March 15, 2019

Dear Praying friends,

Thank you for praying for a piano teacher for Daniela. I know it may seem like I wasn't being assertive or resourceful enough (because I had not gotten a piano teacher for her from December until now), but it was just another example of the slow, inefficient method of getting things done here. I think it's possible that we have learned (sometimes) to just roll with it. We had Daniela's first lesson with a teacher Tuesday. The extra irony is that the teacher lives right in our apartment building. :) Please pray for Daniela to apply herself and for us to have gospel opportunities with him.

Our church's anniversary service with a missionary from Grossetto was an encouragement to us and our people—even though I was not able to attend (kids were down with fevers). Actually, there has been a lot of sickness going around our area. There was at least one day this month when half of Daniela's class (public school) was out sick. On the other hand, Ilario's back has healed enough for him to return to work on Monday. He also had the joy of preaching for our church one Sunday morning, and he plans to continue preaching once a month.

In our area, Tom has had opportunities to build relationships based on his technology skills. I tend to build relationships based on the kids. While Catholics and Muslims constitute the majority of the people we meet, this month I met an Italian Hindu. **Please pray for us to use the opportunities we have to share a tract or a word about Christ**. I think it is easy to just be "nice neighbors," and we need wisdom and boldness in going further.

The ministry of the Word is enjoyable to both of us—though it is not without its challenges. Tom is working through Daniel and Philippians with the church while I am working through Mark with the ladies and Romans, Genesis, and an assortment of character-building studies with the kids. **Pray for clear and accurate presentations of God's Word and for appropriate applications of it—in our lives as well as in the lives of our people**.

Thank you for your interest and prayers!

For the Sake of His Name,

Stephanie for all of us (Tom, Daniela, Nino, Angelo, & Gabriella)