



THE TANIS FAMILY

to Malta and beyond

SUMMER 2025



LUKE, ANNA
THEO, LAYLA, ARLO



Face to Face

Even in the age of FaceTime, we can still feel disconnected from state-side family and friends, especially on a small island. Each in person visit is a precious gift. Anna's Aunt and Uncle had an extended visit in May. **Their edifying and Christ-centered fellowship filled our souls for the packed months to follow.** They got a glimpse of life and ministry in Malta, including meeting the faces of those they have been praying for. Extended family of Anna's, missionaries in Liberia, were also able to join us for a short visit, due to some God-ordained unique circumstances. Our kids connected so well, and although the visit was only a few days, the goodbyes were hard. In May, Luke

made a brief trip to Rome to visit our sending church pastor, who was there leading a senior trip. In person visits are vital for encouraging conversations and fun memories that go far beyond pictures on a paper or faces on a screen. As we witnessed the details come together for all these trips, we were reminded how much God cares for us and loves to give us above and beyond what we could ask or think.

New Faces

This summer we attended a wedding of a sweet couple in our church. God has worked tremendously in their lives and their wedding was a beautiful testimony of God's power to change lives. During the reception, we were surprised to see a couple and their young son that we see daily on our walk to school. We talked with them and found out the dad was a cousin of the bride! Life on a small island, means even at a wedding you'll run into neighbors. A first for us was two BMM First-Look interns came to Malta for the summer. **They experienced the challenges and blessings of ministering in the unique context of Malta.** Luke lead a short survey-trip to Greece for one of the interns.

Connecting with and listening to several missionaries in Athens, was a blessing and also a great reminder of the need for faithful Gospel- preaching churches across Europe. At the University of Malta, the Bible Study group that Luke helps organize hosted a "Recharge Booth" for students during exam week. The students were instantly drawn to the homemade goodies. Many good contacts were made and 20 pocket New Testaments were handed out. Please Pray for the coming school year and outreach to university students.



Friendly Faces

We enjoyed hosting our first missions team from partnering church Fourth Baptist Church in Minnesota (Amazingly Anna's Grandpa was the Youth Pastor there from 1955-1966). God brought together an amazing group of 11 teenagers. The team helped us run our first Summer Bible Club (aka VBS) since we've been in Malta. The teenagers served by hanging decorations, leading games and crafts, and performing a concert for "Family Night" on the final night. Over 100 people attended, including some new families. Praise God for the opportunity to minister to our church families and community. Two days later, on Layla's 5th birthday, Luke took a taxi at 4:00 am to the ER because of severe pain, and



13 hours later, had an emergency appendectomy! In sudden and unpleasant times, we are so grateful for God's care through our church family. We were also very thankful for the mission team, who spent their last evening in Malta watching our kids, so Anna could be with Luke in the hospital. **What is unplanned to us is foreknown to God.** August brought a much slower pace as life in Malta slows down and many people go abroad for vacation. **The only things consistent are the fireworks and humidity.** Please pray for the many discipleship and life-on-life opportunities this fall. It is a joy to help people learn and apply God's Word. May God be glorified as He changes lives in Malta!

For His Glory,
Luke, Anna, Theo, Layla & Arlo



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