



Joy-filled greetings from Georgia, where Spring is coming into full expression~  
 The first week of March every year, all the leaders within InnerCHANGE from around the world gather together. This year the meeting was in Assisi, Italy. This was significant for several reasons: 1) IC turned 25 years old, 2) this is the last year IC's founders John and Deanna Hayes will be organizing/leading these meetings, 3) Assisi is the birth place of St. Francis, St. Clare and the Franciscan and Poor Clare Orders. InnerCHANGE ministry has learned many lessons from the example that Francis and Clare lived. Both came from wealthy families; read Jesus' words to sell all, give it to the poor and follow him. The challenge is to live obediently, honestly listening to Jesus' words in Scripture and the prompting of the Holy Spirit within us. May it be so...



**God's Faithfulness**~ This trip was my first for IC since September 2010, when my brother became unable to stay with my mom while I was away. Knowing the trip would only be a week, plus the blessing of having a new neighbor (a renter in my grandparent's house, after 6 years) and working out some other details, I left on a Tuesday afternoon. Thursday morning, the freezer went out at home. My mom called Jim (our new neighbor) and he came with his truck, helped her unload all the food out of the freezer, took it to his house and put it all in his empty freezer – until she was able to get it repaired. Meanwhile, in Assisi, I had no internet connections. When I did finally get in touch with her – the problem was already well under control. YEAH GOD! For showing that YOU are always able to provide exactly what is needed, when it is needed. This was a tremendous blessing for both my mom and me.

**Romania Transitions**~ Also while being in Assisi, I was able to connect with Abigail, the lone team member remaining in Iasi. She has now been in Iasi without teammates for over a year. IC has 7 commitments and 10 values by which we live. There is only one that is both a value and commitment – Community. Just as Jesus sent out his disciples in pairs (both times), IC will not allow a single person to be in a location for an extended period of time. At the leaders' meetings in 2010, it was agreed that if no one was in the process of joining the Romania team by May 2011, Abigail would need to join another IC team, somewhere else in the world. This past year has been very hard on Abigail. She deeply longs for the life of community that IC lives out. God has continued to reveal this to her over the past year. September 2011, Abigail will be returning to the US to discern her next steps and to which team God is now calling her. While in Assisi, Abigail and I dreamed about her church in Iasi desiring to “send” her as *their* missionary. When she shared the news with her pastor, without her mentioning our conversation, one of his first comments back to her was that she would be *their* missionary wherever she went. Praise God! Please pray for Abigail and her final 5 months in Romania. Even today over skype, Abigail and I discussed how wonderful it could be to dream and discover her next steps in following Jesus, with her Iasi church members. May her church see not only Abigail as their missionary, but themselves as missionaries to Iasi and how valuable intentional prayer and preparation are in the process. To God be all glory and honor!



Since my last newsletter, my church has been very busy. Special Christmas Eve and New Year's services, cantatas, piano recitals, elections of new lay leadership and training, weekly Bible study, choir practice, monthly meals to shut-ins, several members having surgery and our annual Valentine's Pancake Breakfast (pictured left) there's never been a dull moment! March 27<sup>th</sup> was an all church meeting to discuss where we are as a church now, where we want to be in the coming years AND how are we going to get there. My prayer for Vanna is actually the same as it is for the church in Iasi (and everywhere!) that we will live as ambassadors for Christ, His hands/feet/heart to a dying world.



**The Rainbow Pantry** has been in our community for 30 years. This is a ministry that my church supports. Its only open one day a week, from 2-5pm. People from 3 surrounding counties can come to get food/clothing twice a month. The manager of the program (at 83 yrs old!) was the only person who could operate the computer. Any time she was out, the Pantry didn't open. My mom and I started volunteering there in December. I've learned the computer part and mom has learned the paperwork. The Pantry hasn't missed a day since. This has been a wonderful way to meet people and see a wider picture of our community. This also gives me a way to express mercy gifts. Tuesday afternoon is a highlight in my week and gives fuel for prayer for those we serve.

**Other News and Prayer Points:**

♥ My brother, Jones, has been in the hospital for several days now. He has a blood clot in his lower abdomen and they are trying to get the blood thinners, which they have started him on, regulated. The blood thinners won't remove the clot. Hopefully it will dissolve over time on its own. Please pray for this to happen without any pieces breaking off and causing other problems.

♥ A very good friend of mine, Brent, has been in the hospital in California with pneumonia. He's home now, but still needs lots of rest and recoup time. Please pray he'll be able to rest well and for complete healing to come.

♥ My mom continues to do really well with her new knee. She is able to do everything she wants too.

♥ I hope to make several other trips this year - New Orleans, Los Angeles, South Africa. Please pray for God's covering over these trips and for mom too.

♥ My dear friend, Donna, will be visiting at Easter. Please give thanks with me for this time!

So now you are caught up on me – what about YOU! Please do let me know how YOU are and how I can be praying for YOU!!! Happy Easter

*With a heart full of thanksgiving, Diane*

**A PRAYER BEFORE THE CRUCIFIX**

Most High, all glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of my heart.

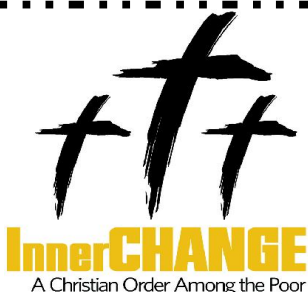
Give me a right faith, certain hope,  
and perfect charity,  
with deep humility, wisdom, and understanding,  
that I may know and do Your most holy will.

Amen

**FANCESCO D' ASSISI**



On a side note: This is a picture I took at 20,000ft while flying to Italy. If you look closely, at the very tip of the arrow, you'll see an outlined area. This is the "Redbarn" where mom and I live.



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