

March 2024

# **Dear Friends and Partners,**

Greetings from Serbia. Thank you for being with us and praying for our ministry. Thank you for your generosity towards us which makes a massive difference for the advancement of the Kingdom here.

As we are approaching Easter, we are reminded of the greatest call ever given to mankind: "Come near to God and he will come near to you." Jam. 4:8 Let us come near to God and he will answer our prayers and give us great revelations, he will "bring health and healing and let us enjoy abundant peace ("shalom") and security." Jerem. 33:3,6 We will "lack no good thing." Ps. 34:10

# **Christmas Outreaches**

At the end of December 2023, we had our Christmas outreach in school and nursery. It went excellent. Students, teachers and parents were able to hear a clear message of the Gospel in the classrooms. We organised Christmas an evangelistic program and gave to each child an evangelistic booklet about Jesus and a Christmas shoebox parcel as a present.



At the beginning of January 2024 (Christmas is celebrated here on 7<sup>th</sup> of January) we had two amazing Christmas services in our church with 200 people present. It was packed with many, many new faces who listened intently about our Saviour Jesus. It touched adults, children and their families and relatives. We blessed the children with Christmas shoebox parcels in our church, in individual homes and our neighbour's children. Altogether we distributed in two weeks 350 Christmas parcels.











# Lidija at Missio Dei

On 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Lidija started her first year of AOG Missio Dei Bible College in Manchester, in order to be trained in Theology and Christian Leadership, so that she can fulfil the call of God to serve Him in ministry. It is a three-year degree course. After she finishes, she plans to come back and serve the Lord here in Serbia. It is great, yet the challenge for us is to raise the funds for her fees, accommodation, food and travels - monthly payment is £1,250. She is not entitled to receive the student loan, so all the cost we need to cover ourselves. We need your prayers. Please, pray for this. And if God puts on your heart to



help us in this project, we would greatly appreciate it. It is a real investment into

the next generation of leaders.



Lidija was with us in Kraljevo on her Christmas holidays, from the beginning of December 2023 till 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024, and this time she was practically involved in worship, preaching, work with young people and in our Christmas programs and activities in school, nursery and our church. In England her placement is in Life Church Burnley.





# Light of the Gospel

Preaching the Gospel and teaching the Word of God on every available voice and on every available platform is our aim. We have a passion for the people in central Serbia, one of the least evangelised regions of Europe where there are many cities and places with no evangelical church, to hear the message of Jesus and to turn to him. We share the Gospel in regular services of our Lighthouse Church



Kraljevo, on the internet, and our services are broadcasted live with an average of over 1000 views, and through Christian literature, in coffee shops, in homes, on streets...



# Our special guests

At the beginning of March, we had Pastor Magnus Edforss from Sweden with us. He preached so powerfully in our church and ministered to people in prayer afterwards. We had amazing friendship. He leads and organises a practical Bible School in different regions in Serbia, and we partner with him in this project and teach subjects: church planting and worship in church.

In March we had another special guest – brother Magdy Tawfik from east

West Ministries. He lives in Watford, England, but is originally from Egypt. We really enjoyed talking to him. Spending time with Arab Christians is very inspiring.





But the most special guest we had during Christmas period was Margaret Pendlebury, Sara's mum,

from Burnley, England. May God give her strength and health, and many years. She is wonderful, and she is an incredible blessing to us.



### Balkan Conference

A Balkan Conference was held in February in the north of Serbia, in Backi Petrovac, in the City Council building. Leaders and people from different Balkan countries came and there was worship by several Christan bands, prayer and



prophetic, and teaching about the five-fold ministry. Sasha took part, spoke prophetically, and led one segment of Prayer for Serbia and the region.



# **General assembly**

In December 2023 General Assembly of Evangelical Church in Serbia was held in Novi Sad. This platform serves us to strengthen unity in the body of Christ and also to fight to improve rights of evangelical churches and believers and their status and influence in society. We had at the Assembly two representatives of Serbian Government (Ministry of Justice) and representative of Embassy of USA in Belgrade, too. Sasha is on the National Leadership Board (called Synod) of Evangelical Church in Serbia, serving as vice president.

## Prayer points

Please, pray for:

- provision of Lidija's costs for studying at Missio Dei Bible College

- on 06<sup>th</sup> April we will organise our very own She Believes Women's Conference in our church, and we are very excited about that. Participants will attend from all over Serbia. Please, pray for the organisation and that women are touched by God and blessed.

- in the second part of April we will have here in Kraljevo Missio Dei Bible College students on their missions week. Please, pray that they will be stretched, developed and have an unforgettable experience.

### Thank you

Thank you very much for your love, friendship, loyalty, for your prayers and gifts. May the Lord abundantly bless you in every area. Happy Easter!

### FACEBOOK & INSTRAGRAM:

We invite you connect with us both on Facebook and Instagram. It would be great to be in touch with you Here is how you can find us: *Type in search*: Sasha Vitakic - Sara Vitakic

### Facebook:

Now you can join us on our CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE: Evandjeoska Crkva "Svetionik" Kraljevo. For our live church services and Bible verses for encouragement.

### FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:

We would love you to like and follow our Facebook Page "Step Closer" outreach in English. The instagram profile is: StepCloser.\_

## Sasha & Sara

Thank you for supporting Light of the Gospel Ministries!

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