



Clinton Church of Christ <churchofchristclinton@gmail.com>

August 2026 Newsletter

Scott <scottshanahan@106922010.mailchimpapp.com>
Reply-To: scottshanahan@hotmail.com
To: churchofchristclinton@gmail.com

Mon, Aug 17, 2026 at 5:00 AM

[View this email in your browser](#)



Buongiorno a tutti!

We hope this newsletter finds you well. Italy has been HOT this summer. All Europe has been suffering with one heat wave after another, and Italy is no exception. We have had temperatures over 95 every day since June, with most days being over 100. What makes that worse is the fact that our air conditioning really can't keep up with those temperatures, and most places we go either have no air conditioning or inadequate. (Italians believe that a/c makes you sick. They think if you sleep in an air conditioned room you will have a stiff neck and muscle pain).

But, in spite of the heat we have managed to get some work done, and August started with one of the best days of our lives. Here's what we've been up to lately.

Starting with the Best News Ever

A little over thirteen years ago, our lives changed for the better when we welcomed Violet into this world. She was born twelve minutes after midnight on July 16th. After she was born and we went through all the normal things you

need to go through with a brand new born, we went to sleep. We woke up the next morning and it was still her birthday. So, when Rebecca's family came to visit, we sang two songs: Happy Birthday, and Jesus loves me. I know this is going to sound like new parent bias (there is video proof), but it seemed like the less than 12 hour old Violet was actually paying attention to the songs.

For the past thirteen years we've continued to teach her that Jesus loves her. We have tried our best to demonstrate the fact that we love Him as well and we have done everything we can to teach her about Him. For the past few years, we have, occasionally, studied how to become a Christian. One thing we have always tried to avoid is putting pressure on her to become a Christian. I don't think we've ever said to her, "this is what you need to do to be saved, do you want to do it now?"

On Tuesday, August 4th, I got home and was very stressed out about several things. I normally don't let stress bother me, but this day I was super anxious. I walked into the house thinking about all the things I needed to do, when I saw Violet sitting on the couch by herself. She was not doing anything at all, just sitting there looking at the floor. The door to the upstairs was open, so I figured Rebecca was up there. I asked Violet, "What's wrong?" She said, "Nothing." I said, "Are you sure?" She said, "yes." I said, "okay." Then she said, "Dad, how do you know when you're ready to be baptized?" Well, let me tell you, all that stress and stuff I was worried about immediately went to the back burner. We started studying about it. I did my best to answer her question, and all the other questions she came up with during the conversation. Then she said, "Okay, I'm ready. I want to be baptized now." I said, "okay" and called Rebecca down. She had been listening in and was on the verge of tears.

I asked Violet, "Do you want me to call the church members and have them come here?" She said, "No, I want to do it right now." I said, "okay, do you mind if I change into my swim trunks?" She said, "Yes I do. I want to do it RIGHT now." So, we went to our little garden where we have a pool that's around three feet deep. We got in the water, I took her confession and now she's our sister in Christ.

I am sure it is superfluous to ask this, but please keep her in your prayers as she has begun her walk with Christ.



Visits

One thing we've done a lot this summer is visit brethren. Part of this is because most of our Bible students have been on vacation for the summer (though we've managed quite a few studies), but also because we've had several reasons to encourage brethren.

First, our brother Nedo, who is 81 years old, was having some shortness of breath and other problems. He went to the doctor and found that he needed surgery right away. He ended up having bypass surgery and a valve replacement. Giovanni and I went to the hospital to visit with him a few times. He recovered quickly and went home this past Friday. Yesterday he was at worship! Please pray for him as he continues to recover.

Nedo's mother is named Sonia. She is 99 years old. She has some health problems, and trouble seeing and hearing, but she is still mentally sharp. Nedo, most Sundays, brings her the Lord's Supper on Sundays. Sometimes one of us goes with him, sometimes he goes on his own. But, since he was in the hospital he could not do it, so we offered to. We were able to meet with Sonia several times and worship with her in her home. She is a very faithful Christian, and very interesting to talk to. She has a lot of first hand knowledge about the history of the church in Italy and we enjoy spending time with her.

I also, finally, got to meet Nedo's wife. She is not a Christian and we had never had an opportunity to meet her in the past. There were some things Nedo needed in the hospital, so we went to their apartment to get them. She invited us in and we spoke for a while. She was very nice and we hope to meet with her again in the future.

As a result of these visits, I also was able to spend a lot of time with Giovanni. He is 83 years old, and still in tremendous shape. He is one of the nicest, most humble people I know. He was my first point of contact with the Pistoia congregation, and we have become good friends. When I told him I wanted to visit Nedo he asked to come with me. I love spending time with Giovanni, as he is always an encouragement.

I was also able to spend time with some of the Chinese brethren, especially Nathan. Nathan is the only one of the Chinese who we know who can speak English (though it is just a little). He needed help with getting an apartment, and with his immigration, so I was able to help him with both. He, and two other Chinese brothers, also came with us for one of the visits to Nedo. It is always a challenge to communicate, but we have fun. We went to see Nedo on a Sunday and the Chinese brothers asked if we could go to the gift shop. I explained that it was closed. They said they did not think they could go to visit him and not bring a gift. They said it would be embarrassing to do so, and very rude. I told them, "trust me, Nedo will be just happy to see you. He does not need anything." We got to the hospital and the first thing Nedo said was, "Wow! What a great gift you've given me by coming to see me!" This made them feel much better.

There were also lots of phone calls made and text conversations with other brothers and sisters. We feel much closer to everyone than we have in the past and we hope that we can continue to develop these relationships over time.



Nedo with some of the Chinese brethren (Nathan is to Nedo's left)



It is a universal fact that men must show off their scars.



Sonia is 99, but lives on her own. She has a home health aid that comes in the mornings, but she is still very independent.

Studies

Our studies continue to go well, though we've had to move some of them online this month. Alice, Ginevra and Carlotta are the most active, though Enzo is starting to take studies more seriously. We hope to add more students next month as more people will be back from vacation, and the weather should cool down, making people more willing to get out.

I developed a curriculum for Carlotta to bring her from A1 English to A2, and for Ginevra to bring her from A2 to B1, and Alice from B1 to B2. They are all taking the lessons very seriously. These lessons are designed more for leading them to obey the Gospel, rather than just Bible facts, as they are all approaching or at the age of accountability.

One nice thing is Rebecca has started spending time with Barbara while Violet and I study with Carlotta or Ginevra (her daughters). She is the non-Christian wife of Gianluca who is a Christian. If we will ever reach her, it will be through building a relationship with her, so please keep her and all of these efforts in your prayers.

July Bible studies (most were online): 21

New contacts: 8

Visits: 12



Copyright © 2026 Mission Italy, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Mission Italy
6745 Margaret St
Milton, FL 32570-4859

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

