



A message from the Biscarini's:

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth"

1 Cor. 3:6

From the heart:

The "reentry" in the U.S. was a bit harder than anticipated. Besides the challenges of living in



Are you kidding me? Where is the 3rd, 4th.... At least they are not arrogant.

a hotel room while waiting for our condo owner to finish the remodel (it took 40 days longer than anticipated), the food, the language, the habits of people in this part of America also stretched us a bit. It is hard to verbalize a return from the "trenches" where we are facing daily

the attacks of the enemy, to an environment where tactical warfare is fought on a more subtle level, but still raging. One of the local pastors in TN, a humble man with great leadership skills, stated: "Peppo, I do not know how many pastors or missionaries in your situation would have left the field to attend to their daughter's wellbeing. **What you are doing is exemplary and biblical**". We heard too often of ministry kids being unruly, bratty, going down the wrong path... and we want to make sure that Isabella will not be part of this statistic. Marco, praise God, already has strong footings in the Father's foundation and has taken a leadership position with Young Life on the UCSD campus. Isabella, who just turned 16 today, is a sweet, sensitive, mature girl, but still needs more nurturing and guidance. So we are glad that the majority of you supporters **understand the importance of this task**-at this critical time- and continue to sustain us though we are temporarily in a different venue.

Our involvement in Italy is still exercised at least **3 times a week** via Skype and Whatsapp. The Lord also provided for **unplanned blessings**: PR and his wife came multiple

times to Italy while we were there and in different occasions they met our local fellowships. Last month their visit to Manfredonia produced **another commitment to Christ** with a 20 yr. old that has been on the fence. Praise God! This is **partnership at its best-1 Cor 3-**. Pray that the Lord will **raise a strong male leader** to sustain the group in



Manfredonia. So far Angela and Matteo have been holding the post, but they need a more seasoned "pastor" to lean on. They also need a new location for their meetings since the Mayor did not come through with the location he promised me and is now proposing a 250 sq ft room in an apartment...a far cry from the 2,000 sq. ft. office in the middle of town. **That is Italian politics at its best!** It would be a blessing to have some of you step up and provide **the financial support for them to secure a worship venue** for the Sunday Gospel and meetings throughout the week. We have identified a centrally located space (1,000 sq. ft.) for \$ 800/mo plus utilities. Since they are all students with only 4 adults, they cannot afford this rent.

In the past 90 days we were able to meet 5 of the most influential families of this city (one of them is Italian) and will see how the Lord intends to operate with them. We are in the process of arranging **culturally relevant mission trips** for local HS students and College grads (as leaders) back to Manfredonia and Roma. The February trip is already schedule with **Santa Fe Christian from San Diego**. In the interim, I have made inroads at the local all boy school (Mc Callie) by helping the swimming team and having a platform for ministry.

Jane's corner:

Well, here we are smack dab in the buckle of the Bible belt in Chattanooga TN, 10 minutes from the Georgia state line and 20 minutes from Covenant

College. Many people we have met live on Lookout Mountain, which is where Covenant College is located. I just returned from biking to the supermarket (a 7 minute ride), very convenient especially since we are sharing one car. When one moves trans-continentially it is more practical to leave the cars and anything that plugs in behind because of the different requirements. As soon as I got home the sweet neighbor (Mama Jean as Isabella calls her) brought over custard she just made for us and a bag of apples. I feel I should be helping her, since she is 85 years old! We are developing a nice friendship with her and together visited a dear man last night who is at the end of his full life (former attorney, CIA agent, journalist and pastor). He is well known and beloved here for his radio/TV ministry. We met him in May when he was in a much better shape and Peppo got to glean 2 hours of wisdom from him. As we left last night he said **"God brought you here"**. That is what we believe, but we have yet to understand His specific plans. As we network we see different opportunities with adults and teens alike.

School in San Diego and we will organize another one for the Chattanoogaans during Spring break. We are also moving forward with the **sister city partnership** with Manfredonia. We already know that the mayor in Manfredonia is on board and is in touch with Peppo, now we are rallying the local civic leadership. We have visited 3 local Christian camps for **potential use by the Italians**



next summer. We also have visited a few churches, but Isabella connected immediately to the one on Lookout Mountain and is in a wonderful small group that she never wants to miss! That is a huge blessing as her new school was rough at the start because her assigned "buddy" never show up and she was lost and alone the first week. Now she is making friends and settling in with school and crew. Crew is her new sport and she gets to practice in front of our condo right on the Tennessee River. She is learning fast and after her first regatta this Saturday, the coach asked her to move to Varsity.



I am talking with Isabella's school (the largest all girl school in the US) about training the Lacrosse team in Pilates. For now I am teaching Pilates to the seniors and other folks in our neighborhood. We meet some people just walking in our street and now have a weekly Bible study 10 houses down with a mix of Young Life leaders and various elders. The pastor of a church here is testing a Bible Study booklet for overseas use and we are the pilot class. We believe we are here for more than just being with Isabella and closer to Marco. Through the people we have met here and the relationships we maintain in Italy **we envision student exchanges and outreach trips** to help minister to our flocks in Italy and open the eyes of the people here. These outreach trips will develop lasting bonds between the kids and they will learn so much from each other's cultures and faith. So we will continue the mission trips to Italy with Santa Fe Christian

Prayer requests:

- ***Isabella to find a solid good friend,***
- ***A seasoned male leader in Manfredonia,***
- ***Covering new moving, car and medical expenses, and a location for worship in Manfredonia***
- ***The Father's favor as we minister in this town and approval of the local Mayor for the sister city project.***

Please **make sure you take note of the change of address** below for your donations. Thanks. *Love Peppo, Jane*

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