

Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

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Dear Friends and Family,
Summer is in full swing and whilst this time of the year may mean a slower pace for some, for those of us in kid's ministry it is sometimes the busiest time of the year. Let us share.....

Opportunities Galore!

Pretty much everyone we know who is involved in kid's ministry is working their tails off at the moment! Camps, holiday programs, outreach events, you name it, it is happening somewhere. It has been a massive encouragement and joy to take part in just a small sample of what has been taking place. The first opportunity we had was to visit two outreaches that AMEC (Child Evangelism Fellowship) was running in villages surrounding Timisoara. It was encouraging to see older youth devoting a week of their holidays to share the gospel through stories, songs, memory verses and games with village children who had gathered in parks. Adi had the opportunity for a day visit to Biblia Pentru Toti (Scripture Union's) first 'Gents Camp', which some Aussie and Kiwi friends had come to help run. I (Jennifer) enjoyed being able to take the kids along to one day of a combined churches park outreach that a team from the USA coordinated. It was encouraging to see how a short-term team facilitated a program that involved volunteers from six churches in Timisoara that was held in the largest children's park in Timisoara. It is also a huge blessing that the Mayor's office let Protestant churches hold such events in public areas. We pray for continued favour before the various officials of the city and pray that this would be the case in other towns and villages, as there is not always the same freedom to do so.

Red Nose & Dimples Returns...

After an 8-year hiatus, Red Nose and Dimples returned with great enthusiasm. Our dear friend Harry Moore came from the USA to spend time with close friends and to share the love and joy of God through clowning. We only had a short time together but we managed to pack in two kids' programs, a day visiting our mutual friend Vera, and also a trip out to a care home for vulnerable mums and children. It was a joy to serve alongside our brother



Harry and to see his willingness and passion to bring the message of the gospel to children in such a fun and memorable way. Whilst he thought this may be his last trip to Romania, due to his health, he is asking for prayer to enable him to return with a team of six clowns next summer! Now that would be something- bring on the clowns!

Please pray...

Praise for:

- The various children's ministry events we were able to take part in.
- Favour before local government officials to hold events in public areas.
- The joy that was experienced through the visit of our friend, Harry.
- God sustaining us during our hospital stay.
- Anna finishing her first year of preschool and her wonderful teacher.

Prayer for:

- That the seeds of the gospel that were planted in children this summer would be watered throughout the year and in turn produce fruit.
- Preparation for Socodor Holiday Program (26-30 Aug)
- AMEC Children's workers conference (13-14 Sept)
- That God would continue to raise up partners needed to return to 100% financial support.
- That God and his living word would continue to be the foundation of our marriage and as parents.

Still to come...

Summer is certainly not over and there are more opportunities before us. Currently Adi is working hard on preparing a week long holiday program to be run in Socodor in the last week of August. The local church has been gathering a team of volunteers we aim to encourage and equip to reach the children of Socodor. We are praying that God will use this holiday program, not only to share the gospel with the kids, but that it would also be a time of encouragement and empowering for the volunteers that come. We are praying that they will see the importance and joy in reaching children in their community for Christ. It is our earnest hope that some of these volunteers will be trained up to continue an ongoing weekly ministry to the children of Socodor.

We are also planning to travel 270kms west to Sibiu to attend an AMEC conference for children's workers (13-14 Sept). We hope that this will enable us to get a deeper understanding of how AMEC works and how we could potentially partner with them. Another conference opportunity coming up is the Alo Copii National Conference (18-19 Oct) here in Timisoara. We have previously helped with this conference and look forward to being a part of it again this year. It is always thoroughly encouraging and we pray that God will continue to use it to encourage and equip children's leaders who gather from all over the country to be inspired and empowered to share the word of God with the children in their churches and communities.

There were two in the (single hospital) bed...

After a run of good health, things inevitably had to go downhill. To cut a long story short, after some worrying vomiting episodes, the paediatrician at the local public clinic was concerned about Luca's history of slow weight gain and his current weight, so we were admitted to hospital to treat his dehydration and testing for food intolerances. What ensued was a very eye opening, challenging and exhausting six days and tiring five nights. A carer needs to stay with their child, so I hung onto little Luca each night, sleeping very lightly in fear that he would fall out of the sideless single hospital bed. Whilst there were times that my patience wore thin and I reacted in culturally inappropriate ways, there was one incident that I thank God happened. On the second day I questioned a nurse about the necessity of the medication they intended on giving Luca. I ended up talking to the doctor on call who subsequently agreed with me and changed the treatment plan. This ended up being an example to another mother who was extremely concerned about her disabled daughter's treatment. She was unaware that you could question or refuse treatment or that they may even listen. My example empowered her to speak up and receive alternate treatment she was happier with. Whilst this was certainly not my intention, I am glad that God used my boldness to give courage to another mother to speak up for her child's care.



Whilst many kids have heard the gospel this summer there are still tens of thousands of children who don't have this opportunity. That is why we are here, to raise up even more children's workers so that even more kids can hear and have the chance to respond to the lifesaving gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you your continued support, encouragement and prayers, it is greatly needed and truly appreciated.

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

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