

January 2025, Michael & Rani Grivas-Allison



Michael and Rani Grivas-Allison

with Alexi (2)

Serving the Lord in Belgium



Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 🌲 🎆

Thank you so much for your prayerful care and support of us over these past few months. After our brief, unexpected visit back to Australia for Rani's Dad's funeral, we have returned to Brussels, started a new French level, celebrated the Christmas season with people here, and are now getting stuck into the New Year.

Throughout this time, **God has provided for our family in so many different ways.** More than that, we feel like we've returned to walk into **some great opportunities prepared in advance for us.** 🙏 🙏 🙏

Below we've shared some of these recent **answers to things we've specifically asked you to pray about.** We hope you are encouraged, as we were, that **God's ears are open and attentive** to the prayers of his people (1 Peter 3:12). 🙏 🙏

As we look back on 2024, **we praise God for your generous giving, faithful prayers, and thoughtful care** as you keep longing with us to see a Belgium and a world that knows Jesus 🌍

Thank you!

With love in Christ,

Michael & Rani



Above: Christmas markets hosted by Alexi's pre-school (featuring lots of food and wine!); getting the hang of the Belgian Christmas season in our local neighbourhood.

Praise God for these recent answers to prayer! 🙌

Everyone in our family was glad to return to Brussels after Australia.
It even felt a bit like coming 'home'.

An Iranian friend from language school came to our Christmas service
(her first time ever at church!)

Our neighbour Isabel had us over and **took Rani up on the offer to read a Christian book/the Bible** together in the New Year.

We hosted a new friend from church for Christmas lunch, entirely in French.

We finally managed to meet some other parents
through Christmas events at Alexi's school.

Our church is still without a pastor, but **our elders are doing a great job** of keeping Sundays Word-focused and communicating the happenings in church life.

Our Christmas season had lots of people time!

A reminder that God continues to establish us here through the prayers and generosity of his people.



Above: post-church waffles with our classmate; hot chocolate with our neighbour and her young son; Christmas day with our friend from church who is a new believer with lots of questions (food and French comas ensued for all!).



Above: Alexi's class and teacher sporting their Christmas jumpers.

Upcoming dates...

- **Exams** (23, 27 & 28 January)
 - **GBU's annual conference, 'Hérauts'** (8 February)
 - **CMS Pastoral visit** (12-14 February)
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Please thank God...

- For **graciously sustaining our family** over the last few months.
 - For some great **opportunities for friendship and witness** over Christmas.
 - For the **commitment of our church's elders** as we continue without a pastor.
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Please ask God...

- To lead **our neighbour Isabel** into the joy of the Gospel, and for opportunities to point her (and **her young son Francesco**) to Jesus in the New Year.
 - To **raise up a pastor** with a missional heart for our church, in his timing.
 - For final logistical preparations, student registrations and spiritual preparedness **for the GBU as it gears up for Hérauts** (8 Feb).
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From Michael and Rani





*"As for God, his way is perfect:
The Lord's word is flawless;
he shields all who take refuge in him.
For who is God besides the Lord?
And who is the Rock except our God?"*

Psalm 18:30-31

Say 'hello' or let us know you've prayed for us!

Financial Partnership

We can't serve in Belgium without the generosity of God's people.

If you'd like to give through financial support, please head to our [CMS giving page](#).

If you would prefer to give using a BSB and account number, please email CMS and they will send you the relevant details.

We're so thankful for your partnership with us to see a world that knows Jesus!

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for a world that knows Jesus. We aim to do this by: reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equipping Christian leaders for church and society, and engaging churches in cross-cultural mission.

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