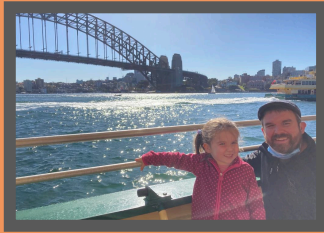


# Sweet Nourishment!



joshmandapidgeon.com

5th Sept 2022

Vol. 67

## Please Pray...

» **Praise** the Lord for the many sweet conversations we've been able to share with family, friends and our partners. **Pray** for our remaining travels, for good health and stamina, and a good balance of rest and responsibilities.

» **Pray** that God will provide for our unbudgeted HA costs and will raise the remaining 8% of our ongoing budget to allow us to leave on time at the start of Oct.

» **Pray** for our family as we say goodbyes and readjust to life in Romania. **Pray** particularly for Isla as she settles back into Gradi for another year.

» **Pray** for our next term in Romania, as we plan and work alongside our church locally in Vâlcea, and with our RWN workers across the country.

» **Pray** for our respective levels of Romanian language to pick up where we left off.

## Mutual Encouragement!...

To think that in just a couple of days it will already be three months since we left our Romanian home, and that we have four weeks to go till we head back.

As I (Manda) have been reflecting on our time here in Australia and the many and varied meetings and conversations we've had among churches, small groups and with individuals, I keep being reminded of the importance of meeting together! As I read a devotion on Hebrews 10:23-25, this was again implored even more strongly as a sacred duty of Christ's people to not neglect meeting together, so that we might wait on the Lord together, united as one body, and to mutually encourage and serve one another.

We are so grateful to so many for the encouragement you have been to us in making this Home Assignment possible and a true blessing! We want to say thank you for all the open, honest, encouraging conversations we've had with so many, and that you've let us into your lives as somewhat outsiders, to know even the tough things you are dealing with, so we in turn can pray more earnestly for you also.

Thank you to those who have served us through the provision of accommodation, vehicles and needed items for our girls as we've travelled throughout NSW, up to the Gold Coast and now as we currently spend time down in Melbourne. The list is long but we want you to know we appreciate every gift of time and investment in our

lives. It's often a challenge to know how to best spend our time and where to direct our spending, with the cost of food and living being considerably more expensive here in Australia, but we trust in God's provision and continue to see the little and big ways in which He goes before us and with us, and speaking through His spirit into the hearts of His people, to provide for our needs, often just at the right moment.

## Checkups and Checkins...

While meeting with people is one aspect of our Home Assignment (HA), part of our responsibilities are to ensure that we are fit for ongoing service as we prepare to return to Romania in October. These checkups include general health checks for all four of us, and specialist checks where needed. We're almost at the end of this list, including skin, teeth and eye checks, blood tests and vaccines.

Many are aware that Tilly also went under general anaesthetic as we work with doctors both in Sydney and in Bucharest, and with your prayers, in the hope that she won't need an intervention more than ongoing monitoring. Her ENT doctor is so far encouraged that things are okay but she will probably need another check in about a year, if no other symptoms present themselves. Please continue to pray with us that her body will cope and grow into her extra "arterial branch". (For more info you can look up Aberrant Right Subclavian Artery- ARSA).

You may also remember that we began our HA by travelling to Wales. After a few very full weeks with the RWN conference



and preparing to leave Romania, we were grateful for a short farm-stay rest in Brecon before travelling north to Llandudno for a week of debrief with a lovely couple. It was a valuable time to help us process our first term and the many challenges we faced, as well as thinking through our future plans and processing changes to help guide us through our next term. Ministry life rarely unfolds as we plan, but we are all the more thankful for a sovereign God who already knows the plans He has for us.

**Rest and Recuperation...**

During our HA we have been grateful to receive some 'love gifts' with the instruction to spend designated funds on some fun experiences or things we would like to buy to take with us back to Romania. These have been an added blessing and we have loved the

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another..." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

opportunity to take our girls to the new Sydney Zoo; Manly via the Metro, Train, Tram and Ferry; Sea World, a few other beaches, and lots of parks along the way. At the beginning of our time, during the July school holidays, we also loved having a week away with Josh's side of the family and the following week away with my

side of the family. It really helped break the ice for us all as we rekindle all our relationships, and especially for the cousins to get to know each other beyond video calls. Nothing beats being with family and friends in person! This has really helped all get-togethers since, with everyone picking up where we left off.

Thank you also to those who joined us on 7th August for Tilly's Dedication and to celebrate her 1st Birthday with us. It was a great day. We're also looking forward to hopefully seeing many of you at our Re-commissioning on September 25th, including a BYOpicnic lunch afterwards. As hard as goodbyes are, we want to embrace every opportunity to see all of you who mean so much to us.

**Preparing to return...**

Our time down here in Melbourne has included meeting our Pioneers family in the office and planning for our next term of service. We are thankful for Pioneers and the member care they have in place for each worker they send out. This includes the requirement to have 100% of our needed financial support pledged before we fly at the beginning of October. After reassessing our needs, we now have a month to raise our support by another \$550/month to ensure we can fly on time. This is all the more important to make sure Isla can start back at Gradi/preschool just after we get back (though school starts at the beginning of September), and so that we can settle again once we're back.

A couple of ways funds can be considered is for those already giving regularly, to think in terms of increasing your giving by CPI (6.1%) e.g. if you give \$50/month, to increase to \$53; or \$100/month, to increase to \$106. For those considering giving, this could look like 3 new supporters at \$100/month, and 5 supporters at \$50/month. One-off gifts also contribute to help cover the gaps in our funds and un-budgeted extras like medical costs and increased travel costs. Either way, please let Pioneers know your intentions so that we can account for all gifts accordingly.

Many people have supported our family in different ways over the years and we are so grateful for your sacrificial generosity through your spiritual gifts, professional help, prayers and financial partnership, without which we couldn't otherwise serve full-time in Romania. We don't take this for granted.

In His Hands, Josh, Manda, Isla and Tilly

**Upcoming Events**

*Re-Commissioning Service*  
9:30am, Sept 25th @ CHBC



**92%** Current Support

We are forever grateful to all who partner with us through your prayers, financial support and encouragement. Please continue to pray that God will provide for our spiritual, mental, physical and ministry needs, and let us know if you'd like to join our partnership team.

[www.pioneers.org.au/give](http://www.pioneers.org.au/give)

**Our Contacts**

**Our Work Email:**  
[jnm.pidgeon@gmail.com](mailto:jnm.pidgeon@gmail.com)

---  
**Pioneers:**  
PO Box 200  
Blackburn, VIC 3130  
[www.pioneers.org.au](http://www.pioneers.org.au)  
[info@pioneers.org.au](mailto:info@pioneers.org.au)  
**(03) 8814 4444**  
**1800 78 78 89 (free call)**



Photos: Home Assignment: Wales, London, Sydney, Gold Coast, NSW Coast, Melbourne; Tilly's procedure; Tilly's 1st Birthday; Time with Cousins; Time with Nan; Sharing with Churches.