

The ITALIAN BATTALION

On the Front Lines of World Evangelism

ITALY

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Dear Praying Friends,

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We found some bread

“Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days” (Ecclesiastes 11:1). Alessandro had been a classmate of a boy who used to attend church over 10 years ago. He had become one of my son’s best friends during their high school years. Alessandro had attended church a few times. The last time he came was at my father’s funeral in 2023. Years went by, and Alessandro moved away for work. On February 24, my phone rang, and it was Alessandro. I called him back and asked if he had called me by accident. I thought he may have been meaning to call my son since we share the same name. He told me that, actually, he had been wanting to talk to me. He said that he had experienced many difficulties in his life, and he knew he needed to get close to God. We set up a time to meet the next day. After explaining what God had done to change my life, he opened up about the many challenging things he had experienced. We opened the Bible and looked at many passages that explained how he could be saved. “This is the choice I want to make,” was his response. He bowed

his head and called upon the name of the Lord. It was a joy to see his immediate desire to read the Word of God and come to church on Sunday. Please pray for Alessandro.

Grosseto Church ministry update

Bible Institute—The Thursday evening classes continue with the 2nd half of Old Testament Survey. Our people continue to enjoy this Bible course. We are praying that God will call servants for His service here in Italy.

Couples’ Banquet—We had our annual Couples’ Banquet in mid-February. Along with several of our church couples, an unsaved couple came as well. Please pray for Alessandro and Veruska that they will know the love of Christ and accept Him as Savior.

Training opportunities—We have enjoyed seeing our people “step up” in the areas of music, nursery workers, facilities maintenance, and children’s ministry.

Baptist World Mission Field Visits—In our additional role as field administrator for BWM, we recently were able to visit several of our missionaries in Spain and France. Getting to preach in four different churches was a great blessing. It was a huge encouragement to “rub shoulders” with such excellent servants of God, preaching the Gospel in such needy fields. God is at work in Europe.

Family—Many of you prayed for Arianna when she had her blood infection in August. It turns out that she still had an underlying issue. Since she was able to come home for Christmas, we got her into a specialist here in Italy. In an amazing series of circumstances, the surgeon was able to properly diagnose her and perform a necessary surgery in just a few days. Although she needed a couple of extra weeks off from work to recover, we are so thankful the Lord led us to a definitive solution to her problem. Thank you for praying for her healing. She is not fully recovered, but she is well on her way.



Your fellow servants in Grosseto, Italy,

Frank & Jennie Maietta