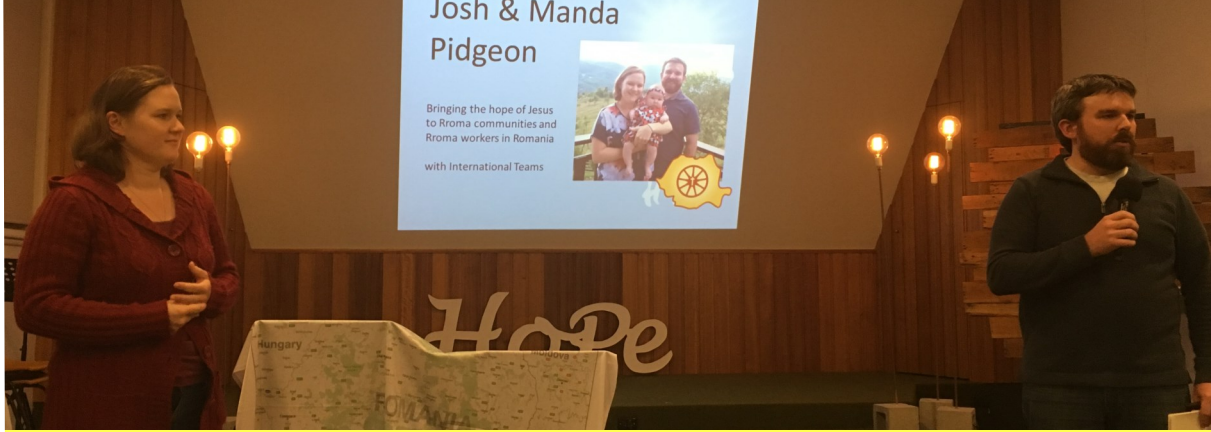


Newsletter
Forty-Seven

5th Oct 2018



Planting Seeds in Oz!

Manda & Josh Pidgeon

A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING...

It's amazing how in one night everything can change just like that. I sense all parents nodding their heads in agreement and smiling and reflecting on their own experiences when I say that.

God knew exactly what we needed in the first half of the year with Isla, as we travelled here there and everywhere with a fair bit of ease. However, perhaps with no surprise whatsoever, the day Isla had her six month vaccinations was the beginning of the last six week's battle. Isla decided that it was necessary to re-introduce two hourly feeds round the clock, and that she didn't need all that much sleep throughout the night either. Of course, functioning on 3-4 hours sleep per night gradually took its toll and it became a struggle for me to concentrate on much at all, but I'm very thankful for the support of Josh and others who were able to help when needed.

Having now talked with a lady from Tresillian, we are slowly now winning the battle back and my head is a little less foggy, just in time for Daylight Savings and our trip to Melbourne ;).

All to say, I had hoped to get this newsletter out to you sooner, but thank you for your ongoing support and prayers regardless.

ISLA'S DEDICATION...

It was such a blessing to be surrounded by family and friends for Isla's dedication service on 5th August. A special occasion of recognition of our primary responsibility as Isla's parents, we are grateful that don't have to raise her alone, even though we will soon be moving to the other side of the world. Our prayer for our baby girl, is that she will grow up to know Jesus' love for her, and that in time, she will come to trust Him with her eternal salvation. Thank you to those of you who came and who are standing with us in this amazing journey, and to those who are praying for her and us.

SWIMMING LESSONS...

There are many things we are trying to put in place to ensure that all three of us are as equipped as possible when the time comes to move. Amongst medical and dental appointments and skin checks, we want to give Isla the opportunity to develop a healthy fear of water. She has enjoyed her first few swimming lessons so far, though I'm not sure whether she enjoys the splashing more, or the singing, watching and smiling at the teacher and other parents and babies or drinking the water. Either way she is loving the experience and is hopefully growing in her love and respect for water.

Please Pray...

» **Pray** for Isla as she gets back into a better sleeping and feeding routine, and pray for good health, energy and rest for us.

» **Pray** for safe travels to and from Melbourne, and **Pray** that Josh will be able to take a lot away from the language training. **Pray** also for good connections with the three churches we will be sharing with whilst we're there.

» **Praise** God for His provision so far, and please **pray** that He will raise up our necessary financial shortfall to allow us to move back to Romania next year.

» **Pray** that the new website will be used to its potential and for the ongoing effects from the conference in the lives of those who attended.



Bringing the hope of Jesus to the Roma people in Romania

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JOSH'S UNI GRADUATION & WORK...

Josh: "The day finally came for me to graduate from uni, two weeks ago. Although I completed all the coursework over nine months ago, I enjoyed having a ceremony to officially mark the completion of this chapter. I am very thankful for Manda's support through most of my time at uni, and for God's strength throughout. I don't miss the assignments, much, but I am very thankful for what I have learned, and I look forward to applying it further in the future."



As our anticipated departure date looms closer, I have also begun preparations at work to hand over my roles and tasks to others. Some of the main tasks still need to be finished off, while co-workers need training in taking over responsibility of some systems. I am very thankful to God for the experience that I have gained at this lift company, and for their flexibility with my studies, and pending training. I am also looking forward to my next role that God has yet to reveal."

LANGUAGE TRAINING & ENCOURAGING CHURCHES...

This Saturday we fly south to Melbourne for Josh's next training. Run by qualified linguists with on-field experience, it "is a pre-departure program designed to help people develop the skills, methods, techniques and attitudes necessary to learn another language." Whilst we are there, we will also take the opportunity to share our ministry with three new churches as we aim to grow our partnership team. We'd love for you to pray with us for these new connections, and that God will place the RWN on the hearts of Australians and Romanians here in Australia.



We not only need to leave fully supported ourselves, but would love to take the opportunities to plant seeds and see others potentially working with Rroma in the future as well. As one of the Australians who came to our June conference wrote "We're so glad and thankful that we got to attend the RWN conference. As newbies we felt it gave us an awareness of the work already happening among the Rroma. From this we can see the many facets of ministry that are meeting the different needs. We feel we are part of a bigger picture of Rroma ministry with the areas of our gifting, and it gives us courage to go ahead as part of a team because we don't feel like we have to meet all the needs. Our brothers and sisters are already doing that with theirs."



RWN MINISTRY AND PREPARING TO MOVE...

Work has continued slowly as we persevere with editing the recordings and materials from our June RWN conference. We are also progressing with creating workers profiles, and adding resources to the new website resource library. With a growing part of this ministry becoming technologically-based, please pray for wisdom about how best to handle this need and at what point we need to look into having someone else join our team to share the load.

With just under six months till we are aiming to move to Romania, the to-do-list seems to be growing longer by the day. Working on our new 'family' budget (as opposed to a single), preparing documents, and getting all our affairs in order is swallowing up much of our schedule, and it's easy to become overwhelmed by the seemingly insurmountable pile of items and files to sort.

We love the opportunity to attend special events, and catch up with family and friends, but have realised that we've even reached the point where spontaneity is becoming rare and we need to schedule everything in. That said, we would still love to come and share with your church or small group, or simply catch up over a meal, not only to share our journey with you, but yours with us. Please let us know when we can spend some time with you.

In His hands,

Manda & Josh, and Isla

Photo on front: Sharing at our ITeams 'Hope For Europe Night' on 24th July.

Upcoming Events

7th Oct- Sharing at:
Aspendale Presbyterian
VIC @ 10am

Language Training
(for Josh)
8-12th Oct - Melbourne

14th Oct-
Sharing at:
Glen Park Gospel Church
VIC @ 10:30am

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Maranatha Romanian
Baptist Church, Berwick
VIC @ 6pm