

New quinquennium new beginnings

We are starting a new series in which each newsletter we will focus on one of our unions. We have asked all of you to participate and in this issue we are presenting the Adriatic Union Conference. We hope this will help you with new ideas and motivate you. We look forward to each issue.

Slobodan Bobo Marčeta has been Children's Ministries director since 2010.

He has been married to Slavica for 16 years. They have two beautiful boys: Joshua (12) and Elias (7). They make their everyday life nicer.



The biggest challenge in his work is how to present Jesus Christ to their children as their Saviour who will be real and present in their lives and whom they would follow every day.

The biggest joy in his work is to see smiling faces of children and their gladness. He likes hearing them asking when will Jesus come and seeing how they sincerely want him to come as soon as possible.

He doesn't have any favourite Bible texts. God reveals a new one to him every day that leads him for that day.

This is a picture of him drawn by a teenager girl few years ago during one of the meeting for teens. She saw him as a butterfly that watches over young people i.e. going from flower to flower.

TED Children's Ministries News

Summer Bible School

Over the last 5 years there have been a lot of events organized by AUC Children's Ministry; events enjoyable to both children and those who work with them. Every year we organize Summer Bible School for children in Maruševec where they are surrounded by forests and green hills. Maruševec is also the place of our state recognized high school and our theological faculty. Every year we have from 60 up to 90 children spending this wonderful week playing games, making new friends, singing, and studying the Bible. These summer schools are also great opportunities to display the advantages of our high school to the children hoping that some will attend the school in the future. This is with great importance because in Maruševec many teenagers decide to give their lives to Jesus. The children attending the summer school cherish the memories created there, and the values instilled in them.



TED Children's Ministries News

Pictures from the Summer Bible Camp



TED Children's Ministries News



SlatinaFEST

In order to develop musical creativity of our children, every year we organize SlatinaFEST, a gospel music festival where the children participate in songs, plays, and musicals - praising the Lord, and sending a strong message to the audience. This year we have held the 17th SlatinaFEST with average participation of 250 children and adults. The Festival starts on Friday night with a concert, followed by worship on Sabbath morning where guest-speakers share from the Word of God adapted to children's level.



TED Children's Ministries News

Among other speakers, we had Clair Sanches - the TED Director of Children's Ministry, and she encouraged us in our work with children. The Sabbath afternoon is time for another concert where the children from neighbouring countries also participate. It brings us delight to see people enjoying the sermons, the fellowship, and children's performance. Every time the SlatinaFEST is also a humanitarian event because it raises funds for children and families in need.



TED Children's Ministries News

Summer Music Camp

As a child of SlatinaFEST, Summer Music Camp was born, also taking place in Maruševac. The point of this event is gathering children who attend music schools in order to strengthen their knowledge and give them professional instructions by quality teachers. Last year was the starting year of this event, and there were around 30 children and teachers in the camp enjoying their time together. Besides playing music and learning, the children enjoyed delicious food, games, and field trips – all in good company. The end of Summer Music Camp was marked by a concert prepared over the course of the week by the camp attendees. This model of cooperation between the children and the teachers did not just influence their musical skills; it also connected new people to the church, and raised their interest for spirituality and healthy lifestyle.



TEC Children's Ministries News

Pictures from the Summer Music Camp



TED Children's Ministries News

Messy Church

Two churches from our Union, the church in Maribor (Slovenia) and in Pula (Croatia) were included in the Messy Church project which is financially supported by the TED. This project employs a lot of parents and children from the church, but also their neighbours that are joining the project with their children. Besides developing creativity of everyone involved, this event unifies the church and helps children experience God while having fun. Starting from Croatia and Slovenia, this project is about to spread to Albania, and we believe that we will make a great impact there because there are many children in Albania that are open to spirituality.

Messy Church in Maribor



TED Children's Ministries News

Messy Church in Pula



TED Children's Ministries News

Children's Teachers training

In order to train teachers to work with the children in our local churches, every second year we organize a professional training in a hotel in Crikvenica. The venue is at the seaside, and its owners are Christians. During this weekend event we train teachers through seminars, workshops and presentations, equipping them for quality work with children, and also strengthening their spirituality. We also invite special guests, and during the last training we had the opportunity to welcome Clair Sanches (TED Children's Ministries Director) and Linda Koh (GC Children's Ministries Director). We received great blessings from them.



TED Children's Ministries News



Children's Teachers training



TED Children's Ministries News

Publishing books

Over the last few years we have also published some books and materials for children. Among them is The life of Jesus – a colouring book for children, The Great Controversy for Children (the book and the workbook), 100 Creative Ways 2 Learn Memory Verses, Celebrations! Healthy inside out!, God Loves Me 28 Ways (the book and the workbook), My Quiet Time with Jesus - Prayer Calendar and Journal, the Noah's Ark puzzles and How Jesus Feeds The Hungry Multitude.

We hope and believe that all these events and publications are helping children feel Jesus as a real presence in their lives, and that they are steering them towards committing their lives to Him. We also hope that these activities and publications can also help the parents and the teachers realize the importance of their roles in the life of the children, and prompt them to lead the children to God in the best possible way.

