

Encourage & Equip

Adi & Jennifer Grocott preparing to serve in Romania

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Dear Friends and Family,

So much can happen in two months! Praise God with us as you read on and hear what exciting news we have to share with you all.

Multumesc enorm de mult (Thank you so much)

We just can't thank each of you enough who are partnering with us on this amazing journey. To all of you who have signed up, who pray, who are giving generously, who encourage, thank you so much. We have always known that we cannot do this alone and this ministry needs the body of Christ working together to see it come to fruition. It has been a great joy to see God bring each of you to partner with us to see Romanians encouraged and equipped to share the gospel with children. It is with immense joy and enthusiasm that we share with you that we have reached 86% of our support budget, allowing us to book tickets and plan our return to Romania! We are trusting that God will continue to raise up brothers and sisters to partner with us to make up the remaining 14%, so that we can arrive on the field with 100% support. If any of you have been considering supporting us, but haven't got around to it yet, now is the time to act. Please follow this link (<https://www.ecmaustralia.org/get-involved/give>) or contact us or the ECM office and we can show you how. We currently need around \$800 more a month to reach 100%, so whether you could support us \$20, \$50 or \$100 a month, no matter what the amount is, it will assist in ensuring that we can be engaged in ministry full time. If you have any questions regarding our budget, feel free to contact us and we'd be happy to share.

A note from ECM National Director, Matt George

"On behalf of ECM, I would like to say how happy we are to be sending Adi and Jennifer to Romania. Considering that Adi is Romanian, it is a little different from the traditional norm for ECM Australia, which is to send Australian workers to distant European lands. What we are doing with Adi is called "reverse sending", that is, sending him as a national worker who has spent time in Australia to be further equipped for ministry back in his home country. Reverse sending has the major advantage that workers in this category know the culture and language from the inside, and so do not need the same amount of time for cross-cultural adaptation before they can exercise fruitful ministry. Rather than Adi needing to seek out and commit to paid employment, thus limiting the time, opportunity and energy available for ministry, we want to free Adi up so that he and Jennifer can give themselves fully to the work of encouraging and equipping leaders in children's ministry. Let me commend to you this faithful couple who we are sending to impact Romania for eternity, through raising up leaders to engage in gospel work with children. Thank you for your generous and prayerful partnership with them in this great cause."

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

PSALM 145:4

Please pray...

Praise for:

- Faithful and generous partners.
- Great time with Crossroads Christian Church, Canberra, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones.
- Encouraging time sharing at Men's Breakfast and Ladies Brunch in Harden.
- Wonderful celebration for Luca's 1st Birthday and for his improved health.
- Provision of a vehicle after our car needed to be 'retired' to the scrap yard.

Prayer for:

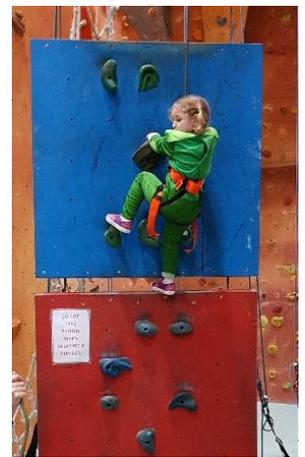
- The remaining prayer and financial support to be raised.
- Planning farewells and a commission service.
- Wisdom how to help Anna and Luca adjust in this time of great change
- That we would model repentance and dependence on God.
- That in our marriage we would be supportive, encouraging and gracious.

Stay tuned for more details

- Commissioning Service, Burwood Presbyterian Church.
- Thanksgiving afternoon tea and farewell Coota.

Primii Pasi (First Steps)

As we shared with many of you, Anna has a place waiting for her at Primii Pasi, a 'gradinita' (pre-school) in Timisoara with one of my dear friend's daughters who is starting this year also. The school year in Romania starts on 3rd September, so we have booked tickets to leave Sydney on Monday 27th August to have some time to settle in before she starts school. Anna is very excited about starting preschool. When we talked to her about it being a bit tricky at the beginning, because she won't be able to understand everything or communicate as freely as she can in English, she confidently shared, "It's okay, I'll learn from them". What a wonderful attitude God has given our outgoing, optimistic daughter. We pray that God will continue to give each one of us a positive attitude in the coming weeks and months as we all go through immense change.



Luca is 1!



We didn't think we would still be in Australia to celebrate Luca's first birthday, so it was a joy to be able to share the special day with some family and friends in our local park. Whilst it hasn't been the easiest of years, we are so thankful to God for all his provision to get us this far. We are especially thankful for the support I received from my local ABA (Australian Breastfeeding Association) group and the various health professionals to whom we were referred to ensure the best start to life for our precious miracle. We are also thankful to share that, at his 1-year review with our dedicated paediatrician, she was very happy with his progress and had no concerns for his ongoing health.

Trademark locks

Most of you can't imagine Adi without his long hair (and you all know how much I love it). But what most of you may not know is that his long hair can be a real stumbling block to sharing the gospel in Romania. What! How? Many conservative protestants in Romania take the verses from 1 Corinthians 11:14 ("Does not the very nature of things teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him") literally and do not think it is appropriate for a man to have long hair. In the ministries that Adi has been involved in the past, it has not been much of an issue, but now that we will be reaching out to churches that may be more conservative, we want to remove whatever may hinder partnership and the spread of the gospel. So, for that reason, before we return to Romania Adi will be going under the knife (scissors, actually) and cutting off his trademark locks. Stay tuned to our facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/285934511910210/>) for more details.

Thanks again for taking the time to read our latest news. We hope that you are as excited as we are to be returning to Romania. Please join us in prayer as we also grieve leaving family, friends and church here in Australia and deal with uncertainty and anxiety in this time of immense change. But in all these things we are thankful that we are never alone, our Lord is with us every step of the way and together as a body of believers we will see the children of Romania find freedom in the Gospel.

God Bless, Adi, Jennifer, Anna & Luca

Thank you for partnering with us in

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

across Europe

We are serving with **European Christian Mission** (ECM). ECM is an interdenominational mission that partners with local churches to send gospel workers to Europe.

ECM's overarching purpose is to glorify God through **evangelism, discipleship** and **church planting** all across Europe.

If you would like to find out ways you can partner with us via ECM through praying, serving or giving, please contact our office.

How to give to ECM: Cheques payable to European Christian Mission.

Direct Deposit: NAB, Australia

BSB: 082171 **Acct No.** 509197512

Reference gifts with AJG followed by your initial and name, e. AJG ABrown.

* Please inform ECM of your giving.



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in Europe*