



ACT NOW MINISTRIES

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

Greetings from up north Michigan! As I watch the calm Lake Huron for a couple more days, I ask myself: where has the summer gone?

Most of us have experienced a very different summer: fires all over with lots of people displaced and some losing loved ones. I hope that you took time to pray. I did. Even most of Europe has gone through a lot and high temperatures continue to make this summer a displeasing one.

But we know that God is in control even in our most difficult circumstances. Time with family has been precious, and knowing that the Collesanos will be grandparents again made this summer special. Lots of happenings for sure. Preaching, sharing His Word, praying, and receiving blessings. Currently we are praying for the Hamiltons, who have started the support raising for their ministry in Sicily with Act Now Ministries. Keep on praying that God is in control for this too. Read about Chris and Alicia Hamilton below.

A very different summer for sure but we are thankful that wherever we are, we can shine His light. From the picture that you will see, a busy summer and a busy fall is at our doorstep, so keep praying.

Again, we were contacted about the impact in the prisons in Catania. ANM will bring more material in many languages to reach people like Kenneth who is making a plea not to be left alone, knowing that he needs to pay his debt to society. Wherever we have been, His presence is felt, and continues to leave, a mark. Lots of opportunities await us once back in Sicily and our partners in Italy. Do keep praying.



VBS at church where we serve while here in the states



Breakfast to raise funds for the needy here on the island



When you go to a pig roast and end it with sharing the gospel, not bad.

Giuseppe has some more meetings in a few churches before he returns to Sicily. Some of you he has seen; some in the weeks ahead. We ask you to pray for strength, health and guidance for the ones that have made a commitment to serve alongside ANM. Keep praying.

We again thank you for your faithful support in prayer, giving, and some of you in coming overseas in the months ahead. Your commitment continues making a difference. A few names that you can bring to the throne of grace: Francesco, Enrico, Cristina, Kenneth, Mario, Antonio, Alessandro, Giuseppe, and therefugees that still are coming. This past week, 6,000 arrived with nowhere to go, ANM will continue to partner with local churches to reach those in need with His Word, food, and clothes. We thank you for these opportunities. Lots of political changes and the burden for Italy has increased. Keep praying.

As always: Let's go fishing (really) for one more for the One. God bless you as you make His light shine where you are. Serving together, Giuseppe and Pennie Collesano Ciao for now.



Preaching at Grace Chapel Waterford



Some of the material for prison ministry that you supplied with your donations. Pray. Thankyou.

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Zelle: GC@ActNowMinistries.com
 Checks & Money Orders:
 Act Now Ministries
 2844 Livernois Rd. #775
 Troy, MI 48099

CONNECT

(253) 579 - 4239
 gg@actnowministries.com
 www.actnowministries.com
 @actnowministries



CHRIS AND ALICIA HAMILTON

THE HAMILTON'S

To my friends and family and those whom I have yet to meet, I will be honest; I do not know the first thing about raising support financially for full-time missionary work. In fact, all I have known in life is paving my own way and climbing a career ladder. God has humbled me so much throughout this journey in answering His call to Sicily. A lot of people have asked me in the beginning, what does this call look like? How do I know it is God calling me? God has blessed my corporate life in banking so much, why would He pull me from the comfort, progress, and success I have been involved in? I can finally say, I am ready to answer these questions from you all in hopes God speaks to you in the same light He has myself.

I knew this call was from God because it is consistent with His character, and I have pressed Him to do literally anything else. One of the greatest bits of advice I received from some of my counsel through this is to try to let God know you want to do something else besides ministry. My burden keeps pointing back to the same place. I have googled, searched, applied, interviewed, and I will tell you, nothing is as blatantly obvious as missions - specifically, Sicily. If you have ever been in my shoes, you fully understand what I am talking about. This is how I can confidently say, God is leading me and my wife to the same destination in answering His call.

Looking back, I can see how God provided repeatedly. My corporate success in leadership has been preparing me for this very calling. From living in my parent's house as a young married couple, bouncing around from loved one to loved one's places to have a place to lay our heads, and then being blessed to own three different homes at various times in our lives. We have seen God's providence continuously. Now, it is time for us to live in faith knowing this call is not in vain. We approach this call in prayerful humility knowing God calls regular people like you and me to do extraordinary things for Him.

There are a few churches in Sicily who need help growing. Initially, the vision we have is connecting with those churches and building a sense of a Christian community among them. Our specific idea is Messina. God keeps Messina close by in my heart and there is an opportunity close by with a pastor who is nearing end of life. Our first year seems to look like us digging into the local church in Messina, learning culture and language, and serving the local area with the gospel. We have a

plant a church. We have partnered with Act Now Ministries and will ask support from the general fund to help provide Bibles in the Italian language. This ministry will come with many challenges. We cannot go into Sicily with the idea of changing the culture. We cannot even go with the mindset of changing the churches there. Our goal and calling are to be full-time disciples and laborers for any need in the local community surrounding the church in Sicily. This means helping the elderly, providing general living necessities to the underserved communities, and holding Bible studies in our place of residence.

So, what does this have to do with you? We cannot take this step into God's calling without your prayer and financial support. We need around \$5,000 a month to help make His calling a reality. This may seem like an astronomical amount, but that means \$25 a month from 200 people. We believe churches are filled with people who want to see His kingdom expand around the world. If you are like my wife, she has always had a financial burden for missionaries. You are already doing so much for the local communities and the gospel is being shared at a rapid pace. Sicily is fictitiously reached with who God is, and God is laying a foundation for more missionaries. Please, if God is moving in your heart, give today! Every dollar we receive puts us that much closer to bringing the gospel to the people of Sicily. Your generosity matters and we are blessed to be the feet of your church family. "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." I Corinthians 9:14 KJV.

The Hamilton Family

www.ActNowMinistries.com/chris-hamilton
(980) 989-0310

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Attn: Hamilton Family.

Mail checks to:
Act Now Ministries
Attn: Hamilton Family
2844 Livernois Rd #775
Troy, MI 48099