

# Winter Break Fellowship

This month we organized a special event. During the winter school break, we hosted overnight sleepovers for boys and girls. Steve had the boys over to his house, and Mateja hosted a few girls. Mateja was thrilled because Irina, Magdalena, Ika, Tesa, and Lia had a great time. She loves to spend more time with them. Steve hosted Maks, Jan, and Melkior at his house. They watched movies and made spiritual applications from them. They also enjoyed hamburgers for supper and American pancakes for breakfast.

# **Youth Meetings**

This month we had a few youth meetings. We usually start with music. Igor has every time a few worship songs that we love. We see that youth are more open to music and singing together. We also play some games; have some food; and share a Bible lesson. Steve was sharing with us about the love of Jesus, and how love is an action. Mateja shared last time about some influencers from the Bible and she asked the youth how we can influence others around us.

## **Youth Band and Choir**

Igor is in the process of putting together a band with teens, so they can play Christinan music and celebrate God together. He has some good relationships with kids from the music school where he teaches. Several there are happy about this idea and they want to come join the band. The plan is to launch rehearsals with the band in February.



Once this is going well, we hope to add several singers as a choir to sing along with the band. Please pray for this. Please pray also for new girls Branka and Franka, Kristina, and also Lovro as they join our music program.

### Lovro

Igor and Lovro are meeting very often. Lovro thinks deeply in many aspects. He is open to God and he has many questions, which is good. He was recently asking how it is to live in relationship with God and what kind of commitment is that? What should he do? Lovro also noticed that we can see many divorced couples around us and he asked why that is happening. This led to a good conversation about how he can build a good relationship when the time will come for him to be with his wife.

## Jan, Maks, and Raybod

Steve continues to meet weekly with these young men. With Raybod and Jan, they are currently reading through the book of John, and with Maks the book of Romans. They always talk about what they learn about people and God in these texts. All three are responding well and growing in their faith and understanding. Pray that they will come to the point of deciding to surrender their lives to Jesus. You may remember that Raybod is a refugee from Iran, in Croatia with his mother and younger sister. We are thankful to God that their asylum request was recently granted, so they can stay in Croatia. They have also been given an apartment by the government.

#### Lana

Mateja and Lana are having a blessed time whenever they meet together. Lana is more open and she wants to talk about deeper spiritual things. She also always comes to our youth meetings. Mateja and Lana have become very close.

#### Tesa

She is also more open than last year. Mateja is encouraged that Tesa is asking a lot of questions. Tesa said that she shared our magazine with one friend from her school.

### Irina and Magdalena

They are really special girls. Mateja feels closer to them. Irina messaged Mateja last week that she loves to come to our youth meetings and that she feels something special there. Praise the Lord!

#### Karlo

Please pray for him. His mother, Vedrana, called Mateja and she is worried that he is in depression. Igor and Mateja will see him this week. Pray that they can encourage Karlo.

# **Prayers**

- For the teens with whom we work to come to see their need to surrender their lives to Christ, and to make that commitment for themselves.
- For our health; and wisdom and strength in our work.
- Winter youth camp, which is February 24-26.
- Planning that is already in process for summer camps. And for the groups from Texas and Kentucky coming for those camps.
- Youth band and choir.
- Open souls around us.
- Thank God with us for the funding being provided to purchase a van for use in our ministry. We made that purchase this month. Pray that van will be well-used as a tool to point youth to Jesus.

