

J U L Y / A U G U S T 2 0 1 3

the DELUCA family

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO THE PEOPLE OF GREECE



Up North in MI!

June was a great month as we spent a week at BIMI for training (Joanna & I graduated!) before heading to Michigan for meetings. The hardest part was having to leave our kids home but God blessed right from the start as we enjoyed a great conference in Houghton Lake, a place I had visited as a lost teen. What a difference Christ has made in my life! We made some great friends who treated us to a trip to Mackinaw and the UP, and introduced us to the game Sequence! The Lord provided opportunities to witness and enjoy His creation as we were treated to fishing and hiking. Two great meetings followed in Cadillac and Fostoria. We thank God for His blessings.

Just Around the Corner

It's hard to believe that we're half way through 2013! We're only 10 months from our projected departure of May 2014. We have been blessed with many meetings and conferences this year and we're looking forward to a very busy Fall. We hit the trail hard again in August as we seek to "round the corner" of these last months of deputation so that we can get to Greece and the Lord's work there!

THE REAL PAIN OF AUSTERITY

The painful truth of austerity measures has begun in Greece. Already suffering with staggering unemployment rates, many Greek parents are leaving their children at orphanages because of their inability to meet their needs. The forced austerity measures being imposed by the Troika has forced the Greek government to cut social programs that were barely keeping families afloat. With nowhere left to turn, parents have opted to place their kids into orphanages for food and shelter. One report states 10% of Greek children are at risk of hunger. Teachers cancel PE because children are underfed and report pupils picking through bins for food. Many parents regularly visit their children

but they're losing hope as the cuts continue to impact Greek families. Mental health problems and suicide rates continue to increase. Some parents resist seeking help because of their Greek pride, even though they're living off handouts and crumbs. One UK writer opined, "Tragically, for many Greek parents, even such intense family pride is no longer enough." Though there is a legitimate need for physical food, we go to share the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ, who said in Matthew 6, "...take no thought, What shall ye eat? or...drink? For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Prayer Requests:

- ♣ Christ to be glorified.
- ♣ Greeks to be saved.
- ♣ Meetings to round out our schedule for 2014.

- ♣ Greek language and cultural studies.
- ♣ Our Greek citizenship process and paperwork.

Praises:

- ♣ New ministry partners.
- ♣ Added support for our partners the Korianitis'.
- ♣ Homeschool needs met.



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