

CROSS CURRENT

January 2014

The Smith family ministry newsletter



Cross-current: 1.) a current that flows across another current. 2.) a conflicting movement, tendency or inclination.

Why cross-current? Because the gospel of Jesus Christ which brings us near to God flows against the direction of the world .



Winter comes to Zagreb



Our New Year's wheat grass— a Croatian tradition



Little David's 1st public reading of Scripture during Christmas service



Our 2006 VW Tauren



The Jesus Conference in Zagreb



Tom's 1st public reading in Croatian Christmas Day service



Outside the synagogue now a Pentacostal church at ETF in Osijek.

A New Year begins in Zagreb

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. “

Romans 15:13



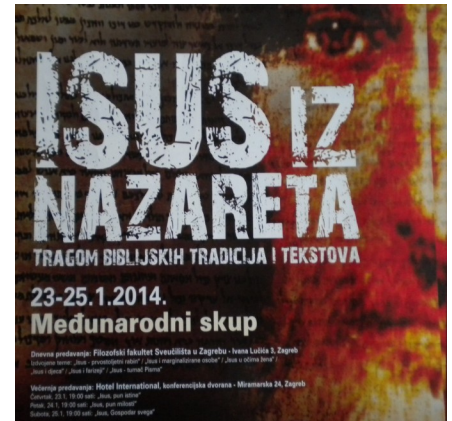
In a meeting with the staff at ETF in Osijek

“Znajte da molimo za vas” — “Know that we are praying for you” At the HKK Protest about discrimination against Protestants



Highlights

- **Almir Pehlic** held the first official worship service of Christ the King Church in Karlovac. Thirteen people came—**praise God!**
- Our **VW** mini-van purchased in Dec. makes us one of a handful of mini-van owners in the Zagreb Christian community. We have already put it to good use. We are thanking God for this vehicle.
- **Christ Redeemer** (the Zagreb church plant we work with) held a church council meeting, planning out 2014 & other details
- Prayed with Pastors & Bible Institute staff about Jesus of Nazareth. Attended lectures and evening events of **Jesus Conference**, which was well attended— **in answer to many prayers!**
- Ana hosted a luncheon in our apartment for 10 women in Dec., where some expressed interest in starting a Bible study
- Ana began a **Bible study** in Jan. looking at “Lies Women Believe” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss.
- Tom spent a week in Osijek at the **ETF**, attending staff meetings, getting to know staff & students, doing research preparing a pastoral theology course, & preached at Good Shepherd church.
- Ana, Kristina, & Tom spent time volunteering and praying with QuanaH Charity Shop leaders and volunteers.
- Pastor Jasmin & Tom joined the Christian Coalition (HKK) protest against the government’s discrimination against Protestants, outside Parliament.
- Kristina & Tom joined a few others from our church to form a new writers club (a bit like Lewis’ Inklings)
- In our weekly English services, we now have a guitarist, Kristina’s friend Dini & use our projector for music & Scripture readings. Praise God.



PLEASE PRAY for:

- For God to provide more new people to our church, for more new contacts
- Tom’s study and practice speaking Croatian regularly
- Tom’s preparations to teach Pastoral Theology to ETS extension students this spring.
- Raising money, for Almir & his church plant in Karlovac as well as work on his Master’s degree through ETF (approx. \$4000)
- Raising more financial support in 2014 to cover increased costs of travel & ministry, to offset currency fluctuations, and other needs
- Planning for summer 2014, to visit supporters as well as look at colleges for Kristina and see Katherine and Evelyn.

Tax deductible financial gifts and support may be sent to our agency.
Thank you !

ITEM, Inc.

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