

Dear Friends & Family,

The LORD cares for every detail of our lives, and HE is worthy of praise!!

We have been so amazed at answers to prayer since we last wrote to you. Both in our personal lives and in the lives of those around us, God is at work for His glory, and we are encouraged more than ever to seek Him that His will be done here among us as it is in heaven.

A New Door Opening

Recently, we as a church have been praying that the Lord would open new doors for the Gospel and draw more people to Himself in our area and this country. What a surprise it was that the opportunity has presented itself for our fellowship to become involved in ministry at the county prison, which is located here in Subotica. Through a string of events--a mis-dialed phone number, an unplanned "chance" introduction of Dejan to the prison warden (who is an Orthodox believer), and a visiting pastor who works with a prison ministry in the States--it seems that the Lord is opening a door to these prisoners to hear of Him! The warden asked if we have any literature that could be used in the prison library, and happily we will be donating copies of Christian books in Serbian such as *Harvest*, *Discipleship*, *Spiritual Warfare*, and *Effective Prayer Life* for the prisoners to read. We are also sending a proposal for a weekly Bible study. Praise God for His Word is not bound and that Jesus came to make the prisoner truly free!

Ask & You Will Receive

Since we arrived here last fall, the Lord has continually burdened our hearts for those who used to come to the church and now live outside of fellowship. Subotica has about 150,000 inhabitants, but it is still a small enough city that we bump into many of these people in the course of our weekly activities. Several people have returned to fellowship regularly, in answer to our prayers, but the Lord hasn't stopped there! He is continuing to cross paths of many in the church with those who drifted off, and one by one, it seems that their hearts are turning back to Him. We have prayed on and off that the Holy Spirit will draw new people and those who've not been for a while, and each time we pray, He answers that day! Last Sunday we were amazed at how many faces were new in the service, and how many "old" faces not only appeared but stayed around after service to fellowship. It has been a powerful reminder to us that "You have *not* because you ask *not*" and an encouragement to keep asking and keep seeking. It is the Father's heart that all come home to Him!

The Lord Will Provide

The women's ministry is continuing to prepare for a fall conference hosted by our fellowship, and it is so wonderful to watch how the Lord is putting it all together, piece by piece. A strange praise report connected to this is that the church was robbed last month. The thief is known to the police for stealing from churches, but they couldn't press anything on the guy because of some frustrating loop in the law here so we won't be getting the money back, either. Why is this a praise report? We have offered the conference free of charge, and that means we need money for the programs, invitations, and especially the food, for around 100 ladies. So our team took our need to the Lord in prayer, and already the next day He began providing! We are encouraged to keep going, trusting that He will give all that we need, not just financially, but all the logistics and creativity and helping hands as well. He is able!

Nothing is Impossible for God

Our young friend Ramona is still in the hospital here in Subotica, which is not the best medical facility ever established, but despite the imperfect conditions surrounding her, she is continuing to be quite stable physically. Her hair is growing back slowly, and the physical therapy she receives seems to be helping to prevent further muscle weakness. However, she has been bed-ridden since May and it has definitely taken a toll on her in every way; body, mind, and spirit. She still has a hole in her throat from a tracheotomy and it is rumored to be closed up soon, which would aid in her attempts to communicate. We are still believing the Lord for her recovery and restoration. Please continue to pray for her and her family (Katarina, Jozsef, and Dorian).

Teen Challenge

It may have been a decade or two, or three, since you were a young teenager, but probably none of us care to repeat those years. The teens in the church here are going through a smorgasbord of things right now, especially as school has resumed. They are making choices which will affect them for many years to come, and some are teetering on the edge of rebellion and apathy. There are so few young Christians here, and the devil definitely wants to keep it that way. Please pray for our sisters and brothers (Melinda, Mirella, Nori, Dino, Mateo, Norbi, and others) to be strong in the Lord and His mighty power.

Studying to Show Ourselves Approved

Once again we are facing a busy Bible teaching schedule. Dejan will be teaching this Wednesday (Sept. 20) on the 70 weeks of Daniel. Then next week he will teach twice, since the Men's Bible study is resuming after a summer break on Tuesday, and then the mid-week service Wednesday. The monthly Women's Bible study is also next Friday (Sept. 29). We greatly appreciate your prayers for us, our preparations, and for the hearts of those who will hear the messages, that we will yield to God and be changed by the power of His Word.

Prayer Requests

- daily filling of the Holy Spirit
- growth in grace & love in our marriage
- increasing devotion to the LORD, protection of our times alone with Him
- health and strength
- women's ministry: Bible study 9/29, Fall Conference 10/14; more people to open their homes for women to stay overnight for the conference
- Dejan: Men's Bible study 9/26, Wednesday studies 9/20 and 9/27; wisdom in all areas of ministry
- healing for Ramona, God's work in her family
- Divine guidance & intervention in the lives of the teenagers at the church
- God's wisdom & leading concerning possible prison ministry
- for us, wisdom as we plan a visit to the States for the holidays!
- whatever else the Lord puts on your heart...

Thank you for all of your prayers, encouragement, & financial support!! We clearly see God's grace & love through your care for us.

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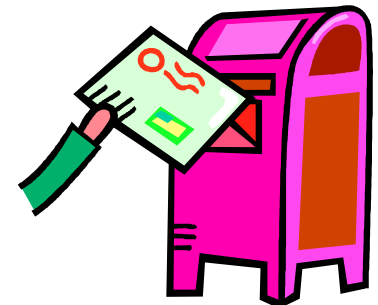
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by faith, coming soon...



Grace and peace to you in Jesus Christ!!
Love,

Dejan & Julie <><