

UPDATE FROM SUBOTICA,
SERBIA
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2007

Greetings to you from Subotica!

Praise the LORD, we survived the summer! Our landlady installed air conditioning in May, so as hot as it got (high 90s and even 100!), the heat didn't phase us. This allowed us to prepare much more easily for teaching and other ministries, because we actually had the energy, instead of being drained by the stifling heat. What a blessing.

Here's what's been going on with us over the last six weeks or so:

People



We went to visit our friend **Ramona** a couple of times and are glad to report that she is improving! After 15 months in bed, she can move a bit more on her own, but is still far from independent. Please pray for motivation to do the exercises she should for therapy, and that the Lord will give her the ability to re-learn to speak. Being motivated is her biggest enemy right now.

On a completely different note, through various circumstances, in late July and August we came to meet the **Mormon missionaries** who are assigned to Subotica. There are four of them total, but we met with two in the center and talked for several hours, as we arranged to meet with them after our first encounter. The Lord gave us wisdom in approaching them, and we will likely meet with them again, after Dejan does some research. Until very recently, there have been no LDS missionaries in our city, but praise the LORD for an opportunity to meet and reach out to them.

Visiting Church-Plants



gathering before Bible study
in Belgrade

In August we had the opportunity to go to one of the **weekly Bible studies in Belgrade**. It was encouraging for us, as we pray for that outreach weekly. There are two married couples coming regularly, plus the adult daughter of one of the couples, and a couple of other people who pop in and out. Belgrade, the capitol of Serbia, has more than 3 million people, way fewer evangelical churches than Subotica, and many previous missionary attempts (by many groups) have been abandoned over the years. We were encouraged to see this little fellowship continuing steadily.

The Lord also blessed us with the ability to go to the Croatian coast for 11 days in August. We made it a combination of **a vacation and a visit** to our good friends, the Warholics, who are planting a **church in Split**. It's our first real vacation since our honeymoon, and what a blessing it was to be by the sea, to have regular fellowship with such good friends, and to have a time of refreshing and rest at the end of a very busy summer and year. Dejan translated the Bible study the first Sunday we were there and taught the second. It was a joy to be able to serve our friends and serve alongside them for this time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- filling of the Holy Spirit
- salvation for Dejan's mom & his relatives; witnessing opportunities
- our friend, Ramona
- joy and strength for each new day
- God's guidance & anointing in our ministry: Bible-teaching, discipling, music/worship/band, translation, pastoring
- provision for women in the church to go to the retreat Nov. 2-4th
- our physical health, our marriage
- Julie's language & culture studies
- anything else on your heart...

Staying Faithful

All of our ministries are continuing on as before, blessed and moving forward! We went through a couple of weeks of severe testing concerning our vision, but the Lord brought us through with a greater assurance of His call on our lives at this time to serve Him in the areas of men's and women's ministry, worship/music ministry, translation, and assistant pastoring.

Dejan is in the middle of **teaching 1 Peter** on Wednesday nights, which is proving quite timely, since many people in our fellowship are going through some difficult trials now. What an encouragement to hear these messages! He is also making some good progress in **translation** with transcripts for the book of John. However, this ministry is still the most hindered by various obstacles, and *we ask your prayer for its progress, that Dejan will remain healthy, and for uninterrupted time intervals to work.* The **Men's Bible study** this month is Tuesday, September 25th.

"Therefore, we are not weary in this ministry which we have received, according to the mercies that have been upon us."

2 Corinthians 4:1

The ladies are gearing up to attend a **weekend retreat** November 2-4 in Vajta, Hungary at the castle, as all of southern Hungary and northern Serbia's Calvary Chapels are invited. It is the first such retreat ever. We are greatly anticipating the event, as earlier in the summer, several of us ladies were praying that the Lord would open the door for an actual women's retreat at the castle instead of just a one-day conference at one of our churches. Many of our women have signed up in faith, as they all need visas and to pay for the conference. Prayer for their provision would be greatly appreciated. The **Women's Bible study** this month is Friday, September 28th.

Thank you so much for your prayers for us and for the church here in Subotica! We are always thanking God for those of you who encourage and write to us, pray for us and support us financially. We are all a team, and the two of us couldn't be here without all of you. Thanks so much for letting the Lord use you! May you experience His love and care for you in even greater measures than you can possibly imagine (Eph. 3:20).

By His grace daily,

Dejan & Julie <><



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FINANCIAL SUPPORT INFO:

If you wish to help us financially, please make and mail checks to:

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in the memo line, write #1326 (please don't write our names on the check)