful for the days he has been able to attend. Sunday school has also started back up and whilst the numbers have been low due to illnesses, I continue to coordinate and encourage the small group of volunteers that Adi and I share the teaching with. Some of these ladies are also in the discipleship group that I lead and we have started back up our study of the book "Show them Jesus". It was wonderful in our most recent gathering when it was so clear to them that we needed to focus more on Jesus and the grace filled gospel that He brings rather than just moral lessons and attempting to model the behaviour of particular bible characters (but only the 'good' ones of course). It has been a joy to see how the Holy Spirit is working in people's lives, challenging and growing them as they seek to share His word with children in their care.

Encouraging the local church...

As you know, it is our desire to continue to invest in our local church in the city of Timisoara, as well as to reach out to other churches in rural settings. For some time, our local church has struggled with various issues and it had become apparent to the leadership team that something needed to be done. Alongside the intentional discipleship groups, a decision was made to 'go back to basics' and revisit and redefine our vision, mission, core values and purpose as a church. We have made a commitment to be a part of the group that is going through this process and, we pray that through this, new life will be breathed into our church through the power of the Holy Spirit. Some initial meetings were held before our time in Australia and there are plans to continue to this process in the near future. Please pray with us that God will give us the wisdom to know when to speak up and when to stay silent and that in all we do we would seek the building up and encouragement of our brothers and sisters. We also had our annual Autumn church getaway and whilst there were several families and individuals not able to attend due to prior commitments and illness (including Adi and our kids), those that attended (including myself) were thankful for time together in a beautiful mountainous location and the opportunity to focus on the themes of gratitude, contextualisation and how to reach our city with the gospel.



Thank you again for your encouragement, support, prayer and partnership. It is exciting to see how the Lord is going to continue to work in our lives, the local church, the community and in Romania. May the Lord give each of us the grace, love, strength and perseverance to keep serving Him and those He has placed us with. In His Strength,

Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

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