



## MILAN, ITALY

Rev. Michael & Janie Brown

### Dear friends in Christ,

Italy is a nation of breathtaking beauty and rich cultural history, but spiritually it remains one of the most neglected mission fields in Europe. Less than one percent of Italy's population attends a Protestant or evangelical church, and the vast majority of Italians have little to no exposure to the gospel of Jesus Christ. In a culture shaped by both deep religious tradition and growing secularism, many have never heard the good news clearly proclaimed. This is why the witness of the church in Italy is so vital.

By God's grace, the ministry of the Word in Milan continues to prosper. This year, the Lord has brought several new families, individuals, and university students into our congregation. Nearly every week, new visitors join us—including some who do not yet know Christ. On Sunday mornings, we often have more than 70 people gathered for worship, which is no small number for a church in Italy. Each service is a reminder that Christ is drawing people to Himself through the ordinary means of grace: the preaching of His Word, the administration of the sacraments, and the fellowship of His people.



Here are some additional recent highlights:

- I am leading a family of five in our new membership class. God willing, one girl (Nadia, 12) will make profession of faith and be baptized, and her two sisters (Yana, 10, and Elena, 7) will also be baptized.
- A neighbor (Dario, 27) with whom I have been sharing the Gospel for several years finally began attending our church about six months ago. By God's grace, we have seen a total change in his life.
- A woman (Alona, 60) who lost her only son to suicide has also been attending our church for about six months. She comes to every meeting: worship, catechism, mid-week Bible study, and the monthly women's meeting. The congregation – especially the ladies –have embraced her and befriended.
- Our midweek Bible study continues to be well-attended. In June, I finished a lengthy series on the book of Revelation. In July, I taught through the book of Jonah.
- We recently translated into Italian and published Pastor Gordon's excellent work, *The New Reformation Catechism on Human Sexuality*.
- Our podcast is going strong, gaining more followers every week. We pray that this will be a tool for the Italian people to learn solid Biblical teaching and understand who God is and what Christ has done.
- My wife Janie continues to play a big role in helping me with the editing and technical side of the podcast. She also produces all our church's sermon videos and maintains our social media presence, which is very important here in Italy. In addition, he continues to lead the ladies' book club, which has been a rich time of fellowship and prayer. I am so grateful for her commitment to and labor for the mission, especially as she has been very busy this year as an English teacher to foreigners.

We are grateful beyond words for your continued prayers and support. Please pray that Christ would strengthen His church in Milan, bring unbelievers to faith, and raise up disciples who are firmly rooted in the gospel. Thank you for standing with us in this work of the kingdom.

In Christ,  
Michael Brown





## BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

Rev. Mihai & Lidia Corcea

### Greetings from Eastern Europe!

Dear brothers and sisters of the United Reformed Churches in North America,

Greetings from Eastern Europe! I am writing to share an update on the ways the Lord has blessed our church planting ministry in Romania. After many ups and downs in previous years, the Lord has recently brought forth encouraging fruit.

We rejoiced to welcome several new people into our fellowship. This year, five adults and five children were received as members, and a number of new visitors have begun attending, some quite regularly. We also rejoiced in a wedding that I officiated in July, and we continue to pray for other members who are single and desire to establish families of their own.

This summer I was blessed by the help of an intern, Mr. Nick Pasc, one of our members who is currently a student at Westminster Seminary California. He returned for a summer internship in Romania and exhorted from the First Epistle of John. His help allowed me to take my first extended break from preaching in five years, a much-needed time of rest and refreshment.

The monthly meetings of the core group in Transylvania have continued, and I am encouraged to see growing stability and interest in Reformed theology. About 10-12 adults attend these meetings regularly.



We were also concerned this summer about some legal developments in Romania that could negatively affect smaller churches. By God's providence, we found a lawyer who helped us update our bylaws in order to secure greater legal protection in this changing environment.

We are thankful as well for the Lord's care for our family. My wife Lidia's autoimmune condition has stabilized and even improved in recent months.



We thank you for your prayers and support. It encourages us to know that so many churches are praying for us, and we are humbled by your generosity.

Finally, we also pray that the Lord would continue to bless and guide you as we walk together in this unstable world with the assurance that we have received a kingdom that cannot be shaken.

Warmly in Christ,  
Rev. Mihai Corcea

