

AMY IN ITALY

Dear Friends,

July 2008

This past month has been full of wonderful events! June 2, 2008 was the first Montefiascone church retreat. Although there were some difficulties, (like rain almost the whole day), the retreat was a great success! Before the day had even ended one woman told me she wishes we



could have something like this every month. The following Sunday several people expressed their gratitude to God for time to study and fellowship, away from home and their busy lives. Antonio said, "Above all I want to thank the Lord for the way in which He has worked in our hearts. Amy is

truly guided by the Lord. We have had the opportunity to share in joy and above all love and to see the Lord at work." Then Antonio reminded us of our theme verse, Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you



with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Eva, a nine-



year girl shared a prayer she wrote to God. "I thank you, God for last Monday. You allowed us to be together. I am thankful for Amy organizing this retreat. I had a great time and I'd like

to thank Jan and Milly, (this is the couple that hosted us in their home) also the youth from Civita,---Matteo, Samuele, Morgana and Simone, (these are Christian youth that were willing to help me by leading the children through the materials that I had prepared) who really made sure we enjoyed ourselves and they helped us to learn more about God. I hope to return another time to Jan and Milly's home. I really liked playing the church Olympic games. It was funny to see Mom, Uncle Marco and Dad on the ground blowing the cotton ball. I also liked seeing Milly's horses and Milly's lunch was delicious!"



Church Olympics
Long Jump event

On June 18th I went to the immigration office with an Italian friend to learn what was happening with my visa documents. I learned that my "permesso" has been approved but there is a mix-up in the paperwork. I have been given permission to visit America this fall for a few weeks and will then return to the office for my new "permesso" before the end of the year. This new "permesso" seems to be granted for at least 2 years from the date that I filed in January 2008. Thank you for praying for this long process and please continue, as it is not completely resolved. However, it is a big praise that I may have a year off from dealing with documents. This will be a first in over 3 years!

English Camp was June 19th- July 1st. The team from Colorado did a wonderful job reaching out to the Italian youth. There was English Camp every morning for a week and different activities each afternoon and evening. Once again, the Pizza and Praise night was my favorite event. Several Italian Christians and I had an opportunity to share the truth about God and His amazing love for each of us with an Italian girl. Although this young person has not yet given her life to God, she was touched by His love. She recently wrote on a web page, "Before I was only able to succeed at going out dancing on Saturday night, but after this experience something within me has changed. I do not feel the need to go to out dancing and wake up Sunday after lunch, but I feel the need to come in to church and be with you. I thank you all Marco, Janet and Amy and all the others for the splendid English Camp." This girl and another friend **did** come to our church worship service on July 6th!



Mornings at English Camp



Enjoying Tiramisu and laughs at Pizza and Praise night

July 26th will be a special youth night! I am working with several Italian Christians and a GEM missionary who lives about an hour south of Montefiascone to make this event happen. Please pray that this evening will be an opportunity for the youth of Montefiascone to have fun, get to know some of the believers better and be challenged to consider for themselves how they want to live their lives and spend eternity.

Praise God with me for:

- A great first church retreat
- Completing another English Camp
- Opening hearts of youth in Montefiascone
- The help from many Italians to have successful events
- Opportunity to visit the states during the fall

Please join me in prayer for:

- Youth Night on July 26th
- A possible youth Bible study
- The youth who attended English Camp
- Arrangements regarding my travel to the USA and organizing everything here to be gone for a few weeks

During my time in the states I would love an opportunity to thank you personally for all your prayers and support for the ministry here in Italy. Because I just recently received permission to visit the states without putting my visa in jeopardy, I do not have firm dates of where I will be when. Tentatively, I am planning to be in Massachusetts for a few days in September, visiting Northern California in October and Southern California by the end of October and part of November before returning home to Italy.

Please let me know if I can visit your Bible study group or if you would like to host a gathering of people in your area. Please email or call 714-453-9890 (add 9 hours to CA time when you call) to schedule a possible time. As always, I praise God and thank you for the opportunity to share this ministry with you!

With His love and joy, Amy Williams