



Harvesting In Your Field!



joshnmandapidgeon.com

1st August 2024

Vol. 75

Please Pray...

» **Pray** for safe travels, especially driving to Phillip Island/Melbourne and back to Sydney.

» **Pray** that we will all remain healthy, and especially that Zeke won't get any respiratory infections between now and his scheduled lung operation in September.

» **Pray** that God will provide for our family's financial and ministry needs for our next term of service. **Pray** especially that God will provide for Zeke's medical costs, that insurance will cover a bunch, and that the balance will be covered.

» **Pray** for clear direction as to how God wants us to use our remaining Home Assignment time. **Pray** that our final medical appointments will go smoothly.

» **Pray** that there will be mutual blessing as we continue to share at more churches, and with individuals.

Same needs worldwide!...

While recently reflecting on the book of Deuteronomy, and especially the societal needs of God's people, it was a helpful reminder that there really is nothing new under the sun, and that, throughout history, every culture has the same basic needs and concerns.

During the difficult economic times of Deuteronomy 24, it was also helpful to see God's mercy as He walked with the Israelites, and as they followed his command to look after one another and ensure everyone has enough. The harvest was essential for the survival of every member of society, with the instruction to "leave [some] for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow" (v19) while calling them to trust Him for their provisions, and to practice generosity and compassion, when they have enough, and when they give out of a heart that trusts God's provision.

As we have had the opportunity to visit Roma-workers over time we've seen this generosity again and again, and been humbled and reminded to do the same. We've also seen this as we've visited friends and churches over our Home Assignment so far, and are grateful in so many ways. Thank you to all who have welcomed and provided for us in various ways.

As 2 Cor 8:9 reminds us to give because He first gave to us "that by his poverty [you] might become rich", we pray that we will continue to step forward in faith, trusting in God's provision, and praying fervently through it all. We pray all of

us will be Jesus light, and hands and feet in providing for others needs, whatever and wherever those opportunities may arise.

Home Assignment...

Before coming on Home Assignment, we spent several months arranging appointments and meetings to ensure we get everything necessary done during the two months we're in Australia. We are now past the half way mark of our time here, and almost through all the main medical appointments for the five of us. We are grateful for many who have upheld us in prayer through this time, and while we still have some follow up appointments to go, we're relieved to be on the tail end of them.

Additionally, it is a privilege to have opportunities to share about our ministry and life in Romania, and how God is working in the lives of those we serve alongside. We have enjoyed sharing with Castle Hill Baptist, Bankstown Community Church, Canowindra Uniting/Anglican Church, and many other smaller more informal meetings and meals with family, friends, and our prayer and financial supporters. Many of our conversations are catchups for which we love hearing where people are up to and how God is working in people's lives, and we love it when it's not just us repeating the same things over and again. While we have quite a full schedule, we still hope to see many more of you before we return to Romania, so please let us know if you're around, and also take note of our upcoming events, in case you're able to join us.



Rroma-Workers Network, Romania...
Encouraging, Equipping and Empowering Rroma-workers
to reach Rroma people and communities with the gospel.



Family time and balance...

With such a tight schedule and budget this HA, we're unfortunately not in a position to attach a holiday on this time around. However, we are still grateful to be able to squeeze in a day or so each week to have some family time out and fit in a few fun things. We're also grateful that Isla was able to attend Holiday Club, with her only

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."
Lamentations 3:22-23

desires to sleep over there, and also to go back for a second week. It was so wonderful to hear what she was learning in English throughout the week, and see her confidence growing. Tilly and Zeke have also enjoyed spending time playing with cousins, friends' kids, and other children along the way, but we recognise that they have had times of being 'peopled out'. We try and make sure we have time to play at parks, and other fun things, and sufficient down time and rest. Isla is also very proud that she's had the space to learn how to ride a bike, and Zeke is proud of himself in learning to roll over, and enjoy trying new foods and textures.

Current Support and Praying we can return on time...

We remind ourselves often that it is God who provides for all our needs and we know it is a privilege to serve the Roma community and people in Romania as He leads. That said, the past six months have been our most challenging to date financially, as our support now sits at around 65% (needing to raise an additional approx. \$3500/mth). This increased gap is due to several factors, including several supporters needing to reduce or stop their support, the price of the same shopping trolley now costing 30-40% more with the increase in living costs, Isla starting 'big school' and Tilly starting preschool/'gradi' in September, the addition of Zeke into our family, and a number of other changes to insurance and utility costs etc. And, in addition to our personal costs, our budget also includes all our ministry costs, including attending and travelling to conferences, and transport and accommodation when visiting workers.

Thank you so much for those who continue to journey with us and encourage us in so many ways. While we continue to trust in God's timing, we would love to return for the girls to start school on 2nd September with the rest of their colleagues, and for Zeke to be able to have his surgery on his lung, which is currently scheduled for 10th September. We recognise the importance of routine for the kids, and us also, but we lay all our plans at His feet.

Would you join us in fervently praying that God will raise up our much needed support to allow us to return as planned on 28th August? If you would like to begin supporting us, or if you would like to increase your existing support, please contact Pioneers as soon as possible. This is best through the Pioneers website or by contacting them directly by phone or email.

Also, if you know of other potential avenues for supporting churches or individuals who may have a heart for our ministry among the Roma in Romania, please let us know, as we know that our current contact lists only extend so far, and often personal advocates are the strongest link to help grow our partnership team.

Please pray with us for the rest of our HA, that it would be a time of blessing, fruitful conversations and opportunity to build special memories with our family and friends. We will be driving down to Phillip Island and back between 7-21st August, visiting a number of people along the way, and sharing with at least six churches and groups, and other supporters, family and friends along the way. Please uphold us, our safety on the roads and especially our health during these winter travels.

In His Hands,
Josh, Manda, Isla, Tilly and Zeke

Upcoming Events

- 4/8- Zeke's Dedication/
Tilly's Birthday Party
- 11/8- Phillip Island Baptist
- 13/8 (PM) Glen Park,
Eltham North
- 17/8 (PM) Young Families
gathering at First Romanian
Baptist (VIC)
- 18/8 (AM)- First Romanian
Baptist (VIC)
- 18/8 (PM)- Maranatha
Romanian Baptist (VIC)
- 25/8- CHBC
Recommissioning



65% Current Support

We are forever grateful to all who partner with us through your prayers, financial support and encouragement. Please continue to pray that God will provide for our spiritual, mental, physical and ministry needs, and let us know if you'd like to join our partnership team.

www.pioneers.org.au/give

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Photos: With the Bathurst man; Colin Buchanan Concert; Visiting with friends & family; dentists & hospitals; Isla's gradi graduation; on the long flights; at Kiama Blowhole