



THE METHODIST VOICE FROM CROATIA

FALL / WINTER 2025



GIVE THANKS ALWAYS

*"Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

Many Christians desire to know God's will for their lives. Often, they imagine it means achieving great accomplishments or pursuing big visions, while overlooking the simple steps and truths God has already revealed in Scripture. The Apostle Paul encouraged the early church that *giving thanks in all circumstances* is, in fact, living out God's will.

The believers of that time did not have easy lives. They were mocked and often persecuted for their faith in Jesus — just as many Christians are today in countries such as Afghanistan, Iran, and Nigeria. What sustained them was the comfort and joy they received as they gave thanks and praised the Lord who saved them.

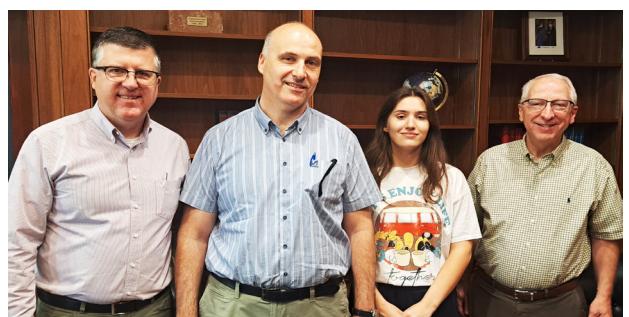
The same is true for us today. No matter what circumstances we face, we can always be thankful to God, knowing that hardships and sorrow are

temporary, and that our risen Lord is faithful and our true Comforter.

GRATITUDE IN OUR CHURCH

We as a church are thankful for many blessings God has given us recently. This summer, Pastor Vatroslav and his daughter Marija visited the United States, where they connected with partner churches in the Allegheny West GMC Conference. It was a wonderful time of fellowship — seeing familiar faces, meeting new friends, and building relationships for future partnerships and projects.

We also received the joyful news that our partners collected support for Pastor Vatroslav to begin full-time ministry in the church plant and outreach of the GMC in Croatia. This is a great encouragement and something for which we are deeply grateful.





ESTONIA CONFERENCE

In early October, our lay leader Martina traveled to Estonia to attend a gathering of Bible-believing Methodists and representatives of Wesleyan churches from across Europe. This event, initiated by Pastor Vatroslav two years ago, is now becoming an annual tradition.

This year's conference was held in Tallinn, the beautiful capital of Estonia. Pastors and leaders enjoyed inspiring teachings and opportunities to build lasting relationships. Methodist churches in Europe face challenges from growing secularism and materialism, yet they continue to seek ways to shine the light of Christ's love and truth in their nations.

NEW PEOPLE

We are excited to welcome more young people to our Sunday worship services. We are especially thankful for David, who is 17 and considering baptism next year. Please pray for him and for the younger generation of believers, as they are the future and strength of the church.

OUTREACH

On November 19th, we held an evangelism outreach in the city center together with partner churches. Our goal was to raise awareness about the persecution of Christians worldwide. Many people in the free world do not realize that today's



persecution is the most severe in history.

The gathering was well attended, with believers coming together

to pray, sing, and stand in solidarity with their persecuted brothers and sisters.

As Advent and Christmas approach, we are preparing to use this season to invite people to church and to our events. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will touch many hearts to know Jesus through the GMC in Croatia.

THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We are grateful for your gifts. Through your generosity, we were able to renovate the church entrance and doors. For this, and for all the blessings mentioned above, we truly give thanks always.

In His love,
Pastor Vatroslav

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