

Dear Prayer Heroes!

We hope and pray that this email finds you well and encouraged in the Lord. This is just a short note to update you on some of what is going on in our lives and ministry.

CHURCH FACILITIES

We have still not moved into our new church facilities. The work that needs to be done before we can move in has taken much longer than expected and promised by the landlord. However, it looks like we can begin painting and installing speakers etc. within a week or so.

A couple of months ago we started to do the collection (tithing) as a regular part of the Sunday meeting, and we have been encouraged by the believers' generosity. The church has already been able to purchase 35 seats and is in the process of investing in a projector. We've also asked a carpenter friend of the church to build us a pulpit. So things are moving ahead on the practical side of the work.

Every Thursday night we meet for our "Parola-Preghiera-Pratica" meeting, where we spend time in the Word (Parola), pray (Preghiera), and talk about practical matters (Pratica). The practical side of church planting is very time consuming and challenging as there are always as many opinions about every little detail as there are people, but we are encouraged by the willingness of everyone to take responsibility for the various practical sides of our new church, and their openness to work together even when it means that we have to compromise our preferences.

ASSUNTA

At the beginning of October we and the Marinos started a 3 month project for Assunta – one of the first believes – where she serves half time in doing church ministries and half time working with NTM. During this time she lives in a small loft-apartment (that belongs to our apartment), and a minimum level of support has been raised for her during the project.

She is a huge help both to NTM and to the church, but our specific goal in offering her this opportunity is for her to come out of her unhealthy family situation, and give Heidi and Dolores, especially, more time to spend with her for her spiritual growth.

We're now half way through the 3 months and we are encouraged by Assunta's spiritual progress and seeing her serve her Lord so enthusiastically.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

The church is organizing a Christmas program three consecutive Saturdays in December where we are inviting children to come and make handmade Christmas gifts for their families. Our aim is to give families of Pietracatella (and Sant'Elia) an opportunity to get to know us in a relaxed setting, and we hope to make a lot of contacts.

GERARDINA AND THEO

Both Gerardina and Theo professed faith earlier this year. Unfortunately, we haven't seen any progress in their lives. They have not been attending any of our meetings these last few months. Antonio continues to do weekly Bible studies with Theo, and we thank God for that, while Gerardina has gone back to attending the Catholic sect that she was involved in before professing faith in Jesus. This has been very discouraging for all of us, but especially for the Marinos who have invested so much time in her life.

PLEASE PRAY

- Pray that we'll be able to move into our new church premises soon
- Pray for Assunta's continual spiritual growth
- Pray for the Christmas outreach that many children will sign up
- Pray that God would give us many contacts through these events
- Please pray for Theo and for Gerardina!

Thank you for your partnership with us in God's work here in Molise!

By His Grace,
Regin & Heidi Guttesen