

10

Countries

38

US
Missionaries

51

National
Missionaries

1

Great
Commission

- Works of Evangelism
- Establishing Churches
- Equipping Nationals



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HAVE YOU PRAYED ABOUT IT?

“Have you prayed about it?” That question was asked by a stranger that I met as God led us to the same restaurant for lunch on Friday, August 2. I had just picked up the Crnković family at the Morningside Mission House in Greenville, SC. We were going to spend the afternoon at the Wilds Christian Camp but stop for lunch on our way up the mountain. Due to the Greenville traffic, (I chuckled as I typed that wondering what some of our missionaries who live in cities with real traffic might think), I missed my turn and had to go a different route. The GPS rerouted us and we found ourselves at a Zaxby’s where we began a conversation with this stranger who was interested in the Crnković’s matching Croatia shirts. As we talked about their ministry and the ministry of EMU International, we found out this gentleman has been on several mission trips and donates much of his time to a ministry of helps and serving others. He had just returned from Dollywood where he sponsored several children. I mentioned to him that the Crnkovićs schedule was packed and that they were going to be in Tennessee the following Sunday but that we were hoping to work in a fun day the following Monday by finding some discount tickets to Dollywood. Thanks to the generous donation of a dear friend, Joanna and I were given two nights in Pigeon Forge at a two-bedroom unit at one of the area resorts. When I checked on the best prices for Dollywood, it was still tough to justify paying for tickets.

This stranger asked me, “Have you prayed about it?” “Absolutely!” I replied. He then stood up, opened his wallet, and pulled out six Dollywood passes. He offered to help us and even meet us the next Monday. We exchanged contact information, and we drove to camp wondering if what had just happened would actually pan out. We enjoyed a wonderful time at camp and were treated to a delicious supper by Rick and Kathy Jensen before heading back to Greenville. I wish I had space to describe all of the details of this miraculous provision. I met our new friend on Saturday, and he gave me a parking pass. On Monday, he met us at the park, had cups that allowed us to enjoy unlimited drinks on a hot day, and escorted us into the park. He went inside the pavilion and came out a few minutes later with a “fast pass,” that allowed us to skip all of the lines. I looked at our new best friend and said, “This is awesome!” He replied, “No, this is Jesus.” I smiled and stated, “Jesus is awesome!” He became my seat partner for a fun day of roller coasters, something that the Croatians don’t get to experience very often. After returning from Dollywood, we have stayed in touch with our new friend, and he even joined us at the last service where Kornel shared his update at Grace Baptist Church in East Flat Rock, NC.

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I'm sure the Crnkovići are grateful to be back in Croatia after an incredibly busy six weeks in the USA. Thanks to those who prayed for their trip, God amazingly provided for them. They had a nice Toyota Camry to drive the entire time. They didn't pay for one night of lodging. Most meals were covered by ministry friends and partner churches. They were able to connect with each of their supporting churches and most of their ministry partners. They also visited with a lot of faithful friends. They were privileged to introduce their ministry to several new churches with hopes of securing new prayer partners and some much-needed additional financial support.

In addition to assisting our missionaries, I had the privilege of speaking at the **Westminster Pastors Fellowship at Calvary Baptist Church in Westminster, Maryland**. It was a blessing to meet several new pastors and encourage them on the topic, "Conquering Our Ministry Fears." An added blessing was having about 20 missionaries from International Partnership Ministries joining us. I praise the Lord for the invitation to return to that area by three different pastors who want me to return and share the ministry of EMU International.



It was a whirlwind trip as I had to fly back on Saturday, August 24, to attend a surprise party celebrating my mom's 80th birthday. I landed in Greenville and made it to the party just in time. My mom lives with us in Greer, SC. She is constantly on the go and loves hanging out with her friends from Cornerstone Baptist. She has some issues with her back so she has started physical therapy. Until this past year when her nursing license expired, she was a faithful volunteer at the pregnancy center.

My schedule is very busy over the next few months, so I would appreciate your prayers as you think about us. Fortunately, Joanna will be with me in my meetings this month except my trip to British Columbia. **Please continue to pray for her hip and that we will have wisdom as to the next steps.** It looks like she may be having surgery following the holidays.

Joanna and I celebrated our 35th anniversary in August. Here we are in Pigeon Forge. I had to get someone else to take this photo of the two of us..



If you know of a trustworthy car guy, we are in the market to replace our 2011 Toyota Camry. It has been an amazing vehicle, but I need something newer to use in my travels. **Pray that the Lord will lead us to the perfect vehicle.**

Thank you for your continued, faithful support of EMU and our missionary family. What does God want you to do next as part of His plan to reach the nations? **Have you prayed about it?**

Jeff's September Schedule

- 01 New Life Baptist Church, Greer, SC
- 02 Wilds Former Staff Reunion
- 7-11 Fellowship of Missions Annual Meeting, West Virginia
- 13-21 Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada
- 23-26 Bob Jones University Go Week
- 28-7 Colorado