Vpdate from Subotica, SERBIA June-July 2007 Praise the LORD for:

refreshed strength to continue in His work

-new understanding of familiar truths

⁻² years of marriage

Please pray for:

-continued growth in our #1 ministry, marriage

-salvation for Dejan's mom & his relatives; more opportunities to share with them

-greater freedom in Christ for all of us in the church

-guidance & anointing in our various ministries (Bible-teaching, discipling, music/worship/band, translation, pastoring)

-increasing knowledge of God's love for us

-anything else on your heart...



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Greetings from sunny central Europe! There have been so many things happening over the last 6 weeks, we've just been trying to keep up, without much time to look back. Please forgive our later than usual update.

We are truly blessed to be a part of the work that the LORD is doing in Subotica and our area of Europe. Praise belongs to Him for all of the good things He is doing in and through us! We are ever-increasingly aware that we are simply to be emptied vessels through whom He lives and works His will. What a blessed (but sometimes humbling and painful) experience it is! We are still rookies, "new kids", and have so much to learn. Praise God He doesn't require any of us to have "arrived" before He uses us!

He is working in our marriage, in our ministries, in our friendships; refreshing vision, leading us in the baby steps of new ministry, and taking us deeper into Him.

Outdoor Worship Service, June 3rd

The city-wide service with all the evangelical churches in Subotica was greatly blessed. Around 1000 people gathered to worship, mostly believers, declaring Jesus as the only hope for Serbia. It was the first such gathering in the history of this nation. Local television coverage was fair, and though the traditional churches discouraged their members' attendance and even threatened to stop the service at all cost (even physically preventing people entering), it all came to nothing.

Dejan's mom and one of his aunts both attended. Also, that our love be not in word only, a collective offering the equivalent of more than \$1500 was

gathered by attendants towards the children's ward of the Subotica hospital. A group of church elders is working together with hospital staff to define specific needs and purchase then donate the equipment, to ensure the money goes for its intended purpose. All in all, it was a very big step for Serbia, as the service was called "A Step Togther", and both a blessing and witness for the Church.



preaching from Ecclesiastes: "Life has no meaning...apart from Jesus"

Dejan's mom, Gizela, braved the heat Police assigned as security listened, too Many gathered in spite of heat & threats to stop the service

Conferences

In June the LORD gave us the gift of attending a conference at the castle in Hungary for missionaries and church servants in Eastern Europe. The week was amazing. We are still digesting what He spoke to us through the teachings and our conversations with friends old and new.

Then, at the beginning of July, we had a church conference with the Calvary Chapels in Serbia. It was a blessing to gather together with these brothers and sisters and to meet new people. This year it was easier for me (Julie), as my language ability greatly improved. We were also very blessed to be able to use our car to take people with us every day who don't have cars or didn't have the ability to walk to the train or bus station. Dejan was blessed to assist in his first baptism service and to baptize fellow band member, Ákos.



Ministry News

At the conference in Hungary we met a worship leader from Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa. Through his workshop and our conversation with him, we learned some useful tools for our musician's/worship fellowship. We were also encouraged that the vision God gave us for this ministry is exactly what they are doing in their School of Worship. Truly, we have one Spirit, one Lord. We are growing in our gifts of teaching and music.

I am just beginning to put a dent in the list of women in the life of Jesus; Dejan is teaching Wednesdays through First Peter, still in Acts with the men. Also, the Lord gave Dejan and some friends from the church the opportunity to go to Baja, Hungary at the end of June for a skateoutreach. Though he no longer skateboards, it was a blessing for him to be able to help our friends at the church there.

Family

June 11th marked our second wedding anniversary! We celebrated God's faithfulness to us with a small getaway to Hungary and spent time in the city where we met.

Healthwise, things are fine. I am stabilizing, though some days can still be awful. Our kitten is a big help, as she brings alot of laughter with her silly antics.

Dejan's uncle came from Germany to play with his Renaissance music group in Subotica and surrounding towns. He is one of the most open of Dejan's relatives, and we had a good time being with them and had some meaningful conversations with people from the group. It's a blessing to see how God is giving us more and more opportunities to speak with Dejan's relatives about spiritual things.



Thank you so much for your prayers for us and for the church here in Subotica. The more prayer warriors, the better. Keep 'em coming!! We hope you're encouraged to see some of what's happening over here, and some of the visible result of your intercession for us and ministry to us.

> Together in God's love, Dejan & Julie <><

Financial Support Info:

Please make and mail checks to: Shepherd's Staff P.O. Box 27220 Albuquerque, NM 87125-7220 in the memo line, write #1326 (please don't write our names on the check) More information is on our website, if you would like more details

our cool cat, Jala