



# THE COOK FAMILY

## MISSIONARIES TO ITALY

*Teaching Italians to reach Italians and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

**December 2020 & January 2021**

Dear Praying Friends,

God has brought us through 2020, a year of great uncertainty. Thank God that HE is unchanging! Italy continues with brief periods and various degrees of “lockdown”. We are grateful to still be able to meet. We only had to return to meeting online for a couple of weeks during Christmas due to the country’s heavy restrictions during that time. The ladies’ annual Christmas gathering had to be canceled as well, but we are rejoicing that, through all of the closures and cancelations over the last year, the Lord has shown His hand at work: Tullio was born again and baptized at a local river, 2 people joined the church, we met a lady who now faithfully “attends” every service via zoom, and we have had several first time visitors! In addition, Clara, for whom you have been praying for several years now, is wanting to begin joining us online (she is elderly and tries not to be out and about more than necessary). Looking back, we are once again reminded of the Lord’s faithfulness and that He is ALWAYS at work, even though we may not see it at a given moment of time.

The last Sunday of the year we always have a time of giving thanks to God over the past year. It always does one’s heart good to praise the Lord, but especially after a year like 2020, it is especially encouraging to look for the good and praise God for it.

Then, near the beginning of January, it was once again time for recognizing those that had read through the Bible; this is always a joyous occasion. This year we added another recognition, those who completed the devotional guides “Read the Bible by Its Stories” by Dr. Clarence Sexton. Brandon has been encouraging the families to do this together on a daily basis, as well as challenging the young people to participate by preparing personally beforehand, and assisting in teaching it later in the day when the family gathers for Bible time. What a blessing it is to see individuals and families growing in the reading of the Word of God!

The weekly men’s prayer meeting and ladies’ Bible study continues to go well. The ladies are currently studying “Prayer” and are thoroughly enjoying it. We would like to ask you to pray for Brandon’s mother, Marilynn. She is in the hospital with Covid and we would all greatly appreciate your prayers for her. We thank God for each and every one of you and pray for you regularly. May the Lord nourish your soul at His throne.

Until that glorious day when we meet again,

**Brandon & Kristan, Thomas, Titus, Elisha, & Abigail Cook**

**Praises:** God’s faithfulness; families and individuals growing in Christ; smooth renewal of our permission to stay in the country (renewed annually); Elisha’s 7th birthday

**Prayer Requests:** Prayer Requests: Brandon’s mom (COVID)

### SENDING CHURCH

Five Forks Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 6  
Cedar Grove, N.C. 27231

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARY

Brandon: 2/26/1979

Kristan: 6/1/1987

Thomas: 8/8/2011

Titus: 7/10/2012

Elisha: 1/26/2014

Anniversary: 6/26/2010

Abigail Grace: 5/29/15



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