

Monet - May 2008

I hope you all had a great memorial day weekend. I really enjoyed spending it with friends and family. I am trying to spend as much time at home this year as I can because if I end up in Italy as a career missionary, I won't be able to see them very often.

The support and preparation process for returning to Italy is slow but there are some exciting things coming up in the next couple months.

1 On June 12th I will be giving an Italy presentation to the choir from my church here in Merced. I used to sing with them and feel like they are a very supportive part of my family here at Central Presbyterian Church. Please pray that the presentation is clear, interesting and God-glorifying. I hope it will be the first of many similiar presentations that I can give over the summer.

2. On July 7th I will be traveling with my friend, Elaine, up to Oregon. We will be meeting Dan and Alice Simmons the WorldVenture missionaries that I worked with in Italy. They are home on furlough and are bringing with them four members of our church in Ostia, Italy: Marco Cocuzzi and Giulio, Maria and Aurora Gabriele (see attached photos). We will be presenting a Tour of Thanksgiving starting in two churches, one in Portland and one in Eugene. It is an opportunity to share what is happening in Italy, thank supporters and encourage each other. Please pray for our safe travel, good time of fellowship between our Italy team and the church families that we visit and God's direction during our presentations.

3. From August 1st to the 10th I will be going on a mission trip to Oregon. A team from Whittier Hills Baptist (my sending church in the Los Angeles area) is joining up with two churches in Oregon to run a bible camp for High School kids. We will be holding it in Lyons, a town outside of Salem. Lyons is a town of about 1000 people in an impoverished, mountaineous area. Many of the kids are on drugs, involved in witchcraft or both. We hope to be able to share the joy and hope of Christ with them through games, music, talks and discussion times.

4. This summer I am working with the kids at my church in Merced. I took a job as the Children's Minsitry Intern. My responsibilities include running a children's choir, helping with Vacation Bible School and going with them to summer camp as a counselor. I hope it will be a chance for me get to know the kids in my church better and gain experiencing in working with children that will be useful to my church in Italy.

All in all, it should be an exciitng summer. Please keep me in your prayers. email me and let me know how I can be praying for you this summer. God Bless!

Monet Beardsley