


Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

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 **ecm**
European Christian Mission



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Please pray...

Praise for:

- Safe and drama free travel.
- Encouraging time at our Farewell in Cootamundra and Commissioning Service in Sydney.
- Faithful partners who enable us to be here.
- Anna's positivity to attending preschool.
- Reunions with family and friends.

Prayer for:

- That we can be of assistance and a blessing to Adi's parents while we live with them.
- Patience with one another and contentment in all circumstances.
- Continued wisdom how to help Anna and Luca adjust in this time of great change.
- That in our marriage we would be supportive, encouraging and gracious.
- Our involvement in children's and youth ministry at Sfanta Treime.
- Wisdom and discernment as we attend two children's ministry conferences.
- That we would be an encouragement to our ECM teammate Alexia.
- God to raise up partners for the final 5% needed for 100% financial support.

Dear Friends and Family,

We made it! It is such an immense joy to be sending out this prayer letter from Timisoara, Romania. Sometimes it felt like we would never get here, but God is faithful and here we are!

Faithful Farewells

What a joy our Commissioning service held at our home church, Burwood Presbyterian was. As we looked out at those gathered, it brought us great joy to see people from all stages of our lives- family, school, university, our team in Romania, SMBC and church family. We are so thankful for the way that God has orchestrated our lives and for each of you who have had a role in it. It was a wonderful afternoon of joining together and committing ourselves and this ministry into God's hands.

Another encouraging event was our Farewell and Thanksgiving afternoon tea in Cootamundra. It was a great encouragement to have people from many different denominations from all over the Riverina (and beyond) come and join us as we thanked God for what He is doing in Romania and in our lives. It was also an opportunity to say thank you to everyone who is partnering with us & say farewell to family on this side of the globe.



Last photo with the Aussie cousins

Settling (back) in...

Many of you knew how much we were dreading the flights to Timisoara, but we were pleasantly surprised. Luca charmed his way through, smiling at everyone and Anna thought she'd hit the jackpot with the in-flight entertainment! At the end of our 31-hr journey we were picked up by our ECM colleague, Alexia for a joyful reunion with Adi's parents. Since being back it has been wonderful to reconnect with family, friends and our church family. There are some things that are thankfully still the same. Adi's mum's cooking is still unbelievably good and praising our Lord in Romanian is just as soul stirring. Other things have changed, old friends have moved on and the roads and city landscape have been transformed. One thing that has improved, although it is still arduous, is the amount of paperwork, bureaucracy and hoops to be jumped through to get anything done. Thus, Adi has been spending a considerable amount of time working on getting us all 'legal' here. Illness and car trouble have also slowed us down and it is taking us longer than expected to settle in. This has caused frustration, but we are seeking to be patient with one another and we pray for contentment in all circumstances.

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

PSALM 145:4

Viața în Familie (Family life)

“So where are you living?” is a common question we receive. At the moment we are living with Adi’s parents. Whilst six people living in a 2-bedroom apartment sounds tight, we all believe it is possible and will help us to save money to build a home on the block of land we were able to purchase while in Australia. Adi’s parents enjoy having us here and we can all help each other in various ways. Neither of Adi’s parents are believers, so it is our prayer that we can be a witness to them and point them to Jesus.

Anna’s outgoing nature has certainly not died down since arriving. She regularly talks to people in our stairwell, in the park, at church and even in the supermarket, leaving me to translate and explain why a 3 ½ yr old is randomly talking to them in English. She is picking up Romanian slowly and to her delight she has learned important words such as ‘ciocolata’ (chocolate) and ‘ingetata’ (ice-cream). Even though illness delayed her attendance at preschool, she is eager to attend. Her teacher is very understanding and speaks



English but has noted that interacting with the other children has been challenging and her attention span is very limited when they have group time in Romanian. We are thankful that despite these challenges she remains positive, enthusiastic and is eager to make friends.

Luca is his charming self, smiling at strangers and waving his tiny hand to the delight of onlookers. Since there is no communication barrier with him, people happily babble away with him and enjoy his hugs. He is slowly adjusting to Romanian food, with fresh raspberries being his current favourite.

Reconnecting, new relationships & opportunities

We were both eager to travel to Socodor, a small town 100kms north of Timisoara, to see Adi’s cousins and reconnect with Beni, who leads the children’s ministry at the local church (who a lot of you met on the video we presented). We were able to attend their first kids program for the new school year and whilst the numbers were small, it was a great joy to see the leaders faithfully continuing to share the gospel with children in their church and community.

We have greatly appreciated being part of the ECM family in Australia and it is a great joy to now be a part of the ECM family in Romania also. We have a French colleague, Alexia, here in Timisoara, who started up Casa Mitspa, a home for at risk mothers and their children. We are looking forward to regularly meeting with Alexia for prayer, fellowship and accountability.

One of our primary aims in this first year is connecting with existing children’s ministry organisations to see what is already being done and how we might partner with them. With the school year having just commenced, we already have opportunities to attend two children’s ministry conferences in the coming month, which we are very excited about. Please pray that God would give us open eyes to see how He is at work, for encouraging relationships with workers from these organisations and for great wisdom and discernment as to how we could contribute to strengthening children’s ministry in Romania.

Thanks again for taking the time to read our latest news. Whilst we are loving being back, we are missing our family and friends back in Australia, so please feel free to drop us a line, no matter how short, to share how you are and how we can be joining you in prayer also.

Domnul cu voi (God be with you), Adi, Jennifer, Anna & Luca

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Anna with the kids at Socodor



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