



THE METHODIST VOICE FROM CROATIA

NEWSLETTER / SPRING 2023



THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

*I was glad when they said to me,
Let us go into the house of the LORD*

PSALM 121:1

King David expressed his strong feelings of joy when someone invited him to the House of God. In his time the House of the Lord was the Temple in Jerusalem – a sacred place for worship, prayer, and fellowship. Today's House of the Lord for Christians is the Church. This is the place where the Word of God is being proclaimed, where believers have fellowship with each other, and where we worship our God with gladness and with joy.

Unfortunately, in our time the effects of the pandemic years and various other crises have made many believers estranged from their local churches. This is especially evident in Europe. Because of that, it is one of our visions as a new Methodist congregation in Zagreb, Croatia to invite estranged believers again to the church and to introduce people to our Wesleyan Tradition and Theology.

In the last few months, besides our regular church services, we have been busy with several other events and activities. We started to translate and teach the new Catechism of the Global Methodist Church. We do so because we believe that it is important for the Church as a “House of the Lord” to have a stable, doctrinal foundation on which we can build our future ministries. Catechisms were always an important tool in Church History to teach new Generations of believers about our identity and how to be effective disciples of Christ, so it was a good decision of the Leadership of the Global Methodist Church to make the Catechism available to the worldwide church family.



In the last months, Pastor Vatroslav was invited to the Croatian Parliament and to various places to give

a report about the persecution of Christians. Specifically, he was asked to speak about the situation in the country of Qatar which was in the focus of Media because of the World soccer championship held there. It is almost unknown what severe difficulties the church there suffers. The organization, Open Doors, is reporting on the situation there.

It is important for us Christians in the free world to pray and support our persecuted brothers and sisters worldwide. It is also a high priority of our congregation to raise their voice for the persecuted Christians to inform the Croatian public.

Also, Pastor Vatroslav gave two interviews for the Croatian media about the moral and doctrinal crisis that churches in the west are facing today. The interviews were also an opportunity to talk about the launching of the Global Methodist Church and to introduce the public to the Methodist congregation in Croatia. In a Land with less than 1% protestant/evangelical Christians, such interviews are a source of information and an invitation for them to learn more about us. Pastor Zupancic received several calls and contacts of people after those interviews had been published. You can also watch a new video of our Church on [the link](#).

The number of people who attend our Sunday services is slowly rising. Please pray for people like Silvio, Marijana, Vlado, Vera, and others, that they will join us and become members of the congregation.

In the next period, Pastor Vatroslav will hold lectures on Church History on Saturday mornings at the Methodist Church in Zagreb. This project is a partnership with the Nazarene Church in Croatia, and the Students from the European Nazarene College, which I became a faculty member last year, will have the opportunity to participate and to study about that interesting topic.

DONATIONS FROM USA:

TITHELY:

West Ohio Wesleyan Covenant Association

GIVERS SHOULD CLICK ON THE OPTION:

Mission Partner Vatroslav

For more info. about donations – contact:
bmartin4477@gmail.com

www.tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give/748020

Through a generous gift we could get new chairs and replace the old, secondhand chairs we used. Also we hope that in the next period we will be able to buy the place we are now renting. We have already at dispose more than three quarters of the price, so please pray that God will provide and bless us with around 30 000 USD to finally buy our Methodist “House of the Lord” in Zagreb.

Thanks to a generous gift, my family and I were able to visit Israel at the beginning of this year. It was



a real joy for us to see the places where the history from Bible took place and where our Lord gave his teachings and accomplished our salvation. From our accommodations in Jerusalem, we were able to take the car and visit various places through-

out the beautiful Holy Land of Israel. We are thankful for that amazing opportunity.

It was right there in Jerusalem where king David wrote the words of his Psalm: *I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.*

Let the House of the Lord that is now being built in Croatia continue to grow. Please pray that in the coming Easter and Spring to Summer season, it continues to be a place of gladness and mercy and a lighthouse of His Truth.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Vatroslav

WWW.METHODISTI.HR

[FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK](#)

CONTACT

Evangelical Methodist Church in Croatia / Pastor Vatroslav Zupancic
Trnjanska 7 A, 1000 Zagreb / Croatia / +385 98 512 440 or +385 (0) 1575 9378231 / vatroslavzupancic@gmail.com

ACCOUNT

Evangelical Methodist Church in Croatia / HR9823600001101540209 / BIC ZABAHR2X / Donacija