



CROATIA FOR CHRIST

Croatia for Christ...

The History



Approximately 46 years ago, Mladen Jovanovich was a young linguistic professor at the University of Zagreb. Two American students set up private classes

with him to learn the Croatian language. They wanted to use the Bible as their study text and Mladen agreed. I am not sure how much Croatian they each learned, but Mladen began to question his own faith while reading the Bible. He was eventually baptized and committed his life to Christ. His wife, Dragica, was later baptized. They began holding church, together with Ivan Tesic, in their home which grew slowly and Mladen made the decision to work full-time as a minister of the gospel.

Initial support and oversight for the work was provided by the Northside church of Christ in Santa Ana, California for a few years. In June of 1982,

Mladen was introduced to the elders of Bammel Road Church of Christ in Houston, Texas, and they assumed his oversight and for the ministry throughout Croatia. During these early years of his ministry, a small apartment was rented close to the center of Zagreb and in 1984 that apartment was purchased and the Amruseva church of Christ was planted and steadily grew in numbers. The former Yugoslavia, which Croatia was a part of, broke into six separate countries in 1991 - 1995 when Serbian forces waged war in the region. Refugees from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina fled to Zagreb where the church became a beacon of humanitarian outreach providing shelter, food, clothing and spiritual support. Churches in America sent many containers of supplies to Zagreb for assistance.

The church at Amruseva Street outgrew their meeting place and Mladen made a request to buy and

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Fall Update

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Welcome!

Jura and the Lazar family



Jura Lazar has begun working for the Croatia for Christ efforts in Croatia. Jura is a professional musician who took two years sabbatical from the Croatian Army Orchestra to focus full-time on the work with Croatia for Christ. Jura is married with two sons — His wife, Alexandra and sons, Lovro (14) and

Jakov (9). Alexandra is a Captain in the Croatian Army and plays for the orchestra as well.

Jura is currently teaching Alpha classes which are introductory

classes to church of Christ fundamentals. Plans are in the works to develop a smart phone app of the Croatian New Testament, support for the sermons distributed via radio and "Let's Start Talking" that teaches English through the scriptures.

Much work in planning has been done by members of the Board - Tom Sibley, Mladen Dominic, Kristijan Jovanovic, Vlado Psenko and Mislav Ilic and we want to thank them for their tireless work.

Thanks also to Ken Cornett, from Bammel Church of Christ in Houston, has worked with the Croatia for Christ efforts since it's beginning.



Back to School



Quizzing our children

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Every year after summer is gone our young ones are starting a new school year. We love to put them in front of the Church, ask some questions, make them a little bit confused and then to pray for them. We believe it is very important for them to feel special, honored and blessed. Those pictures are from Varazdin church of Christ "Back to School" prayer.

At the same time we had a wonderful visit from the Holland Park Church of Christ, from South Carolina. Don Axson and Bob & Leah Davis, visited us and encouraged us in our work in Varazdin, Croatia. It is always special when dear Christian friends are visiting us.



New church of Christ in Vukovar

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" "

Isaiah 52:7

In the city of Vukovar, on the eastern Croatian border, a new church is being born. We are all very happy and proud on this Lord's work. Vukovar was a city which suffered four months siege during the war in 1991. The whole city was destroyed during the war and people suffered a lot. Today the city has been rebuilt and now people will have a Church of Christ to rebuilt and transformed their souls. Please pray for the work in Vukovar, Croatia, and minister Vlado Psenko and his wife, Renata.



Working on the building in Vukovar



Croatian churches donation to the Vukovar church



Leaders of the church in Vukovar

Traveling in the United States

Visiting our sponsoring churches

September and October were very busy for me. I went to the USA for a month visiting sponsoring churches, individuals and some possible new contacts. The schedule was challenging but at the same time full of blessings and very uplifting.

I was truly honored and deeply moved at the Hills Church of Christ when "Let's Start Talking" ministry decided to give me their "The Heart of the Servant" award. While visiting friends and churches in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas I was presenting the work of "Croatia for Christ" ministry and answering many questions about our future plans. Thank you again for your faithful support and I believe we can expand this ministry even further in the future.



John & Judie Crocker & Jura



Ken and Jura in Houston



Dear friends who love Croatia



Jennifer Meixsell & Jura



With :LBJ" in Texas



Mike and Katie Ratcliff



Croatian flag in Texas



Hills church of Christ "Heart of a Servant" award



Estes and Crisler families in Kansas

Summer Activities Continue

Croatian Bible Camp and Champ Camps

Croatian Bible Camp

This summer, members of the churches of Christ and their friends had 46th Summer Croatian Bible Camp. We spend one week on the beautiful Croatian island of Ugljan listening to a Christian messages every evening, swimming in the Adriatic Sea, and having beautiful fellowship. Our preacher for this year was Ben Langford from Oklahoma Christian University. This year we had two baptisms, Tin & Karen from the Kuslanova Church in Zagreb.

Champs Camps

Kuslanova Church of Christ in Zagreb organized two "Champs Camps" this summer supported by "Croatia for Christ." The camps are primary outreach effort for children and teenagers of the Kuslanova church. The first camp took place in a beautiful park near the city lake, and the second one was for children from the neighborhood. We had wonderful support from many volunteers and one group was a Team from Crestview church of Christ from Waco, TX.



Kids learning about Christian virtues



CROATIA FOR CHRIST

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New Book Published by EEM

We are all very happy about the book by Tony Coffey which has been published. "Answers to Questions Catholics Are Asking" is a book about the Bible truths vs. traditions of man. We are very grateful to the Eastern European Mission from Vienna who published and print this book. Hopefully in January, we will have a promotion for this book and we will invite author to come. Please pray for this event.



Supporting the work

Contributions may be sent to:

Bammel Church of Christ
2700 FM 1060
Houston, Texas 77068

Clearly mark check: Croatia for Christ

BECOME A PARTNER WITH US! We need your prayers and your financial support. We are moving forward with exciting efforts in this ministry in 2016 so we will need to find some additional funds.

Feel free to contact Ken Cornett for more information at ken@kc5mm.com or 1-713-705-4827

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improve a large home in a residential area close to public transportation and still central to Zagreb. God provided funds through many different sources to make the acquisition and needed improvements, and in May 2000, the church moved into a new building. Today, the Kuslanova church of Christ building is the home of the largest and expanding church of Christ in Zagreb and the home to the Bible Institute of Zagreb. Mladen and Dragica Jovanovic's legacy and commitment to expand God's kingdom throughout Croatia is well known in Croatia, Europe and America.



L-R—Jura's sister, Ivana, Jura's niece, Olivia, Jura's brother-in-law, Peter

On a personal note...

At the end of this trip to the United States, I was able to spend 4 days in New York City with my sister, brother in law, niece and the rest of their family. We enjoyed beautiful weather and a relaxing time in the "Big Apple."

Our older son, Lovro, is low functioning autistic child so we would like to ask all of you to pray for him and to pray for us. On the other hand, we are very proud on him and we love him very much. Our family is extremely blessed by him and we all learned so much from his disabilities.

Yours in Him, Jura



Above—New York

Below—From the top of Freedom Tower