

The ITALIAN BATTALION

On the Front Lines of World Evangelism

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ITALY

Dear Praying Friends,

December, 2024

After an amazing summer, the Lord gave us an equally wonderful fall ministry.

Ambassador Baptist College—A quick trip to the States in September afforded us another opportunity to be on campus at our Alma Mater. Jennie and I cherish every opportunity to encourage the students, especially in the area of missions. As you know, we seek interns each summer to participate in ministry with us in Italy. This allows us to expose them to the mission field and help them consider whether Italy might be the place where God would lead them to serve Him. Please pray that God would use this investment to lead many servants to the needy harvest field of Italy.



Pisa church—In November, we got to be part of the 8th anniversary of the church plant in Pisa. The Lord led the Tacon family to us in 2015, and in 2016, our church had the joy of helping them start the Pisa church.

Evangelistic meeting—One of our main outreach efforts each year is the evangelistic meeting we hold in November/December with an evangelist from the States. This year marked the seventh

time Dwight Smith and his family traveled from the States to preach for us. We always see our highest attendance during these days with all of our church folks doubling down their efforts to bring visitors. On the concert night, we had around 100 people in attendance. Having our expanded facility made it possible to accommodate these folks comfortably.



Thanksgiving service—Since the starting service of our evangelistic meeting coincided with Thanksgiving Day in the U.S., we decided to offer a Thanksgiving meal to everyone in attendance. We had a fantastic turnout. Joey and Jenny Tacon, along with some of their church members came down from Pisa to help us with this event.



Spiritual growth—At times in ministry, God's plans don't match up with ours. I got very ill after the Saturday night Christmas concert. Therefore, I was unable to interpret for the Sunday morning services. The Lord graciously used Nicola to interpret for both guest speakers during our final services. It is an immense joy to see the growth in our church members for which we pray and labor intensely. Please continue to pray with us that God would raise up from among us the next generation of servants for His work in Italy.

Christmas holidays—This year will be the first time we won't get to be with our children for Christmas. Though we will miss being with them, the three of them have plans to be together. We are excited, though, about having Amanda Baker (BWM missionary in the UK) visit us from England for the holidays.



Thank you—Jennie and I want to express our sincere gratitude to all of you who pray for our family and support our ministry so faithfully. It is a joy to serve God in Italy, but we really couldn't do it without all of you. Thanks also, to all of you who send cards and special gifts for Christmas. So, from our family to yours, BUON NATALE!

Your fellow servants in Grosseto, Italy,

Frank & Jennie Maietta