

2022 July/August Prayer Update

April 18 "Little Easter"

With the Covid restrictions somewhat lifted, at least in the church, we were able to hold our annual barbeque the Monday after Easter Sunday which is called "Pasquetta" or Little Easter. We started cooking at 9 am over 100 lbs of different types of pork - from ribs, sausage, two different types of steaks and pancetta which is like a bacon. We finished exactly at 1 pm with 55 in attendance. Everyone was seated ready to eat at 1 pm which what we had promised to be the time to eat! We had a wonderful afternoon with around 10 folks not saved of the 55. As usual we of course had more than just the meat because all the ladies have their special plates that they make and bring to share with everyone there!

Children's Book Presentation by the Author

Saturday April 24th we held a book presentation in the bookstore with the author the book in person. The book was a children's book which was illustrated by the wife of our worship leader, who is also an artist by profession. In the morning session they had crafts for the kids to do and then in the afternoon a synthesis of the book was given by the author. It was great way to get many to come in who never would come into the bookstore being a Christian bookstore.

1st Agape Lunch Since Covid

(And no Masks Required!)

Sunday May 15th we held our first agape lunch since February of 2020! We had over 85 there for lunch after the service. We figure that there were more than 20 non believers who had come to the service and then stayed for lunch. We had a great time of fellowship around the table and it was so good to be back in church with no masks and to eat together again as a church. As you can see we even got Jonathan involved in the clean up after!!



OBITUARIES



in Jamestown.
In 1992, Mary and James left Jamestown to retire to Lakeland, Fla. They then moved to Naples, Fla., where Mary was a member of the First Baptist Church where she served as a greeter for many years. She remained in Naples until her death.

Mary loved to cook, bake and entertain. She was especially noted for her Easter pie and Christmas cookies.

Above all, Mary was a people person who lived life to the fullest. Her life was full of love, family, and faith. No one that met Mary could ever forget her. She was a magnet to people, had a quick wit, an infectious smile, and loved caring conversations, especially with her many friends whom she talked on the phone with every night. She was unique.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, James; brothers: Angelo, Joseph and Albert; and sisters: Maria and Rose.

She is survived by her five children: Joseph (Mary Ann), James (Lorena), Jerald (Deborah), John (Mittylynn) and Loretta Koert (Bradd); her 14 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Premier Place for her tender care.

A memorial will be held at a later date at the convenience of her family. She will be terribly missed.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Mary Dora DiSabantonio Spoto

An angel of the Lord tapped Mary on the shoulder and said, "Mary it's time to rest." And anyone who knew Mary, knew she never rested a day in her life!

Mary Dora DiSabantonio Spoto, wife, mother, grandmother, nana, and friend to all passed June 20, 2022, in the Premier Place Health and Rehabilitation Center at Glenview in Naples, FL.

Born in Jamestown, N.Y., on Feb. 26, 1932, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Julia DiSabantonio.

After finishing school, she married the love of her life, James Spoto, and together worked in the family business, JS Auto Supply, all while raising five children of her own.

Mary worked for many years in the food service industry and for 17 of those, served as the cook at the First Presbyterian daycare

USA Trip June

It is incredible of how time flies! This year Lori's mom turned 93 and Jim's mom was turning 90 in February. Realizing how much time would have gone by before we would have seen them again, we decided to return back in June to visit them both and Jim also needed to have some surgery done. Our trip back was planned in January for our June arrival.

The only who knew what was going to happen next was the Lord himself. Not even 3 days after our return Jim's mom was rushed to the ER and was in the hospital for 12 days with a UTI and sepsis in her blood. It was touch and go for the first few days and PTL that we were there to be at the hospital with her along with Jim's sister and brother and his wife.

She was really doing well and on June 15th she was transferred to a real nice rehab center. She had started to gain weight because her appetite was back but also not realizing that she was probably filling up with liquid from her heart not working to full capacity because she was going into congestive heart failure.

We all except for the two brothers in NY were able to be with her on Sunday June 19th (Father's day). It was a precious time that we spent. We were expecting her soon dismissal but at 4:30 am my brother received a phone call from the rehab center that our mom had past on to her heavenly home to be with her Savior who she loved so much!

We PTL that in 1994 both of Jim's parents had been saved and baptized and became members of our sending church Heritage Baptist in Lakeland Florida. So we know and are confronted by both of their salvations! (see the attached Obituary)

Our return back to Italy

While we were in the states Lori was acting as mother, grandmother and daughter. During our time and just before our flight back she did something to put her back out and could hardly move. After the 4th of July we were able to see a chiropractor in Naples which helped but the day before our departure got bad again and was able to get some cortisone with which she was able to get her packing done. But unfortunately the trip back just aggravated her back problem all the more which put us in the ER our first Sunday back. Since then she has already seen a physiotherapist a couple of times and orthopedic doctor who is now on vacation until 1/2 of September so tomorrow she is going to see another one since we were able to get an MRI done last Friday! So we are writing this to ask for your prayers and wisdom as to the next step.

July Visitors!

The weekend after we returned to Italy we were visited by Dave and Jane VanCamp who are on staff at our home church in Lakeland. Even though Lori was a bit out of commission, we had a great time with them and really enjoyed getting to know them better. Dave preached on the 17th to our church and Jim translated for him. In the short time they were here they were able to get a real "Taste of Italy!"



As Always Thank You!

We continue to be encouraged to rest in the fact that our Lord is in control of everything and that nothing is a surprise to Him.

Please know that we constantly pray and thank the Lord for you and for all your part here. God has done and continues to do some amazing things in Italy despite what is going on around us!

Let's continue to be faithful when the moment arrives in sharing Christ with those around us and take every opportunity to spread the Good News especially in these days!!