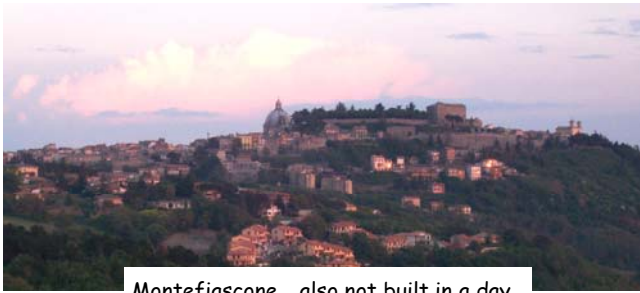


June—July 2007

**Rome was NOT built in a day!**

*As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in Him. Psalm 18:30*



Montefiascone... also not built in a day

As I learn a new language and a new culture, familiar expressions take on clearer meaning. In particular, the saying “Rome was not built in a day” comes to mind. I now have a much better and clearer understanding of this truth. It has taken many months and numerous trips to Rome for my “permesso di soggiorno,” or visa to be approved. I am delighted to tell you that our prayers have been answered and I do not need to address visa issues again until January 2008 (six months from now.) Thank you for your ongoing prayers for this process. I am hopeful that recent changes in the Italian immigration system will eventually result in smoother and faster processing and approval.

After many months, I successfully completed the written portion of the test to obtain an Italian driver’s license. I will never need to retake this portion of the test! Thank you for your prayers! I know that your prayers and God’s intervention carried me through the testing process. This month I plan to drive with an Italian driving instructor and fulfill the road test portion of the license requirements. Please continue to pray with me for the successful completion of the process.



My driver’s license will allow me to drive my car and also small farm equipment--this is why the written test included questions regarding mechanics of a car, how to tow vehicles, appropriate use of farm equipment and other miscellaneous subjects.

**Summer Changes**

A new cultural issue that has come to my attention in recent weeks is the existence of organized crime, right here in my small town of Montefiascone. The mayor and other city officials have been put under house arrest, accused of schemes involving the illegal dumping of toxic waste and questionable transferring of funds. Thankfully, this situation has not affected me directly, except that I am now drinking bottled rather than tap water. My visa documents were signed by the mayor just before his arrest. It would have been a huge mess if my documents were still waiting in the city office.

The legal problems have impacted summer events planned in our city because nothing can get the required approval from the mayor’s office. Montefiascone’s wine festival, a huge event held annually for generations, has been dramatically downsized. It was very disappointing for the church that have had to cancel plans for a summer ministry team to come from the states.

In June, I had the opportunity to teach at the church’s weekly Bible study on the subject of prayer. I shared a few tools that I have learned and a couple of personal stories about how God has used and blessed prayer in my own life. Church members agreed to establish a way to share prayer requests and also to set aside a specific time to meet together to pray. I offered my home for weekly meetings and was amazed when 25% of the congregation attended the second prayer meeting. At that meeting we spent almost two hours praying for the needs of church members and for God’s power to move in the lives of people in our city of Montefiascone.

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***Please pause to praise God for...***

- ◆Receiving my 2007 “permesso di soggiorno”, Italian visa
- ◆Successfully completing written portion of driving exam
- ◆Weekly prayer group meeting for the Montefiascone church
- ◆Full financial support despite the falling dollar
- ◆Growing relationships with new friends in Montefiascone



Lunch out with the women of the Montefiascone church



Member of the church spend time together making puppets for teaching and outreach events



Enjoying burgers at my home with youth from the Monterosi church

***Please pray for...***

- ◆Successful completion of my Italian driver's license
- ◆God directed outreach opportunities this summer
- ◆Continued understanding of Italian language and culture
- ◆Improvement of Internet connection at my home
- ◆An invitation to teach conversational English at the local high school for '07-'08 school year



High School Conversational English class, June 2007

***Thank you!***

The value of the dollar continues to loose strength against the Euro. On its own, this is not good news. The fact that my funding has continued to stay strong is wonderful news and I praise God for each one of you as you faithfully support me and the ministry here in Italy. Thank you for filling the gap with your prayers and financial support.

It is a comfort and a joy for me to know that God is always in control. He is well aware of everything that is happening and everything is subject to His perfect timing. He knows that Rome was not built in a day or even a decade, and He understands that the hearts and minds of Italians will change slowly.

I do not know God's timing--but I do trust Him and His promises. *“You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.” Psalm 139:5-6* I am still trying to make sense of this different country and culture. God loves the Italian people and wants them for His kingdom. Thank you for partnering with me and allowing me to labor toward this goal.

In God's love,

*Amy Williams*