

## Top priority: gainful employment

At the end of 2009, David and Daniel returned to Croatia after living for several years in Santa Monica, Calif. Daniel graduated from Santa Monica College with a degree in photography and David, who graduated from Pepperdine University in 2008, had been working for a post-production company for the past year. They are now looking for good employment opportunities in Croatia, so please keep them in your prayers. We're certain those of you with children recently graduated from college can relate! □

This newsletter is published by the Longmont Church of Christ (303-776-2625), sponsoring congregation for the Tesics. Working under the oversight of the Longmont elders, Tesic Team Leaders Bruce and Teresa Bennett may be reached at [art4scots@comcast.net](mailto:art4scots@comcast.net). The Tesics may be reached at 011-385-1-3313524, at [ruthtesic@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthtesic@yahoo.com), or by mail (Ivan & Ruth Tesic, J. Kosica 42, 10290 Zapresic, Croatia, EUROPE).

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# tesic tidings

The latest news on the spread of the gospel in Zapresic, Croatia

## Greetings . . .

from one former icebox to another. Our winter here in Europe has been hard, but it sounds as if yours has been worse. This was the first winter we can remember hearing that 49 of the 50 U.S. states had snow. By the time you read this, spring should be arriving, pulling all of us out of the doldrums of winter. □

## No hospital stay this time

Sometimes we just have to be grateful for what *doesn't* happen. We're thrilled to say that, unlike his 2008 U.S. fund-raiser trip, Ivan's Fall 2009 fund-raiser trip didn't include even a visit to a hospital – much less an extended stay in one. □

His trip was a little shorter than usual, and he decided to concentrate on the states of Illinois, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland. He attended two conferences, met with both new and previous supporters and, of course, was blessed by the hospitality of everyone he visited. (*Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!*) He was sorry not to see the familiar faces he almost always sees on these trips. Just because he didn't visit your area, don't think we've forgotten your faithful support through the years. We *haven't* forgotten and we are still immensely grateful. □



Ivan, studying during flight time, somewhere over . . . ?

## Reaching out to our "neighbors"

For Christmas, the Service & Outreach Committee at the Longmont Church of Christ (our sponsoring congregation in Colorado) donated \$500 for the children at nearby Laduc Children's Home. With this money, we were able to furnish the home with a new television, as well as house shoes, outdoor shoes and winter hats. □

## U.S. Fund-raising Trip

## Local Outreach



Ivan and OC group with some of the Laduc children

At the first of the new year, Connie Mauney sent us several boxes of sweaters, donated by congregations in the Brentwood, Tenn., area. In January and February, we donated them to needy people in our community, *and they were much appreciated*, due to our colder-than-usual winter. □

We are continuing to work on the possibility of starting a small preschool in our building. We're

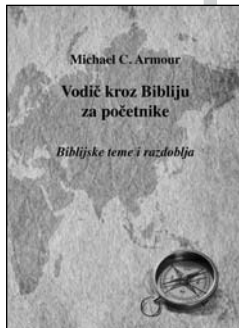
learning there are many, many, many details – not to mention state and local laws – involved in such a project. We're excited about bringing these little ones into our building; we are confident that it will all be worth it, that this project will be an effective outreach into our community. That confidence is the only thing that keeps us wading through the rolls and rolls of very sticky red tape. □

### Media & communication

This year marks the 20th anniversary of our Living Word Radio Program. For twenty years, World Radio has sponsored this vital communication to our local community. During years when World Radio could not fund this work completely, many of you sent generous support to keep it going. Thank you. □

For several years, we've been working on a Croatian translation of Dr. Michael Armour's book, *A Newcomer's Guide to the Bible*. It's been published! On April 24<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Armour and the Zapresic Church of Christ will be hosting a book presentation at the Christian Center in Zapresic. We would like to thank Dr. Armour and the Eastern European Mission for making this happen. □

This February, Ivan and David continued teaching English through the Bible, using the World English Institute's program. Currently, we have four different groups with three to five people per group. Our hopes are that this method of evangelizing will have a positive effect on the students and that they will be more open to studying the Bible in their native language. □



*Newcomer's Guide to the Bible*, newly published in Croatian

## Help & encouragement from OC, Dewey church, individuals

Last October, we were once again blessed by students from Oklahoma Christian's European Studies Program in Vienna, Austria. The Richard Miller family, along with ten OC students, spent a Saturday with children from Laduc Children's Home. This OC group helped with our younger children's Bible classroom and again



Ivan with OC group, waiting at our local train station

with our worship service on Sunday. Their youthful enthusiasm lifted all our spirits. □

This April, Anita Davidson from Colorado will be visiting us for the second time. During this visit, she'll help with our English Bible studies and other church-related needs. □

In May and June, we'll host two students from Oklahoma Christian as part of the

*Let's Start Talking* program. For the past two decades, LST has been a close partner of the mission work in Croatia and has made a very positive impact for the Zapresic congregation in the local and surrounding communities. □

In May, we'll be blessed by the presence of Tony and Treva Lalli and Janet Keheley from Dewey, Okla. Tony is the current minister at the Dewey Church of Christ, a church which has been a long-time supporter of the Croatian mission field. After departing from Croatia, they'll travel to Poland to visit missionaries in Sopot. □

Check out the English version of our website: [www.zapchurchofchrist.org](http://www.zapchurchofchrist.org)