

# Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

 [adi.grocott@ecmi.org](mailto:adi.grocott@ecmi.org)  [jennifer.grocott@ecmi.org](mailto:jennifer.grocott@ecmi.org)

 [ecmaustralia.org/give](http://ecmaustralia.org/give)  Str Oglinzilor, Nr 24, Ap 16, Timisoara, 300710



Oct-Nov 2020

## Please pray...

### Praise for:

- God's steadfast love, unchanging character & firm promises.
- The ongoing health of our extended family.
- The production & use of online Sunday school videos.
- AloCopii's online conference & follow up webinars.
- Technology and 'techies' that enable live streaming of services.

### Prayer for:

- Wisdom in how to prioritise our time & what to invest in.
- Anna & Luca with their online & home schooling & for teachers all over the world dealing with this situation.
- Investigating & preparing for the possibility of recording training videos.
- For our local church, dealing with the effects of quarantine & for flexibility needed to continue to stream online services.
- That the God of peace, would equip us with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to Him.

Dear Friends and Family,

Is anyone else in complete denial that it is November? This year has been such a disorientating blur, the change of the seasons is really the only thing that has brought us any tangible sign that the months are passing. But as the weeks and months keep ticking by, our prayer has been that we would know God's guidance and empowering as we seek to complete the 'good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do' (Ephesians 2:10). And whilst we stumble and fall over and over again in this pursuit, we also pray for a heavenly perspective and the focus needed to keep our eyes fixed on our Saviour and to get back up and keeping fighting the good fight to the glory of God.

### Expanding opportunities

Thankfully this pandemic hasn't stopped our friends at AloCopii from teaching, training and encouraging children workers all through Romania and even Europe. After some technical glitches on their first evening, AloCopii did a wonderful job with their 3-night online conference entitled "From Active to Influential". Both local and international speakers encouraged and instructed children's workers as to how they can not only be active in kids lives, but influential as well, even under these challenging circumstances. This is now being followed up by a set of 5 webinars programmed throughout Nov-Jan. I was delighted to participate in their first seminar on creative prayer and object lessons in early November. I have also been invited to help lead the webinar scheduled for January on storytelling, sharing some of the things I learnt about 'visual learning' from Paul Dudley and how to encourage kids to engage with the Bible story for themselves. They are continuing to consider Adi's topic of how to share what the Bible says about suffering with children and may schedule that for early 2021. We have also been encouraged by our field director to investigate training in how to prepare and film webinars and consider making some of our own videos to be able to offer to children's ministry organisations here in Romania. Please pray that God would guide us and give us the wisdom to know how to pursue these ideas.

Adi has continued helping out at Casa Mitspa (a home run in partnership with ECM for at risk mothers and their children) not only with their weekly shopping trip, but also with various repairs around the house. They have been very thankful for Adi's handyman skills as he helped out with blocked pipes, damaged electrical cords, broken cupboards, a flooding balcony and other bits and pieces. Whilst this may not be what we thought we would be doing during this time, we are thankful that we can serve our fellow teammates and their ministries in this way.

## Well that didn't last long...

In our last prayer letter we were so excited to be able to share about Anna and Luca starting preschool this year in September, face-to-face, but unfortunately it didn't last for long. As COVID cases continued to rise, Timisoara entered the 'red zone' and all educational institutions were made to transfer to online learning once again. I don't know what is worse, to have had 3 weeks of face to face and remember how good it was and to have it taken away, or to not have had it all. Either way, all this change and uncertainty really disorientated us and we are still finding our 'new normal', again. There are all sorts of rumours and predictions as to how long this may go on, but we are trying to overlook that and just focus on each day as it comes and asking God for the wisdom, flexibility and patience needed to make the most of these unsettling times. Both Anna and Luca's teachers are trying their hardest with online lessons twice a week and worksheets for the remaining days, but honestly nothing compares to face to face teaching and interaction with classmates. We know that there are teachers, students and parents all over the world having to cope with this situation in various ways and know that we are upholding you in our prayers.



## Church under quarantine



Since early November the number of cases in several villages surrounding Timisoara got to such high numbers, they decided to quarantine whole villages, not allowing residents to leave unless for work or an emergency. Considering that we have a high proportion of church members living in these villages it meant that many people were not able to attend church to be able to help lead and run the services. Our praise and worship time has been done using negatives and videos, as almost all of the music team lives in quarantined villages and whilst this is not ideal, we all understand that there is a 'time for everything'. Adi continues to help with the streaming of Sunday services and used his 'techie' skills in assisting in the transition from re-streaming services from our apartment to streaming directly from the church. The Sunday school videos have been well received by families, but over December we are going to try to have some live lessons through zoom, to aim to give the kids some interaction with their friends. We also have some other fun plans for Christmas, such as "Christmas in a Bag" and making a nativity video using the kids in our church. Please pray that whatever we are able to organise over the Christmas season would be a blessing and encouragement to those that receive it.

This year has brought changes and challenges for all of us in different ways and we are so thankful for your prayerful and encouraging partnership with us as we have sought to continue to love, serve, encourage and equip those around us in these testing times. May our ongoing prayer be that the God of peace, would equip us with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21).

God Bless, Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

Thank you for partnering with us in

# SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

across Europe

We are serving with **European Christian Mission** (ECM). ECM is an interdenominational mission that partners with local churches to send gospel workers to Europe.

ECM's overarching purpose is to glorify God through **evangelism, discipleship** and **church planting** all across Europe.

If you would like to find out ways you can partner with us via ECM through praying, serving or giving, please contact our office.

**How to give to ECM:** Cheques payable to European Christian Mission.

**Direct Deposit:** NAB, Australia

**BSB:** 082171 **Acct No.** 509197512

Reference gifts with AJG followed by your initial and name, e. AJG ABrown.

\* Please inform ECM of your giving.



  
*Sharing Christ's love  
in Europe*