


# Connections ...

October 2010 update on the ministry of Scott & Sharon MacLean serving in Italy with  CrossWorld

“Hey, you’re the guy who teaches Bible stories in the park.” The boy had just cut in front of me in line at the Chinese take-out place. When he turned around and saw me, he recognized me from our weekly children’s clubs in the park (although, I must say, I did not really recognize him as one of our regulars). What is even cooler is that he remembered that I teach “Bible stories”. Each week I remind the kids that I tell stories from the Bible because the Bible is completely true.

Recently we have been being recognized more and more often around town. Whether it be the folks that stop by at the book table to chat, running into my Muslim friend while out running errands down town, or greeting a fellow ambulance worker while waiting in line at the health service office to get documents, it seems that we frequently are stopping to chat with someone that we know. It is nice to be recognized. We are really starting to feel that we are a “well inserted” (as Italians could say) or well connected in our small town here. Even better is knowing that each of these relationships are bridges of trust that make it more likely for them to listen when we share the Good News.

The brother of one of the ladies Sharon knows from the park recently moved to Domodossola. He was looking for an evangelical church to attend. Because she knew Sharon, he was able to connect with us. He is a new believer, and his

sister was impressed by the big changes in his life. So she too decided to come along and see what it was all about. They both have been attending when they can.

Which brings me to another encouragement God has granted us. You may recall in the last letter that we had prayed as a church for God to fill the empty seats left behind when Filippo and Sandra moved to the US for a year, and that He would make us grow so big that we would have to find another place to meet on Sunday mornings.

Well, the Lord has answered at least the first part of that prayer. A few weeks back we had 28 folks there for Sunday! And we have been averaging over 20 each week, despite Filippo and Sandra and kids being gone, and some of our other regulars being gone. Soon, Lord willing, we will really need to find that bigger place.

It is an encouragement to us to see this answered prayer, and I know it is also an encouragement to the church. And it is an encouragement to us to see how God has really burdened the youth of the church to pray that God would cause our youth group to grow. Two of our youth spent the summer in the US and enjoyed being part of a much larger youth group at the church there.

As we talked about the summer, and how wonderful it was to be part of a much bigger church there, God used it to touch their hearts to pray that He might cause our youth group, and our church, to grow.

As I write this letter, I am in the US for a short time of visiting our supporting churches and individuals. While there is no way I’ll be able to get done all we hoped to do this summer (before our plans were changed by the adoption), I hope to at least be able to connect and share with most of our supporting churches and many of our individual supporters.

We are also praying that the Lord would use this time to raise up some of the financial support that we are lacking. Due to some churches and individuals who have had to stop supporting us,

## ITALIAN INFO

Which is the capital city of Italy?

- A) Turin   B) Milan  
C) Rome   D) Naples

Answer to last letter’s question:

*The Italian word for soccer (calcio), also means kick (C). Note, I just realized that the auto-correct had changed calcio to calico in my last letter. Oops!*

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always** to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you ...” - *1 Peter 3:15*

as well as some increases in our support needs, we are facing a deficit in our support. Please pray for the Lord's provision, and that I would be an encouragement to those I meet while travelling.

I apologize for the delay in getting this letter out, but I was waiting so I could include our new prayer card with the letter. For those of you getting this by e-mail, you should be able to get one at your church (if they support us). Otherwise, please contact us and we will be happy to drop one in the mail to you.




Thank you for your continued support in prayer. We really do need it!

His Servants,






Scott, Sharon & Karis MacLean

### ***QUICKLY NOTED ...***

-  **On our Website** – We have expanded the “friends” section of our web site. We now include some more specific prayer requests and news that, while not exactly private, we still do not want publically searchable on the internet. To access this section, click on the link labeled “friends” on the lower left hand side of our web page. You will need to contact us for the username and password needed to access this. If you are having any trouble accessing this, please contact us and we will try to help.
-  **New Prayer Card** – If you get this by snail mail, it is enclosed. If you get it by e-mail, pick one up at your church, ask us to send you one (we are happy to do so ☺), or download it from our web-site and print it yourself.
-  **Move to KC** – CrossWorld has completed the majority of its move to Kansas City. Please note that the new official address and phone number for CrossWorld below.

### ***Prayer & Praise***

- ✓ Praise for the adoption of our new daughter, and for how well she is adapting to being a part of our family!
- ✓ Pray for Scott as he concludes his brief time in the US visiting supporters.
- ✓ Pray for a renewed strengthening of the dollar. This would be a help to us as we were not be able to come on home ministry this summer and renew our support base.
- ✓ Pray for the Lord's continued provision of our financial needs.
- ✓ Praise for the new folks who are attending church. Pray that they would continue to be faithful in attending.
- ✓ Continue to pray for the witness of two teens in our youth group to their unsaved family members.
- ✓ Pray for a Jehovah's Witness with whom I have been having regular conversations. I am seeking to create doubt and raise questions about what he has been taught is true, but yet does not fit well with the Bible. There are many JWs who live in our area.
- ✓ Praise for a couple with whom I am meeting to study the Bible. Pray that the Lord would open their minds and hearts to His Word.
- ✓ Pray that the Lord would open doors of opportunity to speak of the Gospel with those we know and those we meet. (Col. 4:3)
- ✓ Pray for a great working of God in the Ossola Valleys. May He draw many people to Himself and build His church!

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