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*Sent Through The
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Dear Pastors and Friends,

Bible Camp was great this year! As you probably know, a small group from my home church was able to come and assist us. They arrived 5 days before Bible camp and started working hard almost as soon as they got there! I can't tell you what a blessing it was to have them help prepare decorations, crafts, snacks, and games. Actually, they started some of the work a couple of months before they even arrived. This helped alleviate some of the burden of preparation, and freed me up to concentrate more heavily on my lessons. Did I mention my mother was one of the group members? What an extra special blessing!

The camp went well this year, with the exception of the weather. My! What weather! The first day was COLD, windy, and sprinkling rain. It looked like it was going to pour, but God held it off until the very end! We praise Him for that mercy! The second day was also cold, but not as windy or rainy. Those two days we had 18 kids, which is great considering the weather! The third day was perfect! 23 kids showed up. They heard a clear gospel presentation every day, saw a fun gospel illustration, learned a Bible verse, and sang a song about Jesus. (They also discovered the joy of chocolate covered bananas with sprinkles!) I thank God for allowing us to have Bible Camp out in that village. My prayer is that these kids would accept Christ if they haven't already. Each day I explained how they can pray to receive Jesus, and gave them an opportunity to speak with an adult. No one spoke with the adults to my knowledge, but I believe the seeds are sown and there will be a great harvest. Below the letter are several pictures of Camp. Please pray for these kids! Thanks in advance.

After camp was over the group helped really clean the church, inside and OUT! Some cleaned the siding while the rest deep-cleaned the inside. The day before they left, we took a day-trip to the coast, Zadar, to be exact. What a BEAUTIFUL country God has created! I'll add a couple of photos of these things as well.

Now I will change subjects to inform you of a change in my ministry. Due to several factors that are out of my control, I will no longer be working in Croatia. Life does not always go as we plan it. Sometimes God has other things in mind. The missionaries I was planning on working with have left the field for family reasons. I worked with the nationals for a time, but there are so few Christians in Croatia, it is really not ideal for a single woman.

I have been counseling with my pastor, Tyler Gillit, as well as with my previous pastor, Dr. Willie Weaver for quite some time. We have all come to the conclusion that it is best for me to leave Croatia. I have not made this decision lightly. In fact, it has caused me much agony. I will very much miss the nationals I have come to love. But I am following where the Lord is leading, and for now it is back to America for a time. So with much sorrow I have sold many of my possessions, and given away the rest, and I am now in America. Under my pastor's request, I will be spending a couple of months in Fort Worth, serving in my home church, and praying about the next step.

I want to emphasize that this is NOT the end of my service to God, merely a redirection of it.

Several missionaries have already invited me to work with them. I covet your prayers at this time, for wisdom to follow God's leading.

I do not believe my time in Croatia was in vain. Many children heard the gospel, who might never have heard. God used me in the lives of the national pastor's family as well, especially his wife, Ljubica. They were a huge blessing to me, as well. God also used my time in Croatia to refine me, and teach me many valuable lessons about His love, grace, and faithfulness. I will carry these lessons with me to each ministry I am involved with in the future.

I want to thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions for my pastor, Tyler Gillit, he would be happy to answer them. The church number is (817) 534-0787. If any pastors have questions for me, you can call me on my new Texas number (817) 395-2553. (If you call and don't get an answer, PLEASE leave a message. I am getting many calls for the previous "owner" of the phone number, and don't always answer out-of-state calls I don't recognize. I will be sure to call back if there is a message. Thanks.)

In Christ,

Melissa Houston



Bible Camp Singing!



Hard at Work for Bible Camp



Obstacle Course Fun – They Loved It!



Lesson Time



My Sending Church:
Worth Baptist Church
4900 Campus Drive • Fort Worth, Texas 76119
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Tyler Gillit, Pastor





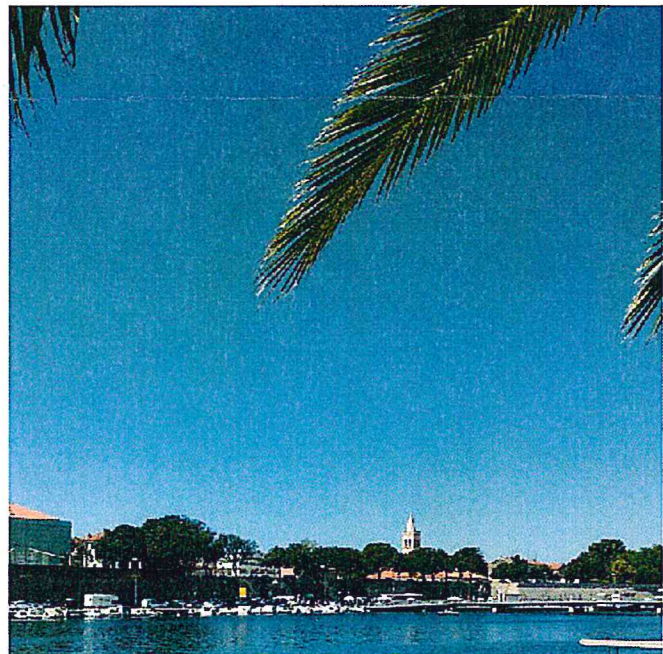
Hard at Work Cleaning



Fun Photos for the Kids



Craft Time!



A Trip to the Coast - Zadar

