



# Rinn News

*Dear friends,*

*as I write this update Joel and I look forward to being reminded, throughout Advent, of His nearness to us...*

## **CHURCH MATTERS**

We have been very busy trying to assist Bill Nikides in setting up a new religious organization so Trinity can be a separate entity from the Verona IPC. Now that we are returning full time to church planting in Verona, Trinity needs to be set up as an independent organization. This has been time consuming. The IPC Presbytery is now overseeing the process and we hope things will go faster and smoother. Please **PRAY** that the paperwork will move forward and that we can successfully complete the hand-over.

The Italian Bible Study was on hold while Joel was teaching his class in Pordenone but it was going well. Lord willing, we are resuming next week and we are adding a new person! A long time friend has expressed a desire to attend and we hope she will follow through. Please **PRAY** for the Lord's work through this Bible Study, that His Spirit would move through His Word and help us share the Gospel with our friends.

We visited the small Italian church plant just outside of Verona where an evangelistic Thanksgiving dinner took place. They were very

warm and welcoming, and they asked Joel to come preach. As you know, we always seek to create a good network with other believers and churches here in Italy, and we are very encouraged by this little fellowship. **PRAISE** the Lord for the blessing of fellowship so close to home.

Joel's college class on the Gospel of Mark has been going very well! He is enjoying it very much, especially as the students come to him after class to discuss about ALL sorts of things, from the Gospel to other theological issues, to personal matters, etc. He gets to be teacher and pastor all in one! He has also had an opportunity to help at the Pordenone church plant, by giving a presentation in Italian on John Calvin and attending some church events. Again, we love to try and create a good network among believers here, when possible.

## **FAMILY MATTERS**

Joel's English teaching interview went SUPER well! He was basically offered the job on the spot. Now we just need to make sure the financial contribution is congruous with our need and the time Joel will spend there. **PRAISE** the Lord for this encouraging news but please **PRAY** that the Lord would bless us with job opportunities as we need to self-finance a bit more this year.

I would like to ask for some prayer for Emeline, who is in her final year of High School. Please **PRAY** that she would look to the Lord for her

security and comfort, and that the Lord would allow her a good finish to the year.

Our son Nicolas, who is in the US Air Force, was moved to his first choice Base in the Midwest, close to places where he can attend church. He is really looking forward to that, and to visiting the friends we have there. If you would please **PRAY** that his move would be smooth, that he would find a good team of people to work with, and a pleasant set up there his new base. Please **PRAY** for Christian friends, a possible Bible Study to join, and other grounding things for him.

### **INA NUTSHELL**

The Evangelistic Thanksgiving dinner we helped with went VERY well! There were many non believers and the presentation of the Gospel was excellent. I translated for children's activities while Joel helped run the kitchen. We met a lot of lovely believers, both American and Italian and we were favorably impressed by this little church plant. So we decided to go back and visit on a Sunday, to hear how things are on a 'normal' day. But the fellowship with the Americans was such a balm to our hearts! Thank you for praying for this event! We were told that our help was such a blessing and just at a time when unexpected hurdles they had no idea how to overcome had manifested themselves. **PRAISE** the Lord for His providence, in placing us at the right place, at the right time, with the right skills!

Lastly, we have had great blessings and joys this past month, but also things weighing on our hearts. Please keep us in your prayers...

We need to keep Him before our eyes and let all these other burdens fall by the wayside, so they will not encumber us on the race we are trying to run for Him.

*Proverbs 25:25, 'Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country'.* On a very heavy day, this proverb became living truth for me! We received SUCH a wonderful card from one of our supporting churches, filled with love and care and messages from people whom we know love us, and the offer of help should we find ourselves facing a wall. I cannot tell you how BLESSED we were, to be reminded that we do NOT labor here all on our own, we do not struggle alone, we do not further His Kingdom in this dark land alone... but we are part of a wonderful group of believers who are co-laboring with us at the present moment (even if on different shores). We are grateful to the Lord for being part of His Body!

Wishing you a blessed Advent time,

Love in Christ,

*Jessica* for the Rinns

### **Joel & Jessica Rinn**

Presbyterian Mission International  
USA donations address at PMI  
12330 Conway Road, St. Louis, MO 63141  
or online via PayPal at  
<http://www.pmiweb.org/donations.php>



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We thank you for all your prayers and support!  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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