





Encourage & Equip

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Please pray...

Praise for:

- A heavenly Father who listens & answers our prayers.
- Opportunities to serve with & encourage our AMEC colleagues.
- The freedom to be able to share the gospel with children.
- The chance to get away as a family & explore this beautiful country.
- The encouragement & joy of fellowship with our ECM family.
- God's word which grounds and feeds us.

Prayer for:

- A perspective that focuses on what is unseen & eternal.
- Wisdom & direction for potential children's programs in rural areas.
- Luca starting school and Anna entering Yr 3.
- A fruitful relationship between our family, Luca's teacher & his therapist.
- Wisdom and creativity as we recommence Sunday School.
- Healthy & achievable routines both individually & as a family as we start the new school year.

Dear Friends and Family,

"The devil is trying to steal your joy". That is what one of my close friends told me when I asked her to pray for me. Last minute preparations for the Australia & NZ ECM retreat were piling up and I knew I was inclined to start feeling the retreat planning as a burden, a hassle and a frustration. So, I asked family and friends to pray that God would change my attitude and that I would see this as a privilege and a blessing to be able to help plan such a unique time for our ECM family. My friend was exactly right, the devil was trying to steal my joy by distracting and overwhelming me with the tasks ahead, rather than being able to see the hard work of planning as a privilege to bless my colleagues. So often I need a perspective shift. Corinthians 4:18 "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." God answered the prayers of my friends and family and I was able to take my focus off the emails, the phone calls and the WhatsApp messages and fix my eyes on my brothers and sisters and the joy that comes of face-to-face fellowship. Whatever it is that has the potential to bring discouragement or frustration in our lives, I pray that we will all be able to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith and that we won't let anything or anyone steal our joy.

AMEC Outreach

Summer provides a wonderful opportunity to hold events that wouldn't normally be able to happen at any other time of the year. Whilst we were not able to be a part of any overnight camps this summer, we did have the privilege to be part of two multiple day evangelistic events for children in our Timis county, in partnership with our AMEC (Child Evangelism Fellowship) colleagues. The first was in the small city of Lugoj (where I used to live back in 2004-2005) and the second was in Mânăstire, a very small village of under 200 people, 50kms from Timișoara. Whilst the programs may have greatly differed in the number of kids (and the volume of noise they created), the gospel message was the same. It was encouraging to work as a part of a team, seeing God's gifting in each of the leaders. Adi shared a Bible talk at each event and I had fun leading the memory verses. We are thankful for each child that attended and pray that the seed of the gospel was either planted or watered and that God will produce the growth, so that there will be a bountiful harvest in years to come.

Looking to the future, we are in conversations with one of the AMEC volunteers to assist her in setting up new programs to reach children in the villages surrounding her home town (Jebel), as many of them don't have any way for them to hear about the good news. This brings Adi and I great joy, as our heart has always been for less reached and under resourced areas of Romania. Please pray with us as we seek God's wisdom and direction to know where and when to start up these programs.



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

PSALM 145:4

Family Fun

Because we live with Adi's parents, it is actually quite rare for the four of us to have time together as just a family of four. But thankfully, vacations are one time when this can happen. This summer we took a week off and stayed in Râşnov, a small city in central Romania. We had an enjoyable week checking out a castle, a fortification, a DinoPark, a zoo, the beautiful city of Brasov and we even got to one of the highest peaks in Romania via cable car, a decent hike, a small storm, and Luca eagerly befriending a retiree who grew up in Romania but lives in Canada. Whilst any family holiday isn't without its frustrations and tantrums, we're thankful for the precious time together to enjoy this stunning country that we are blessed to live in.



Rewarding Retreat

With God's help we did it! Even though gastro took a couple of people down on different days, nothing stopped our joy and excitement of being able to gather together as ECM family for the Australia and NZ Retreat at the end of July. All the hard work of planning and preparation came to fruition. We opened up God's word and reflected on 1 John, we praised God together in song, we shared and prayed for one another, we enjoyed delicious (Romanian) food, and we were encouraged by one another's company. We were thankful to be able to share with people our hometown of Timisoara and many people remarked at what a beautiful city it is (we certainly think it is). We are thankful for all of you who prayed for us leading up to the retreat and during. God was listening and answering your prayers all throughout the week. Thank you also to those of you who were able to contribute to help cover the travel costs of the children's workers. They did a wonderful job and were a blessing to our children throughout the program. In talking with each of them, they shared that they too had been personally blessed by being able to return to Europe, to be reunited with their families and be encouraged by our ECM family as well. It was a worthy and wise investment, so thank you for your generosity.

School Start-up

And just like that summer is coming to a close and the beginning of the school year is upon us again. Big changes are on their way this year with Luca starting "Big School". Thankfully, he is eager to join Anna at school, although we've had a hard time convincing him that he isn't going to be in the same class. We are thankful and encouraged by the progress Luca made this past year and we are praying for a fruitful partnership between our family, Luca's teacher (Ema) and Luca's therapist (Mira). We are very thankful that Ema and Mira already know each other and Mira is confident that Ema will be a good fit for Luca as his teacher. Anna will be entering year 3 and we are praying that she will grow in patience, develop a love of learning and that she will grasp the concept of 'progress not perfection'. The start of school also means restarting Sunday School at our local church. We are holding our "Back to School" service on the 1st September, focusing on no matter what emotions we may have we can bring them to God in prayer. Please pray as I lead the group of teachers, that we will have wisdom to know what to teach the children and the creativity to do it in an engaging way and that the children will grow in their knowledge and love of God. Thank you again for your partnership and prayers. Let us rejoice always, pray continually and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for us in Christ Jesus. (1 Thes 1:7)

In His Strength, Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

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