



Thank you all for your commitment  
to give and pray for our family as  
we live and serve in Italy.

## Family Updates:

- The kids have started school again. This year they are both in 5th grade and we are using an accredited online American curriculum. We are about 2 weeks into the program and so far it seems to be a good fit for everyone. It gives us the flexibility we needed and the structure the kids needed to succeed. It also allows for the opportunity to work ahead so we can be sure to be finished before any big events.
- **They are also both excited about starting their sports programs again soon. Bria starts classical dance again and Cooper will be joining his soccer team once more. Both these give the kids an opportunity to be around friends and also they are fully Italian speaking programs.**
- They were also given bikes recently and have enjoyed riding around our neighborhood. Cooper has a boy group here that he likes to hang around.
- **This coming school year we will be helping with the children's Sunday school as well as starting a children's service. We will also continue our Tuesday evening kids English club and help with the park outreach. We also plan on creating some more monthly outreaches and inviting the parents to join with the kids for a kids type service. We are praying and planning to help train up volunteers to help fill the gap and step into leadership roles.**



## SUMMER MINISTRY on page 2

## Itineration Update:

- We will be headed back to the USA fall of 2025 in order to itinerate and raise much needed funds to continue ministry here in Italy. As we have shared we have begun to jump in and start ministry programs and we need the funds to keep those going.
- We would love to speak with you over coffee or a meal, join you for a service at your church, or just catch up on zoom. If you would like to meet with us please send us a message on Facebook or email and we would love to plan something!
- We would love to share all God has done over these last few years and how we see Him moving here in Italy.

## Prayer Requests:

- We are praying for those that currently partner with us and are praying for new partners as well. As we look forward to itineration please join us in praying that God leads us and opens doors for us to make new friends and partners and to strengthen the relationship with those partners and friends that support us.
- As we begin these ministries this fall, please pray for volunteers to be excited and involved, for the kids to be excited and for God to be present.

## THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!

We continue to be incredibly thankful for each of you that pray for us, financially give every month, and remember us. Your prayers, encouragement, and support not only give us what we need physically but lift our hearts and spirits daily.

**CONNECT WITH US: [www.lifeinthegrayzone.com](http://www.lifeinthegrayzone.com)**

**Chris & Kim Gray**

Missionaries to Italy

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# Summer MINISTRY UPDATES:

Isaiah 43:19 says "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

We believe that God is doing new things here in Italy and we are grateful to be a part of it!

**We are so thankful** for all God did this past summer. While we are tired and need some rest and recovery time, our hearts are still **full of joy and hope for the future**. Over the past 3 months we had **three camps in two different countries**. We worked with three amazing teams, **saw seeds planted in so many little lives** and heard as families shared how these camps affected their children.

## Italy

A team of amazing youths (and their leaders) joined us to host a Summer Camp at the Italian church. This was the first of this type of event and we didn't know what to expect. We had 60 kids (plus adult volunteers) join us for 3 full days of fun, science experiments, songs, Bible memory verses, games, and learning life lessons from people in the bible. The parents, children, church leadership and church volunteers all shared how amazing this event was and how great it was. We are looking forward to holding this camp again next summer and making it a little longer.

God showed up in such a big way at this event and we loved seeing the joy and excitement on the faces of the kids and adults. One of the stories I heard was regarding a young Muslim boy, he told one of the mission team members that his mother said not to believe anything he heard at this church. But he was the first one to raise his hand and quote John 3:16 from memory. I believe that God is planting seeds in his heart and in the hearts of his family (mom stayed the first day to see and hear what we were doing.)

Another amazing team joined us to host a Kids Camp at ICF Rome. This team had such great interactions with the kids and everyone had a blast! There were some younger kids this week and I loved seeing the interactions between the older kids and the younger kids. The older kids helped lead, demonstrate, and mentor the younger kids. God is raising up a next generation of leaders and it was fun to see this in person.

## Germany

A few weeks later our family packed up and headed to Germany to lead the kids program at the Connect conference. At this conference, global workers from across Europe come for a full week of meetings and training. Chris and I (along with a ChiAlpha team from Texas) provided the program for the kids.

Our big belief is that God didn't just call the parents but calls the entire family onto the mission field and children are a part of that calling. We wanted to give these kids a place to have fun, engage and be with other TCKs (Third Culture Kids), and be reminded how loved they are by God. We used the same curriculum from the two previous camps and just altered it for this setting. So these kids had fun with science experiments, watching and learning more about underwater life, hearing bible stories with lessons that still apply to their lives today, and playing games.

This was a fun week. Our kids enjoyed seeing the friends they made last year and just getting to hang out with other kids who live life like them. Chris and I also enjoyed talking with other people in ministry and other parents in ministry.

We arrived home and headed into planning mode. We had met with the pastor of the Italian church and his wife before heading to Germany and shared some ideas we had for the next school year. When we arrived back home we added more detail to those plans and shared them with the leadership at the church.

We have recently been trying to post more short updates on our website and social media.

Please check out these links for quick updates in between our newsletters.

<https://lifeinthegrayzone.com/category/blog-posts/>

<https://www.facebook.com/LifeintheGrayzone>



Summer Camps



Kids CONNECT



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# LIFE IN IMAGES...

They say a picture's worth 1,000 words...

## Moments from our Italian church summer camp



## International church VBS



## Moments from Germany and CONNECT

