





# Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

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March - April 2024

## Please pray...

### Praise for:

- God's steadfast love.
- An encouraging time at the Share Education conference.
- Evaluations, reports & recommendations to help Anna & Luca thrive.
- Willingness of ECM young adults to help with AU/NZ retreat.
- Gospel opportunities with AMEC.
- Freedom to celebrate the birth and death of our Saviour Jesus.

### Prayer for:

- Hope & perseverance in times of trial or discouragement.
- Wisdom implementing recommendations from Anna & Luca's evaluations.
- Continual preparations for the ECM AU&NZ retreat.
- Financial provision for the children's leaders.
- Ongoing integration into AMEC. Direction & wisdom in how to invest our time & energy.
- Upcoming opportunities to bring glory to God.
- Patience, grace and forgiveness in relationships.

Dear Friends and Family,

Whilst the calendar may be telling us it is spring here in Romania, as I look out my window all I can see are gloomy grey clouds. But whilst I may not be able to see it, I know that the sun is there, somewhere. This reminds me of a beautiful hymn written by a Romanian poet, Traian Dorz, whilst he was imprisoned for his faith under communism. Roughly translated he writes "Do not doubt, but believe, after any cloud there is an even sweeter, brighter sun. Clouds are not eternal, but it is the sun that stays and triumphs". We need to trust that eventually the clouds will part and the sun will shine again. Psalms 62:8 compels us, "Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." No matter what it looks like outside, or inside our hearts, we can pour out our hearts to our Father, trusting that he is our refuge. Our pray is that we can all proclaim with the psalmist, "The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him" (Psalm 28:7).

## Expectations exceeded

Worth every cent! We were so thankful for the opportunity to attend the Share Education conference. We arrived early to have a family day together at a nearby zoo. The main program was edifying, reminding us of essential truths, the praise and worship times were reflective and heart-stirring and the electives were well thought out and enriching. The kids had their own program which they enjoyed, and Anna found a kindred spirit in another Anna, only 4 days younger than herself! Luca buddied up with one of the tech guys, a missionary-kid himself, who was so empathetic, patient and understanding with Luca it brought tears to my eyes. Whilst all attendees have their own unique circumstances, those that we spent time with were understanding, empathetic and encouraging. Luca and Anna were able to access alternate academic and psychological testing not available in Romania. We have received the reports and are now equipped with a multitude of recommendations to help our kids thrive.



Anna participating in the Talent Show

## Romanian Retreat!

We are excited to share that Adi and I will be hosting the ECM AU&NZ Retreat in Timisoara from 30 July-2 August. The retreat is a wonderful time of connection, reflection and encouragement for ECM missionaries connected with the ECM Australia and New Zealand mobilization offices. Preparations are already well underway and we have the blessing to have some young adults from ECM families willing to come and run the children's and youth programs. They are currently students in Australia and we want to be able to cover their flight and accommodation costs. Having leaders that are MK's (Missionary Kids) makes a huge difference as they are able to empathise with the unique

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

PSALM 145:4

challenges of being an MK. Would you consider a donation to help getting them to the retreat to be a blessing to our ECM kids and youth? If you are in a position to be able to contribute, please follow this link- [www.ecmaustralia.org/give](http://www.ecmaustralia.org/give) and type "Aussie Retreat" under Specific Missionary or Project. Any and every contribution helps the ECM kids have just as fun and encouraging a time (if not more so) as us adults.

## Part of the AMEC family!

It is with great excitement and thankfulness that we are able to say that all the paperwork has been signed and we are now official volunteer partners with AMEC (Child Evangelism Fellowship). These coming months are a season of transition, but we are thankful for the opportunities that we have already experienced with our AMEC family. We were able to attend the National conference in Sibiu on 5-6 April, where AMEC celebrated 30 years of ministry in Romania. The theme of the conference was being steadfast in a changing world. On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, we joined with other AMEC workers and volunteers to share the Easter message through the story of the Good Shepard to 150 children in Jebel, a small town about 25kms south of Timisoara. Between 28<sup>th</sup> April- 3 May we are at the AMEC training centre in Sibiu for Adi to complete AMEC's second level of teacher training (PEC2). We are also in prayerful preparation and discussion about a strategic literature distribution in a northern area of Timis county, with the intention of making contacts and developing relationships with churches in that area. There is also the possibility of helping some colleagues with their vision of opening a new good news kids club in a neighbouring village. Please pray that God will guide and direct us as to where to invest our time and energy and that all we do would be for the glory of God and the proclamation of the Good News.



Adi teaching the Bible verse at Jebel

## Upcoming opportunities

I know the majority of you have already celebrated Easter, but it is still to come in Romania. Our church is preparing a special presentation with the children in our church and we look forward to celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus with family and friends over the weekend of 3-5 May.

Prayer is central to all that we do and we have the opportunity to invite you all to an online Pray for Romania event hosted by ECM Australia on Tuesday 14 May at 6pm (AEST). We will be presenting as well as being joined by our newest ECM colleagues Alex and Liz Preotesea-Wagner from ECM NZ. More details and registration can be found at <http://ecmaustralia.org/pray-for-romania>.

Lastly, Adi has accepted an invitation to help our dear friends, Manda and Josh Pidgeon with their Roma Network conference from the 20-24 May. This time he won't just be helping out with tech and sound. Adi will use the opportunity to share about the training and resources that AMEC has that can be used for sharing the gospel with children in their churches and communities.

Once again, we want to thank you for your ongoing partnership, encouragement and prayers. We echo Paul's prayer, I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Phil 1:3-6). May God carry on the completion of the good work that he has started in each of us.

In His Strength, Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

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across Europe

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