

Dear Friends & Family,

We would like to thank you for your prayers for us. The Lord has faithfully answered many of our specific requests since we last wrote to you; a great encouragement and blessing. Thank you for seeking Him with us! There are just a few things we would like to share with you in detail.

Visiting Ramona

A couple of weeks ago we were finally able to schedule a visit to our friend Ramona. When we first entered her room, she knew we were coming, and her face was lit up with smiles. What a blessed sight! It had been about 3 months since we saw her last, and there are some encouraging improvements in her condition.

She is much more aware and able to communicate, although she cannot speak, except to make out „anya“ (mother, in Hungarian) and „da“ (yes, in Serbian). Her hair has grown to about 6 inches and is looking quite normal; it's a cute style for her. Her eyes are bright and she even laughs, which is quite contagious! However, she is still completely bed-ridden and unable to move herself. The hospital hasn't sent a physical therapist to check on her weekly, as they should, much less to work on her rehabilitation. This is unfortunately how things usually happen here. Our heart's cry is to see God provide both a physical therapist and speech pathologist to work with her. This seems totally impossible, but with God all things are possible. Does anyone know any therapists who want to be missionaries?

In addition to our visit, the Lord also allowed us to bless her and her family with a surprise. (Sadly, we forgot our camera (!) and missed the chance to capture this special event in order to share it with you.) We took her for a ride in the car across town to visit her mother, which we kept a secret until we parked in front of her place. This was the first time Ramona was out of her apartment since she was brought home from the hospital in October! It was a very exciting time for us all. Her father carried her to the elevator and held her in his arms in the backseat of the car, and up the stairs to her mom's apartment. She didn't even mind the difficulty we had in putting on her coat because she was so excited to go out. For several hours we got to share in this family's joy, which was a privilege and blessing from God. We plan to continue visiting her weekly.

Happenings at the church

The outreach we mentioned in our last letter won't be taking place here in May, as the emphasis of the ministry who was offering to do it was less on the gospel and more on charismatic healing and gifts. But it's still on our hearts to have an outreach, just later in the summer. In order to free up our pastor to work on planning the outreach and coordinating with the other pastors in town, Dejan started teaching on Wednesday nights again through the book of Daniel. He picked up where he left off in chapter 4 and will continue on Wednesdays until the end of the book. The Lord has been speaking to some specific issues through these studies, and we're encouraged to see Him changing hearts in our midst.

Our church is really in need of a fresh work on a personal level. Many are praying for revival but it seems that what revival means to them is not so much a personal awakening but a grand, sweeping cultural change. There is a bothersome kind of spiritual sleepiness or heaviness among us, which the Lord alone can lift, and for which we are praying as pastors and people in ministry. As we pray and God's Word goes out weekly, we trust Him to work.

The men's and women's Bible studies were greatly blessed last month. Again, we can't thank you enough for your prayers! The men were split into two "churches" as they began to learn more about the early church. They are glad for the challenge to work together and grow in greater understanding of church function. They also see the blessing for us today as Christians to have the both the Old and New Testaments at our disposal. As for the women, the Lord really spoke through the study on the life of Mary of Nazareth. Please pray for our translator, as our absence of a few months caused her English to "rust" a little, which makes teaching for Julie a bit more difficult. They are meeting today for the first Ladies' Fellowship when different women will share how they came to Christ.

New Ministry

We met without pastor last week to talk about the vision the Lord has given us concerning the worship and music ministry at the church. He was glad to hear what we had to share and encouraged us to it. Currently, there are three "teams" of people leading songs for services at the church and none of it is really very organized. Translated songs are not always done well, and there is also the issue of details like the right chords and harmonizing in the right key, etc. Then there is the issue of our failing equipment. Our sound board has been dying a slow, painful death among other things. But praise the LORD that it seems provision is on the way in that area as well.

The more we talk and pray about this work, the more exciting it becomes, since music and discipleship are a shared passion of ours. We plan to start April 3, meeting the first and third Tuesday every month. It will be interesting to see how it all develops. Until then, we'll be preparing.

May the LORD bless your days with grace and a greater knowledge of His love for you!

Dejan and Julie

Praise the Lord!

- Nebojša's schedule opened up, so now he & Dejan can start meeting for discipleship
- our visit to Ramona was blessed
- good response in Men's & Women's Bible studies
- the band equipment is working better than ever—thank you!
- He provided for us to go to a 2-day marriage retreat in Hungary, which totally blessed us

Prayer Requests

- daily filling of the Holy Spirit
- our marriage
- health and strength (Dejan almost always gets sick when he wants to record for translation)
- Julie: Ladies' Bible study 3/30, language study (grammar is hard!)
- Dejan: Men's study 3/27, teaching Wednesdays, translation; wisdom in all areas of ministry
- for Ramona
- our preparations for the worship ministry/musician's fellowship
- a fresh work in the church on an individual level
- that the prisoners will be allowed to come to the Bible studies every Tuesday; Goran & Kristian as they minister there
- more laborers in Serbia
- whatever else the Lord puts on your heart...

Thank You!

We would like to thank those of you who financially support us. Thank you for sharing with us what the Lord has entrusted to you! We also thank each of you who has written to encourage us lately. It means alot!

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P.O. Box 27220

Albuquerque, NM 87125-7220

in the memo line, write #1326

(please *do not* write our names on the check)

The most thorough information about how to send financial support is on our website.