Something More Croatia Youth Ministry — April 2021



Lana

Mateja and Lana are meeting every few days and they continue to have a strong relationship. Please pray for their time together and Lana's spiritual growth.

Tesa

Tesa became very open. She and Mateja were recently talking about how to have a close relationship with Christ and the question of who are God's children. Mateja is always looking forward to their meetings.

Lovro

Igor and Lovro's relationship is growing more and more every time they meet. Lovro asks some very important questions. Also, he asks Igor to study more and more Bible with him.

Maks, Jan, and David

Steve continues to meet with these young men on a regular basis. They seem interested and are well-engaged when Steve studies with them. As Steve has talked with them about the need for both faith, and surrender to Jesus, pray that they will come to the point of surrender. Maks has good insight into the scripture and is eager for more. Jan is open but also is dealing right now with the divorce of his parents and breakup of his family. He is also struggling in school. David is firm in his belief, but says he is not ready to surrender yet. David is 18 and finishes high school this year. The testing that comes at the end of high school in Croatia is a very big deal, and is quite difficult, so please pray for David in this. His meetings with Steve are also less frequent these days because of everything he is dealing with in finishing high school.

Church Retreat on the Coast

Our church, along with some other churches in the country, for many years have been having a weeklong spring retreat the coast, on which usually is held close to the Easter weekend. Steve went this year and helped lead the group of youth 17 who to the came retreat. The theme of the retreat was "Story of the



Redemption," using materials produced by James Nored. The three young men whom Steve is currently discipling were also there. They are in the bottom row, center in the photo above.

Youth Meetings

This month we had a few youth meetings. We especially enjoyed last weekend when we took a few of them on a hiking trip to the nearby ruin of a 12th century castle, and after for a coffee and cake in the nearby town, Samobor. We all together had a very nice time and it was a perfect chance to know these kids better. Also, one Saturday Igor and Mateja took just a few of the girls and they went to place for cakes and cookies. They had a nice devotional time together and also a lot of fun.





Youth Magazine

Next week Mateja will start to work on the summer edition of our youth magazine. Please pray for her and others with whom she will work, because this magazine we will give to a lot of youth and families this summer. We also plan to mail copies of this edition to all the churches in the area. This is the only spiritual youth magazine of its kind in Croatia and we want to both continually improve it's quality and increase it's reach and impact.

Camp Preparations

Steve and Mateja are busy with lots of logistical preparations for Champs Camp, a summer day camp for kids 6-12 years old, which happens in two locations in the city in June. Steve is a great mentor to Mateja in this. Mateja is learning from Steve everything that is going on in the background. Igor is meeting this week with Lovro. They will practice some music and songs for the Champs Camp. Registration for Champs Camp begins next week. We have already started recruiting our Croatian teen volunteers, who were almost all campers themselves at one time. This is an important ministry with these teenagers. We are also in the initial stages of planning for our Youth Camp for teenagers, which happens in July. Please pray that anti-Covid measures do not again keep us from these camps this year. The camps are important starting points for relationships with teens throughout the year.

Žana



You may recall that we asked you to pray for Žana (baby sister of Karlo, with whom we have been working, and daughter of our sister in Christ, Vedrana). She has been waiting for a heart transplant. We found it significant that she received that great gift of life right on Easter weekend!

Prayers

- For the teens with whom we are working (especially Karlo, Jan, and David) and the outreach of "Something More."
- Please pray for our youth to be open and hungry for our Lord.
- God's direction and covering in our plans for camps this summer.
- Our health and perseverance in these ongoing times of pandemic restrictions.
- Possible worship and prayer group that we want to start with some other friends.
- Thanksgiving for Žana receiving her heart transplant!