# Karadza Family report November 2023 to January 2024

#### Karadza Family News

In last three months both Marina and I more and more realize that we are getting older, specially when chasing Vito around our apartment. Oh, boy, he is really keeping us busy, specially Marina.

Rest of us are doing well, I had therapy and exercises for my foot in November and December. Matej, Iris and Ika are into sports and school activities. Ika's school basketball team has qualified for national basketball championship and in March they play finals in city of Zagreb.

Together with two couples from our church, and their children, we have entered year of 2024.

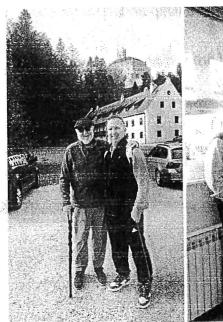




### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH**

# Hosting John Cooke and other friends during November

Bible Institute has organized big two day event to celebrate its 25 years of work. Some of invited guests came from US and European countries. Some came for more than these two days. Many of these guests are closely related to our church in Kuslanova. We hosted them and organized their stay as well as lunch and fellowship in our church.







#### Sunday school news

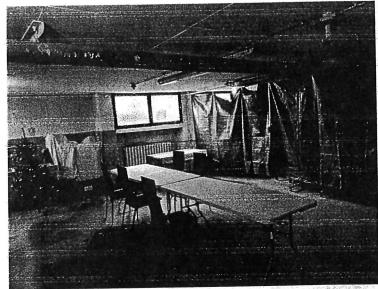
Sunday school is functioning well. Ivan has worked out with one lady from our church to help with Sunday school group 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade regularly. One of challenges in this school year is work with Ukrainian kids. Knowing Croatian or English for just a little, they also have hard time coming to church on Sundays, due to their personal reasons.

Traditionally, we had Christmas event where we played games, eat candies and listened to short message.



#### Making an impact in our neighbourhood and wider

During November Marina was in communication with our building representative on basement space that is sometimes used for tenants in the building. Marina got an idea to use that space for activities we have sometimes with our neighbors. After many emails and conversations she got permit to use it. Before Christmas, we used it for making Christmas wreaths. She has invited mothers of kids that used to come to our English workshops. After that, Marina came to idea to invite kids from Matej's class and to make decorations for school Christmas humanitarian fair.







#### **Children and Teen Bibles donation**

After receiving many Children and Teen Bibles, during November we got many requests form individuals who wanted their copy of the Bible.

Beside individuals, most of these Bibles went to schools, kindergartens and other institutions. We have received some photos and a thank-you-note from one the schools where they were distributed.





### More responsibilities in church

Starting with 2024 Ivan has taken more responsibilities in church. Since our main preacher left church for Sabbath rest for three months, for some of us responsibilities have increased.

### Organization of Sunday lunches

Every last Sunday of the month our whole church have lunch together. Ivan took over responsibility to organize it.

# Weekly meetings of Leadership (servants)

To make all things work, leaders or servants of our church are getting together every Thursday.

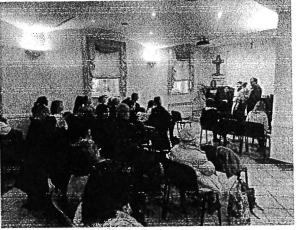
### Worship organization

Some of us took responsibility to preach every Sunday and to find ones who will preach, as well to organize Lord Supper and other things related with Sunday worship.

# Weekly Bible study, prayer and worship

Ivan has taken obligation to prepare Bible study every Wednesday from January to April.





## Video Recordings done by Ivan

Sermon recordings from November 2023 to January 2024 can be found on our Youtube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFY\_rFrpR-OeWRYEd29m7yg/videos

#### **BIBLE INSTITUTE NEWS**

# Big celebratory event - 25 years of Bible Institute

On 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of November we have celebrated 25 years work of the Bible Institute, event was called 'Looking at our Present and Future with Joy and Hope'. The event brought together participants from Croatia and abroad, and we presented the history, current work and vision of the future.

On the first day of the event, we looked back on the past and development of the Bible Institute and expressed our gratitude to the previous lecturers and employees, and our former students and present students. The entire event was accompanied by a musical program by local Christian musicians, while the sermon was delivered by Dr. Mark Lanier on the topic "Walking with Jesus in fellowship."

The second day of the program began with a discussion on the topic "The Future of Evangelical Christianity", and after that we continued with the presentation of institutions, organizations and churches with which we successfully cooperate for the purpose of promoting the Bible and the message of Jesus. The ceremony ended with Dr. Mark Lanier's sermon on the topic "Walking with Jesus as children of God" and a joint prayer of those present.







Videos of 25 years of the Bible Institute

# Program

Retrospective of 25 years

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtwTIFuDRO0&list=PLP0KjH2x1a5y00B-TC7j4LipxgiFzZznY

03.11.2023. - Looking on our Past with Thanksgiving

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVbm8xlgeJo

04.11.2023. - Looking at our Present and Future with Joy and Hope

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDsGnCY1Kyo

#### Sermons

Mark Lanier - Walking with as Children of God

<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bd0jEaAS3E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bd0jEaAS3E</a>

Mark Lanier - Walk with Jesus in Unity

<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0wf7t8Gjp0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0wf7t8Gjp0</a>

#### Panel Discussion

The Future of Evangelical Christianity in Croatia <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mK8qOyB-qTE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mK8qOyB-qTE</a>

#### **Recording Bible Institute videos**

After Christmas break we came together at BI to discuss ideas about our online contents and how to create them. Ivan has come back to work and record an Old Testament Hebrew classes (workshop and classroom) together with dr. Daniel Berković (professor), classes that have started more than a year ago.

#### Interviews about Institute

Here you can listen some of raw video materials what some of our American guests, who came for 25 years of Bible Institute, have said about our work; as well from some of our BI staff. These materials are still in work.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4G1CEEjYrMs

### Planning new school year and other activities in 2024

During January we have gathered on every Tuesday to plan activities we will have in 2024, as well as to work out on our weekly responsibilities.



#### **Prayer Requests**

- For work with Sunday school.
- For recording sermons and classes.
- For Karadza family in serving Christ, Church and people.
- For Church of Christ in Kušlanova and Bible Institute workers and teachers.
- For work with neighbourhood kids.
- For Children and Teen Bibles distribution
- For Ukrainians in our church That God helps them in their future steps.

THANK YOU for your continuous support through prayers, written cards to us and finances! We thank our God for being able to partner with you in His work in Croatia!