

# Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

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March-May 2022

## Please pray...

### Praise for:

- Precious face-to-face fellowship.
- Scripture that teaches, encourages & rebukes.
- The formation of a discipleship group for Sunday school volunteers.
- Time with Adi's sister, Cristina and her family.
- Being able to reflect and celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection with both family and friends in Germany and Romania.

### Prayer that:

- We would use time wisely being present here in Romania as well as preparing to come to Australia.
- For Anna and Luca as they finish off the school year. Pray that it will be a positive end to another year of learning.
- That we would continue to find our identity and worth not in what we 'do', but in who we are in Christ.
- Adi would be a blessing using his technical skills at the Roma workers conference.
- We would have safe travels to Australia.

Dear Friends and Family,

How precious is the fellowship of the saints! After years of online and virtual, Zoom and WhatsApp, God gave us many opportunities for face-to-face fellowship in these past two months and we feel exceptionally blessed. We are so thankful for the times God has given us to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (Colossians 3:16) with our brothers and sisters in Christ, from all over Romania and Europe. We certainly appreciate what technology has allowed us to do over these past two years, but it pales in comparison to the encouragement and fellowship that can happen when you are together in the same room. Read on to hear about our joys and more opportunities to come!

## Prayer Days

What a blessing it was for the members of ECM Romania to travel from the four corners of the country to gather together between 4-6 March. It was the first time in three years that Prayer Days had been held and was the first time for some to meet face to face. We had a wonderful weekend, sharing and praying together about our various ministries, along with the joys and struggles that accompany them. There was time to share experiences, ask questions and seek counsel from one another. We were lead in uplifting times of worship as well as encouraged from Scripture. Technology enabled us to have others participate from Netherlands, Ireland, Bulgaria and New Zealand. Our energetic kids quickly became friends and we were thankful to have volunteers to teach and play with them. After sharing the Lord's supper together on Sunday, we left thankful for the opportunity to meet and be encouraged through hearing how God is at work in the lives of those to whom we minister, as well as in our personal lives. Many of our colleagues shared how encouraged they were and expressed their thanks to Adi for all he did in coordinating the weekend. Praying that it won't be such a long time before we meet again.



## Sweet fellowship

After participating in the ECM virtual conference from the 6-8 April, we were overjoyed to get on a plane to Berlin, Germany, to meet with our ECM Australia colleagues. We could hardly believe it when we started seeing each other face to face! It was an overwhelmingly encouraging time of fellowship, sharing, worship, intercession and learning from God's Word. We heard testimony of how God has been at work through exceptionally challenging times both within ministry settings as well as in people's personal lives. We have a God who cares for and provides for his people no matter how discouraging, challenging or

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

PSALM 145:4

insurmountable the situation may be. Both Anna and Luca had an exceptional time there, renewing friendships and making new ones amongst their "TCK" (Third Culture Kid) tribe. The love and patience that the older boys had with Luca was incredible and we were continually thankful for their care for him. After five days of sweet, sweet fellowship we left rested, grateful, encouraged, and fortified with the knowledge that God's grand design is to bring all things under the Lordship of Christ for God's glory.



## Easter x 2

This year we had the privilege to celebrate Easter twice. We celebrated Catholic Easter over 15-17 April with Adi's sister, Cristina, and her family, as they joined us in Berlin after the conference. After a week of family fun of zoos, museums, parks, playing and good food, we returned to Romania in time to celebrate Orthodox Easter the following weekend (22-24 April). Unfortunately, Adi was unwell and unable to join us for the Easter services at our local church, but for those of us able to gather it was a wonderful time of reflection on Jesus' death and celebration of his resurrection. One of the Sunday school volunteers did a great job organising the children's program where the kids sang and recited bible verses and poems, which was a blessing to all. Adi's birthday coincided with Easter Sunday and although he was unwell, we still enjoyed family time together and a white chocolate cheesecake nonetheless.

## Coming up...

As previously mentioned, our local church is setting up discipleship groups and Adi and I were approached to lead one for the Sunday school volunteers. We accepted, and the group is now in its fledgling stage. We pray that this group will continue to meet and that it will be a blessing and encouragement as we seek to grow in our relationship with Christ and how we can teach and bless the next generation with the gospel.

After a few false starts due to Covid, Manda and Josh Pidgeon, Aussie friends of ours who live in a different part of Romania are finally being able to hold their Rroma workers conference between 16-20 May. They asked if Adi would come and help by assisting with the technical side of the conference. Whilst it is a pity we can't attend as a family, as it is school term time, we are thankful that Adi can go and help our dear friends continue to fulfil their mission to "encourage, equip and empower Rroma workers to reach Rroma communities with the Gospel". For more info about their ministry, you can check out [www.rromaworkersnetwork.com](http://www.rromaworkersnetwork.com).

Lastly, can you believe that our next prayer letter will be sent from Australia! We are set to arrive on 14<sup>th</sup> June and will spend time in the Riverina (based in Cootamundra), Canberra, Yamba, Maclean and Sydney, returning to Romania on 6<sup>th</sup> September. There are so many more places and people we wish be able to visit, but we trust that the time we do have will be a mutual encouragement to all we get to see. Thank you again for all your love, care, encouragement, and support over these past years. It hasn't been at all like we thought it would be like before we left, but we have a good and sovereign God who has been at work building his Kingdom and it is a privilege to be in partnership with you in this most glorious task. In His Strength, Adi, Jennifer, Anna and Luca

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