

The mayor ...

An update on the ministry of Scott & Sharon MacLean serving with CrossWorld in Italy – July 2006

“I’m really not sure. Let’s go talk to the mayor.” It was not what I was hoping to hear. We had been trying to get permission to have a children’s Bible club in the park in Villadossola. It was not going well. Originally I was not even going to ask permission. We would just do the club and blindly assume that we were ok (a very culturally relevant way to do it). But what started as just a simple “We don’t need any official permission to do this, do we?” At the police station had wound its way through several people until it became an “official” request that was denied.

Since we had technically been denied permission to place something on the ground (a sketch board and puppet stage) we hoped to just go with a sketch pad and markers and tell the kids in the park stories about Jesus. So off I went to the police station again, just to “inform” them of what we wanted to do. It was on this visit that the police chief took me in to see the mayor, who said we could not do it. We had a friendly discussion and she said she would talk with the town council about finding another alternative for us. I’m not too sure if she really will, but there’s always hope. Anyway, we now are acquainted with the police chief and mayor. But in the end it was a closed door – at least for now.

On the other hand, permission to have a children’s Bible club in Domodossola should be

no problem. Our co-worker is on the town council and generally they will grant him whatever he asks for. Our problem there is that they have closed the park while they replace the playground equipment. The club we had planned for last week will be put off until just before school begins in September (Lord willing Sept. 4-8). **Please keep this planned outreach in your prayers.**

And so we plug away, seeking open doors and receptive hearts. Yesterday we went down to the park in Villadossola with Karis for a while in the afternoon. We chatted with several parents and watched the kids play and smiled at people. Nothing exciting like a Bible club would have been, but still quite useful. Who knows, maybe next time we will get permission for the club – and the parents and kids will know us and be more receptive.



Playing with Karis in the Villadossola Park

Things have been going well at the book table. Over the past couple of months we have sold quite a few books and given away a good bit of literature. I have also had some good discussions. One man, after I told him about the free literature that we had replied “Nothing that’s free is of any value.” I told him of God’s gift of salvation which is of the greatest possible value, but is offered freely to all who believe. We talked for quite a while and he did take some literature to read.

ITALIAN INFO

Elections were recently held here in Italy. The newly elected legislators then selected a Prime Minister. Who is now the Italian Prime Minister?

- A) Silvio Berlusconi B) Romano Prodi
C) Giorgio Napolitano D) Massimo D’Alema

Answer to last letter’s question:

A “pepperoni” pizza in Italy would come with bell peppers (B).

“praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, ... that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.” – Colossians 3:3-4 (NASB)



Talking at the book table

Domodossola, and the whole of Italy, is completely soccer crazy at the moment. The World Cup competition is taking place and Italy is doing very well. Even a small town like Domodossola has set up a big screen TV in the central piazza so everyone can come out and cheer on Italy together. Last night they beat Germany to get into the finals. Suddenly we are seeing Italian flags hanging from every house. Normally you only see flags on government offices. The final on Sunday (July 9) will be the equivalent of the Super Bowl, except the whole country will be watching and cheering.

Soccer was the theme on the literature we placed in mail boxes in the town of Piedimulera. We also included a coupon to use at our book table and an offer for an investigative Bible study. We followed up by having a book table in the town market for a couple weeks. We didn't see much response, but Scott did get to know a believer that lives there who does not currently attend any church. Hopefully we can have a ministry in lives like hers as well.



Domodossola

Will you pray for us as we seek open hearts and open doors? This is what we are seeking. Open doors of ministry opportunities like the children's Bible club, or volunteering with the local ambulance service. Open hearts whom God has prepared to hear the message of His Son. Your prayers for this work are very valuable and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

His Servants,




Scott & Sharon MacLean

Scott, Sharon & Karis MacLean





Open air preaching at the Giro d'Italia

QUICKLY NOTED ...

-  **On our web-site (www.snsMacLean.net)** – Pictures of our open air message at the “Giro d’Italia” and a new “Life in Italy” section on “Italians and laws”.
-  **Changed your e-mail address?** – Many of you get our e-mail updates and prayer letters. Make sure to let us know if you change you e-mail address!
-  **Useful web site** – www.Bible.org is a website full of useful ministry tools such as commentaries, Bible dictionaries and sermon illustration.

Prayer & Praise

- ✓ Pray for a mighty working of God in the Ossola Valley – that He might be glorified.
- ✓ Pray that the Lord would work in the heart of the Villadossola mayor to permit us to have a children’s Bible club in the park.
- ✓ Praise for the new tract we have for distribution. We were able to have a full color, professional quality tract printed at a very good price.
- ✓ Praise for good conversations at the book table.
- ✓ Pray that those who have bought books, or taken literature would read it and that the Lord would speak to their hearts.
- ✓ Praise for opportunities to do open air evangelism at the Giro d’Italia and during an “end of school” party in the town center.
- ✓ Pray for the children’s Bible club in Domodossola September 4-8.
- ✓ Pray that the Lord would direct us toward “thirsty souls” whom He has prepared to hear the Good News of His Son.
- ✓ Pray that Scott would be able to get into the training class to be a volunteer with the local ambulance service.
- ✓ Praise the Lord for how Karis is already able to help us in the work here. Taking her to the park is a great way to get to know people!
- ✓ Pray that the prayer partners we are lacking would be raised up.

Direct Address:	Electronic:	Permanent Address:	Mission Address:
Via C. Ravasenga, 2 28845 Domodossola (VB) ITALY 		c/o MacLean 814 Little Shilo Rd. West Chester, PA 19382 	CrossWorld PO Box 306 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 