

March 2004



Greater **E**urope Mission

Amy Williams

Dear Friends,

I feel blessed that God has given me time to report back to all of my supporting churches and with many of you personally. After traveling to the East Coast and spending a month in Northern California, I am now settling into Southern California. It has been wonderful to be able to share about the work that God is doing in Romania and where He is leading me now.

There are many changes taking place in my life and I appreciate this opportunity to share more information with you. God continues to bless and direct my path as I prepare for my career mission assignment in Italy.

After almost 15 years of living out of the area, I am back in Orange County and sharing my parents' home. Financially, this is a practical arrangement and allows me to accrue more mission funds to use for outgoing expenses to begin my next assignment.

You may wonder why I have decided to not to return to Romania. My term there was a blessed time and I certainly saw God at work in Sibiu. The new kindergarten program was established and continues to reach children and families for Christ. Youth Bible studies and outreach mission projects were effective. Several youth are now pursuing careers in Christian service. Please praise God with me for these amazing blessings! My Romanian experience confirmed God's call on my life for career mission service and was an excellent starting point for me to gain confidence and skill in working for God overseas.

Sometimes I feel homesick for my dear friends in Sibiu. I continue to have contact with some of the youth via email. However, God has spoken to me very clearly that Romania is not the place for me to serve Him long term. There are numerous missionaries in Romania and approximately 7% of the population is Christian. God has opened my eyes and called me to serve where less than 1% of the population have a personal relationship with Christ. Fewer missionaries and evangelistic resources are available to reach the Italian people. The field is difficult, yet I know that this is God's will for me.

I want to be well prepared to serve as a career missionary in Italy's difficult spiritual arena. Taking classes while I am on Home Mission Assignment seemed to be a wise use of my time. I am taking courses in the Inter-cultural Studies Masters' program at BIOLA University. This allows me to take some crucial coursework in youth ministry and Bible knowledge that will equip me to be a more effective member of the church planting team in Italy. An added advantage of this program is that I will be able to continue study in Europe through the co-operative program between BIOLA and GEM. This will allow me to begin ministry in Italy as soon as my outgoing expenses are met. I believe this is one more of God's blessings as He has provided for me to be a part of a program that is offered on both continents.

I am grateful for your partnership in my ministry. I trust that you have not been disappointed by the results. God used you to encourage and support me. This led me to decide to commit my life to mission work. I ask you to pray and ask God about how you can be a part of my ongoing service.

I will be joining a GEM team church planting effort in Ronciglione, Italy. (That is a small town about an hour north of Rome.) Michael and Sherri Carlson have been at work in this effort for several years. Michael's primary focus is to disciple men to become church leaders equipped to eventually plant additional churches. Presently, he is also working with youth, a growing group within the church. My job will be to take over youth activities, Bible studies and discipleship among the youth. I will also assist Sherri in children ministries and other tasks as assigned. I am eager to move to Ronciglione and to join the team!

Will you join the team too?

I continue to need your support of prayer and finances. My personal living expenses are not a factor at this time, so the monthly support that I receive will accrue in my GEM account and make it possible for me to leave for the field sooner. Currently, all my expenses for BIOLA are being financed through grants and personal savings. While I am thankful for the opportunity to receive more training, my primary focus continues to be the expanding of my team of supporters. I hope to have the opportunity to speak with each of you regarding details and answer any additional questions you might have. If you attend a small group or a church that would be interested in the opportunities to reach the youth in Italy with God's good news, please let me know as I am trying to make new contacts and expand my support base.

Colossians 2:2-3, "My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Again, thank you for your faithful support and encouragement. I appreciate the opportunity to represent you in our Lord's work overseas.

By His Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Williams". The signature is written in black ink and is centered below the typed name.

Joining The Team With My Faith Promise

Gifts for the ministry of **Amy Williams**
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Yes! I would like to partner by committing to pray *daily* *weekly* *monthly* *as prompted by the Spirit.*

By God's grace, I will partner with Greater Europe Mission through prayer and giving beginning _____, 200__ in the amount of \$_____ monthly quarterly annually

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All gifts are tax deductible. Make checks payable to and mail to Greater Europe Mission. Thank you!

Greater Europe Mission
18950 Base Camp Road
Monument, CO 80132
1800-GEM-4488
www.gemission.org



Amy Williams
560 Londerry Lane
Anaheim, CA 92807
AWilliams@GEMission.com
www.amywilliams.homestead.com/website.html