

THE METHODIST VOICE FROM CROATIA

NEWSLETTER / AUTUMN 2023



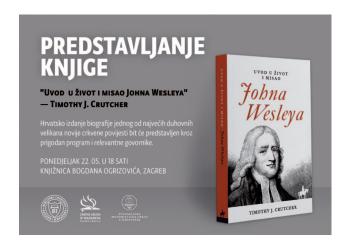
GUIDE ME, O MY GREAT REDEEMER

The words and the music of that old church Hymn echoed through our worship at the first Sunday in September when we, as a church, blessed the children at the beginning of the school. One of our visions as a congregation is to restore the church's rich heritage and make it available to the modernday public. Old hymns are a great possibility because they are highly motivating and theologically instructive for today's listeners.

Besides that, we also had a number of activities in the past period:

Finally, the book: John Wesley: His Life and Thought by Timothy J. Crutcher was published in the Croatian language. This project was completed through our partnership with the Church of the Nazarene in Croatia. We presented the book at the well-attended presentation in the Center of Zagreb where our friends from the GMC from Ohio (Rev. Mitch Arnold and Rev. Randy Coleman) were also present. The presentation was broadcast on the

Croatian national radio and television stations. This is the first published review of the life and theology of John Wesley in the Croatian language. The book also woke a good interest in churches in Croatia and in the region.



In May, we organized the first "European Methodist Gathering" called "Adria Connection", a meeting for conservative Methodists from around Europe. It was held at a Christian retreat center on the Adriatic coast. The goal of the gathering was to search for solutions and future connections for Conservative European Methodists. Present were representatives from Methodist Churches from 9 European countries, partners from USA,







the Church of the Nazarene in Croatia, and a Methodist friend from the Congo as an observer. The gathering had a good and respectful atmosphere. We were greeted via Zoom by the President of the GMC, Rev. Keith Boyete, and our newly appointed Bishop, Mark Webb. Let us pray that the connection of churches in Europe continue to grow in the future.



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During this Period we managed to buy a larger place for our congregation in Zagreb. The facility is being renovated and, thanks to numerous donations, the construction work is in its final phase. Nevertheless, for the completion of the work and furnishing the space we need additional help and support. Please join us in prayer as we are trying to collect around 25,000 USD so that we can complete the project by the end of this year.

Pastor Vatroslav will be in the USA in October. He will be a guest at the first GMC Alegheny West conference and will speak at various churches in the region of Columbus, Ohio. If you want to contact him or see him during that time, you can contact him on his personal e-mail at vatroslavzupancic@gmail.com. Please also pray for the entire Zupancic Family and for the continuation of the work of the Lord in Croatia. We are confident that "our great Redeemer" will guide us in the coming Advent and Christmas season, and we are thankful for your continual prayers and support.

Photos Lypnenci

In his Love Pastor Vatroslav

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