



*Youth Conference  
Last morning  
group photo.*

news from Novi Most year end 2022  
**New Bridge**

pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

@novimost   

Sometimes changes sneak up on you. That is a little bit what it felt like at the Youth Conference in Sarajevo this autumn. Months ago a decision had been made to hold the conference in Hotel Hollywood rather than in the church building in Dolac Malta. There were some practical reasons for this but the fact that twice as many people as could be squeezed into the church might sign up was not part of the discussion. No one saw it coming; suddenly Sarajevo was hosting its biggest Youth Conference ever!

Beki, Novi Most director, tells us what made this Youth Conference special for him.

“Over the second weekend of October we had the privilege of seeing 200 young people gathered in Sarajevo for our annual youth conference. It was amazing to host young people from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia coming together and being one voice to worship the King of Kings! It was a powerful time of prayer, worship, teaching and learning together. A new generation is rising who are choosing not to live in the shadows of the past but in Christ, and in the freedom of the future!

One of the important things for us about this conference was that this was the first year that young adults from our church were responsible for the majority of the organisation for the conference. They were there to guide and help with all participants' questions and needs. It was great to see their attitude of service and perseverance and how they responded to the different challenges involved in organising the conference. Even though there are many areas in which we still need to grow, it was a tremendous success to organise such a big event. All in all, it was a great experience that needs to be continued and evaluated so we can grow to be more like Him!”

### NEW HELP FOR NOVI MOST IN SARAJEVO

We all want to see the next generation stepping in the church in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our scholarship programme is one way Novi Most is helping to develop young leaders. Education is one of the key factors in the development of this nation; discipleship is even more important. Our scholarship programme allows us to invest in both the academic and spiritual development of the next generation of potential leaders in BiH. We support university students who have already demonstrated an interest and ability in the youth work programmes we run, and they work with us in an internship format, alongside their studies.

This autumn we are happy that two new students, both based in Sarajevo, have joined the programme. Angela and Vanja will be working alongside Beki to develop new Novi Most activities in Sarajevo. We are grateful for the opportunity to help support their studies and thankful that they want to be part of the next phase of the development of Novi Most in Sarajevo.



*There is something about having a lot of people in a room together*



*Friends from different towns and different countries.*



*Angela and Vanja helping make things happen at the Youth Conference in Sarajevo.*



All of us at  
Novi Most  
would like to  
wish you a...

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## A BIG THANK YOU TO YOU!

We want to say a big thank you for all your support during 2022. We know these are challenging times and we really appreciate that you have continued to pray and give so young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina can have hope and a better future.

We are hoping for a good winter with lots of opportunity to connect with young people out on the mountains.

## LEAVING THE PAST BEHIND

At the end of September Ivica, Becca and a group of seven young adults from Bosnia Herzegovina attended Josiah Venture's conference in the Czech Republic. Josiah Venture is another Christian organisation doing youth outreach in many different places across Central and Eastern Europe. Regardless of what country we are working in, young people worldwide are in desperate need of hope. The theme of the conference was "Messenger of Hope", and was a useful reminder to all who attended that hope is not just a thing or a feeling, but hope is a living person: Jesus Christ.

One evening particularly stood out for Ivica: "After the main evening programme, an impromptu time of prayer and worship was organised for people who had come from all the former Yugoslavian countries; Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Montenegro. It was really powerful and encouraging to stand together, pray for and bless one another. I believe this is the power and hope of the gospel, that we can leave the past behind us and be united in Christ."



Sitting and talking... and standing and praying together



## STRETCH THE BOUNDARIES

You will have picked up on a theme running through this New Bridge: something is happening which is bringing together Christian young people from across the region around Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are seeing these connections growing in the work we are doing with worship and song writing too.

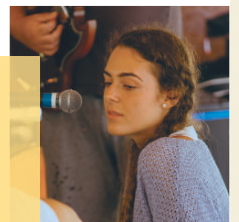
At Youth Camp this summer Matt lead a song writing workshop. Those who attended wrote a song together, which he is now producing. Much of this will be done in Jajce, but the bass was recorded in Zagreb and vocals will come from Split and Belgrade. It's exciting to see such an international project coming together.

Petra, from Split, was part of the workshop. She went home inspired and wrote a worship song which her band played at the Youth Conference in Sarajevo.

"I feel so blessed that God gave me the right words to put in the song. I'm happy with how it turned out, and so happy that I could share it with my band, and that they liked it, and that we got to play it at the conference! It's amazing how God can use us as a way to share His good news."



Acoustic recording lead vocals for the song from Youth Camp. He lives close enough to travel to Matt's studio in Jajce!



Petra paying attention in song writing class!

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