



***Il Faro, International Baptist Church***  
**February 8, 2015**

***Pastoral Pensieri***

I should be a genius by now, but the Lord continues to hammer away at me. James tells me to “Consider it all joy, my brother, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing,” (James 1:2-4).

The challenges of the last two years have taken their toll on the church, but maybe we haven’t learned our lesson. Let’s collectively pray for wisdom in the coming months and years as we face the difficult lessons together. First, what does the Lord require of us? He doesn’t require buildings, or titles, or busyness. He wants us, “. . .to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God,” (Micah 6:8). So everyone, let’s pray for justice, mercy, and humility as we unite and face our challenges and trials of the future. -- Dr. Timothy A. Monahan

***Special Events***

**Food Bank**

“Thank you for all you do for us,” exclaim people I don’t even know. Many families are grateful for your generous outpour of love. Please continue to give to the food bank. If you haven’t started giving, you can speak to Tilde D’Albero or Clay Kannard.



**Men’s Retreat**

Men, don’t miss the opportunity to share with Christian men from all parts of Italy. *Isola del Gran Sasso* is a beautiful camp by Gran Sasso in by L’Aquila.

**Mission of Light**

This is a great ministry which one can plug into quickly. Can you pray? Then, you can minister. Speak to Joyce Zick or Titti Sorrentino.

**Departures**

Marcia and I (Tim Monahan) leave on an unplanned trip to the States. We have to sign some documents for a special event that we will reveal later. Be on the lookout Facebook Friends!

Marcia, Scott, and Steve, aka Sticky, Altstiel leave us at the end of the month. Pray for them as they pack their home to head to Bahrain. Sticky will now coach the girls’ football team, otherwise known as mens’ soccer. Just kidding soccer fans!

**Buildings, Budgets, and Business**

The church is an organism and an organization. Many people work long hours on the administrative details to guide us to make good decisions. Pray of the Elders as we face our move this year. The Elder Board is narrowing down viable options before we present the best ones to the congregation. The congregation will be involved when the Lord opens up some doors and gives us some clear direction. Please continue to pray and to volunteer your services. Mark Green has defined some clear parameters for our building search. Speak to Mark if you can volunteer your time.