# Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott serving in Timisoara, Romania

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Dear Friends and Family,

Oops, it's the end of May! Does anyone else feel like that? The last three months flew by far quicker than expected so it's time to sit down, reflect and rejoice at the way that God has been at work.

#### **Unexpected changes and Opportunities**

In our previous newsletter we shared with excitement about our upcoming trip to attend the Romania Prayers Days in Câmpina (490kms east of Timisoara) to share and pray with ECM missionaries and associates from all over Romania. Our excitement soon turned into frustration and disappointment, when due to illness, I (Jennifer) needed to stay at home with Anna and Luca, and Adi flew over to attend. This meant that we had to cancel our meeting with AMEC (Child Evangelism Fellowship) workers in Sibiu also. It was a hard decision to make, but it was a lesson in the reality of ministry as a family and that sometimes for the sake of your family and their health, hard choices need to be made. Thankfully though, Adi had an encouraging time meeting other ECM missionaries for the first time and being able to share, encourage and pray together. An unexpected opportunity that came out of this situation was being informed that AMEC was holding a training in Lugoj, a nearby town, a following weekend. Thankfully we were free and were able to attend together as a family. It was a great experience seeing how AMEC runs their trainings and to get linked in with their workers in the area. We have continued conversations with AMEC and are praying for wisdom and discernment for potential future partnerships with them.

#### Aussie (and Austrian) Retreat

After missing out on the Prayer Days I was paranoid that something would happen that would stop us from going to the Aussie Retreat in Lindau, Germany in April. But praise God, nothing stopped us from being able to partake in the incredibly refreshing week together. In addition to meeting other Aussies serving all over Europe, we had five Austrian missios and their families attend, as they had all studied at SMBC and are members of ECM Austria. It was incredibly helpful for Adi to be able to share with other 'national' missionaries who had studied in Australia and who are now coming to terms with 'contextualising' theology and ministry in their home country, as this has its own set of challenges. In addition to the week of fellowship, bible teaching, prayer, praise and fun at the Aussie Retreat, we then enjoyed a short family



holiday before having the privilege of being able to attend the wedding of Judith and Martin Zelinger, who was one of our groomsmen. It was a joy to be able to spend time together as well as be with them on their special day.





#### March, April & May 2019

### Please pray...

#### Praise for:

- Adi being able to attend the Romania Prayer Days.
- Linking with AMEC workers in our local region and attending one of their trainings.
- Encouraging time at Aussie Retreat.
- Relaxing family holiday.
- Being able to attend Martin and Judith's wedding.
- For generally overall good health over the past months.

#### **Prayer for:**

- Wisdom for potential partnerships with children's ministry organisations.
- Adi as he continually works on contextualising what he learnt at SMBC.
- That we would support and encourage each other in our marriage.
- That we would be examples of repentance and dependence on God to Anna and Luca.
- That God would raise up partners needed to return to 100% financial support.
- For discernment as to what to be involved in over the summer.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. PSALM 145:4

#### **Dollars and cents...**

No one ever likes to bring this up, but we feel that we need to share with you our current financial situation. While we left Australia with sufficent pledged support for the coming three years, unfortunatly several supporters have had to either cease their support or reduce their pledge in the past 9 months. It is totally understandable and we know that circumstances can change at anytime, and we are trusting that God will provide the necessary support. But we thought it was wise to pass on to you all that we need another \$630 a month to return to 100%. This doesn't mean that we are going to go hungry next month, but the money that we currently have in our ECM Australia account will deplete quicker than originally calculated and that it would be prudent to address this now, rather than later. We thank you for your understanding in this matter and if you would like to know more about how to partner with us financially you can either follow this link-<u>https://www.ecmaustralia.org/get-involved/give</u>, contact us directly, or the ECM Australia office on 02 9747 5446 or <u>ecm.oz@ecmi.org</u>. Thank you again to all of you who have, are or will partner with us. It is impossible to do this work without a team alongside us and we are thankful to God for each and every one of you.

#### Family Matters



Thank you for your prayers in regards to our health and for our family's continual adjustment. Thankfully, we have had relatively good health over the past few months, which has been a great relief. Also, Anna's Romanian language is improving slowly but surely, which is an encouragement to everyone and we believe has reduced her anxiety and frustration towards others. We have also been making the most of the spring weather and getting out and about as often as we can to enjoy the parks and playgrounds in our city.



#### Summer's Coming

It is hard to believe that in only a matter of weeks, summer will be upon us! Summer in Romania has usually been the busiest time of the year for us, with trainings, camps, summer holiday programs, short-term teams, evangelistic outreaches and so much more. This summer we have been approached to be involved in or organise many such activities and we need great wisdom to know what to say yes to and what to politely refuse. There are always more opportunities than there are days in the week (or weeks in Summer) and also as a family we need to think about what will work with Anna and Luca too. This is all new to us and so we need prayer to know the way forward for us as a family. We look forward to being able to share with you all in the next newsletter about the opportunities that we took up and how God was at work.

Thank you again for taking the time to read this prayer letter and for your continued support, encouragement and prayers. May the Lord continue to bless you all as He uses each of you to bless those around you. Domnul cu voi (God be with you), Adi, Jennifer, Anna & Luca

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across Europe

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ECM's overarching purpose is to glorify God through **evangelism**, **discipleship** and **church planting** all across Europe. If you would like to find out ways you can partner with us via ECM through praying, serving or giving, please contact our office.

How to give to ECM: Cheques payable to European Christian Mission. Direct Deposit: NAB, Australia BSB: 082171 Acct No. 509197512 Reference gifts with AJG followed by your initial and name, e. AJG ABrown.

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