

Paul and Kelly Childers

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Missionaries to the People of Italy

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"Chiesa Biblica Battista di Grosseto"

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To Our Supporters and Praying Friends,

We have had a busy fall and winter so far. We started back up with our monthly children's activities in September. Those have been very well attended recently by a great group of young children both from our church and visitors alike.

We have done several teen activities as well recently with a great group of teenagers that the Lord has blessed us with.

From September-November we held English lessons at the church on Thursday afternoons for children. That course was well attended by 10-15 children every week. We will be doing the same during the spring months on Tuesday afternoons. We continue to do private English lessons in our home as well with about 20 students every week. Kelly has been teaching English to young children in a private school this past fall and will continue through this spring. Teaching English has been our best means of having good contact with people for purposes of evangelism for many years and it continues to be so. We will be doing much more with regards to that this coming summer that I will explain more about in a future update.

In December we held our annual winter evangelistic meeting. As usual, the last evening was our children's Christmas program. That meeting was particularly well attended. The Gospel was clearly preached, and several people heard it preached, most likely, for the first time ever. One young man who has been spending a lot of time at our farm recently attended along with his girlfriend. Please pray for the salvation of Alessandro and Alice along with several others who heard the Gospel preached in those days.

In February we will have our annual couple's banquet. That is a great time of encouragement for the couples in the church and a real highlight among the things we do. I will also be preaching at the couple's banquet at the church in Pisa in February.

A missionary family working in Reggio in Emilia, about three hours north of us, the Cooks, with whom we collaborate in the ministry, started an online Bible school this past fall. Our church is involved in it along with five other churches. I am one of six teachers, and fourteen of our church members are enrolled. There are about 50 students in all. This is a real blessing because it is the only sort of formal Bible education program for Baptists in Italy. It is also an encouragement to see so many churches and their members working together. We praise the Lord for it and we pray that as it progresses perhaps a Bible college could develop from it.

Thank you for your faithfulness to pray for and support the ministry that the Lord has given us with the people of Italy.

Paul Childers

I Timothy 4:10 "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God..."