

THE TANIS FAMILY

to Malta and beyond

SPRING 2023



LUKE, ANNA
THEO, LAYLA, ARLO



New Beginnings!

Introducing **Arlo Lukas Tanis**, born **June 16** in Malta, 10 lbs 2oz! We are so grateful for a healthy baby and mom. Thank you for your prayers! **Anna's mom** was able to come stay with us to care for Layla and Theo during both the delivery and recovery. Visits from family are always a blessing, and in March we enjoyed a quick visit from Luke's brother **Mitchell**. During that week, we found out our yearly apartment lease was cut short. The apartment owners were helpful and gave us the required 3 month notice but we needed to find a place quickly so we could get settled before the new baby. Although this was not what we planned **God's way is always perfect**. He helped us find

an apartment nearby in the village of **Naxxar**, and **we moved less than a month later!** God is good to us in many ways, and we all enjoy **the new apartment** (which is more spacious and actually has open spots for street parking!). The kids have especially enjoyed the old football (soccer) field in front of the house! **Theo graduated** from his first school year in Malta, Kinder 2 (K4). We are beyond grateful that God has given Theo a love for school.

Gospel Growth

This spring, Luke had the privilege of conducting his first **baptism** of a young Maltese man. Pray for him, as he grows in the faith and shines the light of the gospel to his friends and family (many of whom came to his baptism!). We are continually reminded of the need for our young adults and teens to have a **love for God and His Word**, as the pressures of the world surround them. The church has a weekly Ladies Bible Study, and in April one of those ended up being a **surprise baby shower for Anna!** What a blessing to see so many ladies in the church gathered together. In May the church voted on its **first budget** and we're excited to see the church take steps towards becoming self-sufficient and able to one day support a pastor. June saw the completion of the first year of the **mentorship cohort** and we rejoice at the growth and faithfulness of the men involved with this group and their willingness to serve wherever needed.



Depending on God this Summer

School in Malta just finished this week and the summer heat is here. Summer in Malta brings a change of pace as many church people are traveling, and countless tourists visit our church. Our co-workers are away in North America for the summer reporting to churches, which means Luke's responsibilities have increased. With this increase also comes an opportunity for two church members to preach. Luke will be preaching from Colossians this summer. Just as Paul did, **please pray**

that the gospel would continue to bear fruit. We continue to enjoy the Sunday Fellowships after each Sunday service, which have been a great way to get to know and care for "one another". **Pray for the church body to grow in their commitment to Christ and to each other.** We appreciate your prayers for God's grace and strength in our family.

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



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