



Reaching Men and Women for Christ in Italy

Military and International Communities



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Buon Giorno di Italia

Occasionally, a young man comes along that stands out among his peers in spiritual maturity and a disciplined Christian lifestyle. Josh Smith is such a young man. Josh is a crew chief on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. Upon arrival to Aviano Josh got involved in our church community including Sunday study and worship, men's weekly bible study, and Wednesday night fellowship/bible study. In addition, I began meeting with Josh for one-to-one discipleship. His spiritual understanding and application of the Word of God helps him to remain steadfast and self-controlled in his workplace and relationships, an admirable trait in any person, but especially for a young man alone abroad. Please pray for Josh as he has just deployed to Iraq for six months. Pray not only for his safety, but that he will continue his spiritual growth and be a light and encouragement to many in his sphere of influence.



If there is one phrase that describes the Gruenes Family (Bill, Michelle, Alyssa (14 years), Hannah (12 years) and Daniel (10 years)) it is faithful servants. This quiet, seemingly unobtrusive family stands out as dedicated Christians to the service of the body of Christ. Whether it is teaching Children's Church, working Vacation Bible School, cleaning up after Sunday and Wednesday fellowship meals, ushering, setting up and breaking down for communal events, or any other practical need, the Gruenes are faithful to jump in and work to get the job done. We have been very impressed by Bill and Michelle who model servitude to their children as well as ensure their children serve alongside them. Most excitingly, their spiritual growth has

been phenomenal since they began participating in our Wednesday night fellowship and bible study. In their words— "John and Anna are true blessings to our family. They have been an inspiration to us and increased our knowledge of God's word. When we arrived to Aviano we did not feel a sense of community. John and Anna arrived shortly after we did and brought a joy of sharing God's word and built a community of believers that have become our church family." The Gruenes will PCS in July to Shepherd AFB in Wichita Falls, Texas. Please pray for their continued spiritual growth and connection to a bible teaching church.

FROM THE HOME FRONT--On March 30th, one week after completing his Master's degree at the Air Force Institute of Technology our son Daniel married Ashley Snively of Springboro, Ohio. I had the great privilege of conducting the wedding ceremony. A few days later they set off for Las Vegas, Nevada, their new duty station. Daniel will be on special assignment there for three years, and Ashley, who is a registered nurse, hopes to find a nursing position. Please pray for them as they begin their Christian marriage together.



Words cannot express our grateful appreciation for your prayers and financial support. As we witness changed lives in those we minister to, we thank God for your partnership in all our efforts. May God bless you and continue to grow you in Christ.

Serving Together In Christ, *John & Anna*