

the Winkler family CROATIA



To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light...that they may receive forgiveness of sins... Acts 26:18

Dear Praying Friends,

January-February 2024

Greetings from Croatia where we are welcoming spring's arrival. We look forward to celebrating Jesus' Resurrection in a few weeks. *And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.* I Corinthians 15:14 (KJV) Jesus IS risen! So we rejoice and celebrate this truth.

FORWARD

Our home church's theme for 2024 is **FORWARD**. In Exodus 14:15 Moses was instructed to have the children of Israel **go forward** in the face of an impossible situation. The Lord promised to fight for them! We have unofficially adopted this theme for our family and ministry as well. Discouragement can rear its ugly head when Satan is fighting and things don't progress the way we hoped and planned. We are determined to continue **forward**: sowing the seed of the gospel and preaching the truth of God's Word. We will be faithful and leave the results to God.

PRAISE

On December 21, 2023, I preached my first message in Croatian! Am I fluent in Croatian? NO! I was in a "sink" or "swim" situation when my translator could no longer interpret for me due to health issues. Each message I preach takes many hours of preparation; first in English, then I translate it, and then I study the Croatian translation. But God does not desert his children in time of need. The Lord gives help and strength week after week.

UPCOMING

We are excited to have Pastor Reno and a small group from Berean Baptist Church in Puyallup, Washington, coming next month for a Mission Trip. Croatia is beautiful! God's handiwork can be seen up north and all the way down to the southern tip. While our visitors will get to see some of the beauty and charm of Croatia, they will also see the **great spiritual need**. The people are steeped in Catholic traditions and are blind to the truth. Please begin praying now for the tracts and Bibles that will be distributed in Varaždin, Karlovac, and Split.

FAMILY

Well, we knew this time was coming but I'm not sure if we are ready for it. Our youngest son, Caleb, is almost done with High School and will be returning to the states soon. The Lord has already provided a job and a place for him to stay. We would sure appreciate your prayers as he adjusts to life in America and determines God's will for his life. My wife and I could also use extra prayer as we enter the "empty nest" stage of life.

Going **forward**,

Ron, Rachel, and Caleb Winkler

rwinkler@mailfence.com • skype: 559-667-4066 • mobile: +385 091 531 9506

Sequoia Baptist Church: Pastor Robert Benefield • www.sequoiabaptistchurchvisalia.org • 559-625-1673

BIMI: www.bimi.org • 423-344-5050