# Something More Croatia Youth Ministry — May 2023





#### **Youth Meetings**

We are so thankful that our teens want to share their lives with us and are faithful in coming to our youth meetings. This school year, more than ever before, we are developing a "critical mass" of these teens, as they consistently are involved. At one of the meetings this month (pictured above), we examined what the world says love is, compared to what God's Word says love is, as well as what God has to say about how we know what love is. Please pray for our group, their spiritual growth, and desire to follow Jesus with their lives.

#### Adam and Artyom

Steve began meeting with Adam this month, for mentoring and discipling. Adam was baptized at the church spring retreat in April. He is a fine 13 year-old Christian young man, and Steve is glad to be investing in his life in this way. Artyom is a 15 year-old Ukrainian refugee whom Steve met at our recent seminar for Ukrainians, held at our church. Steve also began meeting with him this month.





#### Lara

Mateja and Lara have become very close. They are meeting every week and they talk about God and other things that she is going through. Lara has also been considering baptism. Since her mother passed away, she needs more encouragement and love. Please pray for her spiritual growth.

## Ela and Lucija

Ela is Lara's sister. Mateja is meeting with them every week. They were baptized three months ago (thanks to God calling them, and in part to Mateja's work with them). They are older, but they still need a spiritual friend and mentor. It is nice to see how they are growing and serving the Lord.

#### Lana

Lana and Mateja are very close and they share a lot of things together. Lana will graduate high school this year, and so she is busy with her final exams. But she always wants to pray and talk with Mateja.

#### Tesa

Mateja and Tesa are meeting on a regular basis. She is a nice girl, but she has a lot of problems in her family. Please pray for them, and that Tesa will open her heart more to our Lord.



**Christian Band** 

Igor is meeting often with the band, and they practice a lot of songs together. At our camp for teens in July, our theme will be based on the old pop music song, *What's Love Got To Do With It?* At the camp, we will make several spiritual, Jesus applications, basing off

of several lines from that song. The band recently learned that old song, in preparation for the camp. Please pray for Bruna, Franka, Petar, Kristina, and another Petar. Pray for others who may want to join in the band. Pray also for the spiritual impact this will have on their lives. Music can be a powerful communicator, especially with teens.

#### Youth Magazine

Mateja is busy with finishing the summer edition of our Christian magazine for young people. The theme for this edition is, *Fearless*. We hope and pray that it will touch many hearts.

### Preparations For Summer Camps

We are all now busy preparing for our summer camps. This actually started back in January, with preliminary details. We are now in the final stages of preparing for our Champs Camp (day camp in Zagreb for 6-12 year olds) in June, and our Youth Camp (residential camp in the mountains for teens) in July. Registration began two weeks ago for Champs Camp. We have 20 teenagers signed up to help as junior volunteer leaders for Champs Camp, and we so far have over 30 kids registered, with three more weeks of registration to go. Please pray for the rest of the kids to register. Registration will start next week for the Youth Camp. We are confident that God will bring in the ones he knows need to hear the message of the camps. It looks like this year we will have about half Ukrainian kids and half Croatian kids at both camps. Please pray for our strength, health, and God's blessings with all that we need to



accomplish for the camps. This photo was from Champs Camp back in 2017. Several of the kids in this photo are now teenagers who are participating in our regular activities. Please pray for even more continuity like this, coming out of the camps.

#### **Prayer Points**

- Pray for just the ones to register for the camps who need to hear these messages.
- Pray for the group of teens coming to our regular meetings.
- Pray for the impact of the summer edition of our Youth Magazine.
- Pray for direction and peace for the Ukrainians with whom we are working, both in our church, and in the community. Pray they will commit their lives to Jesus.
- Praise God that he has provided funding for Mateja's and Igor's support through the end of this year! Now pray along with us, as we seek out those who will commit to on-going, monthly support for them.
- Pray for our health and strength, physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Pray for wisdom, and the direction and fellowship of the Holy Spirit in all we do.