



news from Novi Most Autumn 2024 New Bridge

pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

@novimost  

YOUNG PEOPLE GIVE THEIR LIVES TO CHRIST AT CAMP.

It was the summer of 1993, in Mostar young people were living through the hell of war, but an idea emerged. An idea that seemed so impossible that it could only have come from God. Sandra one of our founders turned to Nikola her husband and said "What if a holiday in Crikvenica could be offered to young people in Mostar?" There were only two weeks to organise the trip before the young people returned to school. They needed visas, transport, funding and an array of other challenges to overcome. They first thought to take 25 young people but God in His glory grew this to 43. For 10 days young people were taken to be young people, to laugh, "hang out" and most of all hear the Good News of the Gospel. In 1994 Novi Most was formally registered as a charity in the UK to aid in the support and work of these pioneers and to equip those called by God to serve in this nation. – Read the first camp story: *Miracle in Mostar*, pg 107-119

Today we continue this work working with the Evangelical Church of Bosnia and Herzegovina at their Camp site Emek Beraka. In our last edition of New Bridge we shared about how young people were helping to get the campsite ready for summer camp. In this edition we want to share with you what God did through your generosity and the service of our brother and sisters in Christ in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It's not about a better standard of living – Beki Trbic, Director

I have been actively involved in ministry for over 15 years, God has placed a deep burden on my heart for young people, especially over the last eight years. The vision I believe He has called me to is to see the next generation truly winning in life. But what does winning look like? Is it about having a better house, education, job, car, or a higher standard of living? I firmly believe that if we want to see the next generation winning, it is not necessarily about giving them a better standard of living, but rather providing them with a standard for living rooted in God's Word.



When young people turn to God and actively pursue Him and His will for their lives, they experience transformational change that can impact everyone around them. This is why we are committed to creating environments that foster discipleship, evangelism, spiritual formation, and fellowship throughout our ministry, believing that God can redeem every life and every situation. We create environments like camps, music courses, sports activities, and youth conferences to help guide young people closer to God.

The highlight of the youth camp for me was witnessing the baptisms of Mile and Josipa from Čapljina. These two young adults first came to the Novi Most centre in Čapljina about eight years ago as teenagers, burdened with life's challenges that no child should have to bear. Yet, Jesus has redeemed their stories, and now they want to proclaim to the world what He has done for them. A big thumbs up to Ivica and Becca for shining the light and making such an impact in their lives!

This experience has strengthened my commitment to our ministry's vision and has deepened my passion for equipping and encouraging the next generation, not just within our own country but throughout the region. It reaffirmed that the power of the gospel transcends borders, and we are all part of one larger, interconnected mission.



Our chair of trustees Anna joined our team at the Emek Beraka camp site on July 4th to celebrate 30 years of working in the nation, as part of preparing for the camp season.



A huge thank you to Holy Trinity Coventry for hosting us so well during our visit. It was great to share with you what God is doing.

You're Invited

Join us to celebrate 30 years of pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

...MEET THE TEAM...
...HEAR THE STORIES...
...BE INSPIRED...

Visit: Novimost.org/30-years to book

1pm - 4pm **BOOK NOW**
Arise Church, Kingswinford, DY6 7HS. **16.11.24**

NoviMost
pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

HAVE YOU BOOKED?

Join us in Kingswinford on the 16th November to celebrate 30 years of Novi Most and hear first-hand how lives are being transformed in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

To book your space visit:
www.Novimost.org/30-years



A recent study by Alpha showed that the current generation of young people are deeply curious about God. This resonates with what we are seeing in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Young People relaxing in the evening

This year's camp was something special to me. Although the full-time team was smaller than the last 2 years, God sent amazing people to help during each camp. Every camp had wonderful moments, I would highlight the evangelisation evening from the teen camp.

The sight of teenagers who are thirsty for conversations, answers to various questions, the community that characterised the entire camp... I believe that God is preparing something for this generation!

Miheala – Mostar

Discipleship is not one step but a journey. When working with young people who have experienced deep hurt this journey can be long. Evangelism is not always one well written talk but often it is countless loving conversations. Ivica knows this well and through his love and journeying with young people, they are coming to Christ.

Working with young people in Christian ministry has many highlights. Personally, the biggest highlight is seeing young people's lives changed as they put their faith in Jesus. This year's Youth camp was really special as we had two young people from Čapljina get baptised and I had the honour of baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Josipa and Mile have been involved in Novi Most for many years, Mile was amongst the first young people to be part of Novi Most Čapljina. Both of them have their own unique story of coming to faith and there have been lots of ups and downs along the way. It is encouraging to see God's hand guiding them through it all, never giving up on them, and leading them to this act of discipleship.

I feel truly blessed to be part of their story and it was special for us all to witness them getting baptised on camp, a significant place in their walk with God. This is a pinnacle moment of Christian ministry and we pray for more! More young people putting their trust in Jesus Christ and living for Him!

Ivica – Herzegovina Team Leader



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2Cor 5:17

Part of growing as a disciple is serving. Indira in Mostar has not just been raising up young people but raising up young leaders. Teaching them to serve in the work of God.

This year we had 3 teenagers from Mostar as volunteers. Also they are part of the Novi Most group and this was their first time to be on the kids camp as volunteers. As a team we were really impressed how they handled everything. They were at every meeting and devotional that we had every morning. They spent time with the kids on the beach and in their groups. They were really happy to serve the kids and they want to be part of the camp again. So pray for them that their hearts would be open for God and that they accept Jesus Christ as their saviour.

Indira – Mostar

We have had the privilege of Angela taking part in our intern programme over the last 3 years while completing her masters in Theology. She shares what seeing her friends come to Christ meant for her.

Seeing a young girl like Ljupka making such a bold and decisive decision to follow Christ filled my heart with hope that there is a generation behind me that chooses to love God. One of her greatest wishes was for her mother to come and witness the baptism. Due to the complexity of the circumstances, that almost didn't happen, but in the end, her mother managed to come and be a part of Ljupka's important day.

Our youth camp created a more relaxed family atmosphere. Near the end of the camp, we had the baptism of two friends, Mile and Josipa. I was strongly impressed by their friendship, but also by the prayer after the baptism, in which their youth leaders, leaders from the region, and young people who rejoiced for them participated. God really gives us the blessing of togetherness and is building a fantastic family among us. It is a blessing to be a part of such a story.

Angela – Sarajevo



Young Leaders are taking to the stage



Working alongside the Evangelical Church of Bosnia and Herzegovina our team spend months planning and preparing for camp. The one thing you can't plan is the weather, we do prepare, but we weren't prepared for this.

Sometimes the most memorable moments on camp are the spontaneous, unplanned ones. That was definitely true for me on teen camp this year. Last year teen camp was defined by unprecedented thunder storms which left tents flattened and the boys sleeping in them seeking refuge on mattresses in hallways in the dry.

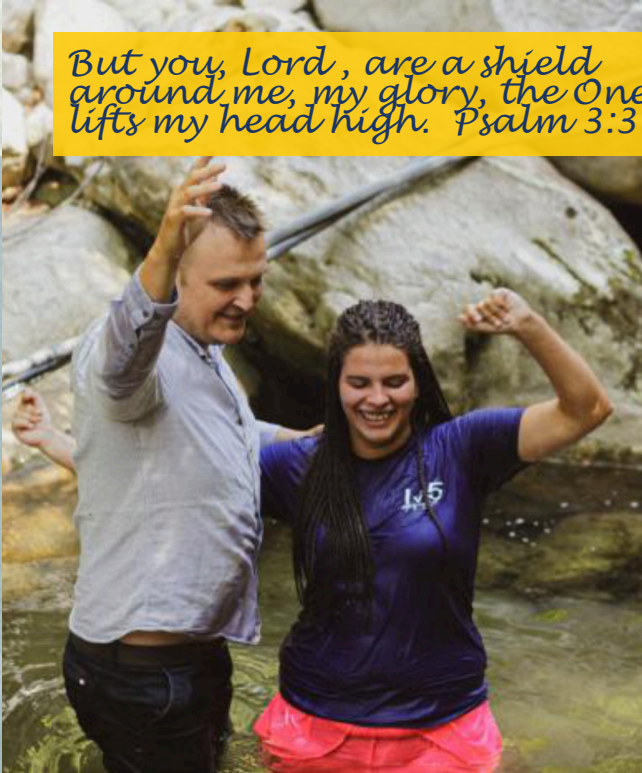
So when we saw the forecast for thunderstorms midweek on teen camp this year, there was a sense of 'oh no, here we go again!' However, instead of happening in the middle of the night, this time the storms hit during the afternoon. The reaction of the teenagers completely took me by surprise. Instead of taking shelter in the dry of the house, they kicked off their shoes and started running through the pouring rain. One by one, more and more of them joined in. For about an hour they ran, danced and rolled around in the torrential downpour.

Although at the time it seemed like something that was just a bit of fun, and also quite rebellious (culturally, going out in the rain and getting soaking wet is a big no no) on reflection, it was something liberating for many and an activity which brought joy, laughter and freedom to the whole atmosphere of camp. A Godly downpour!



A new generation of worshippers are taking their place

But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. Psalm 3:3



Praying for our team from youngest to oldest.

Becca – Capljina

As we celebrate the step two young people made to accept Christ and be baptised, for many at camp this would be their first step on that journey.

The theme on teens camp was Let's go home. We talked how we are a house and when God comes He will come and knock at our doors and what will be our response to that. We had a huge block paper house and we asked teens to write names of someone they want to come closer to God and we prayed for that person. They wrote their names and their families names. We also had a baptism at the teen camp and it was an opportunity for them to see first hand people publicly declaring their faith in God through baptism. For many of our young people this was a new experience and they had lots of questions about that.

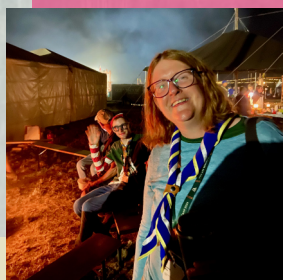


Another summer camp also took place this year. In previous editions we have shared about our Royal Rangers clubs and this summer we sent 16 young people to Hungary take part in the international gathering of Royal Rangers.

Indria - Mostar

This summer we took part in EuroCamp 2024 in Hungary. It was a great experience to worship, learn, celebrate and get to know some of the over 7000 young people and leaders from Royal Rangers all over Europe. Our bus brought 32 of us from Bosnia and Herzegovina, including 16 young people from Mostar. Together we braved the heat, portable potties, cold showers and ant invasions, but we also got to have fun together, learn new skills, try new foods, make new friends, etc. The theme of the camp was "You are" exploring who God says we are in the Bible. We saw that we are called, more, restored, and invited. It was a great Experience to worship to God together with 7000 young people. What really touched me was that a few parents called me

the night when we came back, they were full of grace and thanks for the opportunity that their children were able to experience this camp.



Meet Jennifer (left) and Jelena (right) who are based in Mostar. Our dear friends and co partners in the gospel.



Indira – Mostar



NEW ALBUMS ARE BEING RELEASED



Listen now at
[youtube.com/
NoviMostMedia](https://youtube.com/NoviMostMedia)

or

Search for Lev
Šomea and Izvor
života on
Spotify.

God is using Novi Most to bring a new contribution of worship into his kingdom. From ancient times the role of musicians was tied to that of worship at the temple. 1 Chronicles is filled with references to choirs and those called to use musical gifts as part of temple life. This summer two new albums "Lev Šomea" and "Izvor života" have been added to the heavenly collection of worship songs. Novi Most scholarship student Angela was the main lyricist on Izvor života, with Matt Hellyer producing both albums. Aleksander and Anglea share with us the heart behind these albums.

"Lev Šomea" means "listening heart" in Hebrew. In the Bible, King Solomon sought wisdom from the Lord, but not just any wisdom. At issue was the wisdom that enables the soul to be guided and to lead under the highest Authority: God himself. The inner man, be he ruler or slave, longs for the ultimate realisation of the Truth without which he finds he cannot fulfil his purpose while alive.

These two words reveal a huge part of the essence of the relationship between man and his Creator: in order for man to recognise the need to discover the Truth,



he must have a living heart that searches. But in order to find and then build on the foundations framed in the Truth, he must have a heart that is capable to hear, respond and obey the voice of Truth. Because it is only there that one comes to the point of realising that the absence of Truth is staying in darkness.

Getting out of the darkness is what inspired the creation of the songs on the album "Lev Šomea". They

were created mostly in moments when it seemed that darkness had come to sow doubt, apathy, rebellion, despair and that it was moving to cover the last flickers of hope. Also, at times when the voice of Truth seemed to be irretrievably silenced, raw faith had to lead in the absence of other consolation. To a certain extent, this is an experience that all those who profess faith in Christ Jesus go through, and it is one of the many stages that must be crossed (sometimes repeatedly) in order to truly come to the realisation of whose voice they have truly followed on the way to the final goal. This is what it means to be an obedient and humble servant who faithfully serves and gives glory to his Lord.

The hope of all those who contributed and made it possible for this project to be completed is that this album, at least to some extent, will inspire further creation of original Christian music, both in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in other countries that surround it.

"Lev Šomea" is the collective name of the team that worked on the creation of this album, as well as the name of the album itself. The primary lyricist and author of the music is

Aleksandar Češić, from the Evangelical Church Prijedor, while the arrangement was the result of collective work.

Izvor života vol.2 is the second album under the name "Izvor života". The album contains ten new original songs of different genres, but with the idea that music narrates a journey of faith, showing different stages of spiritual growth and emotions, from moments of doubt to the final realisation of God's grace.

Each song was created, at different moments, as a reflection of our shared joys, struggles and deepest connection with God. Writing and creating these songs allowed us to express our innermost thoughts, emotions and experiences through lyrics and melody. These songs are a reminder that no matter how difficult life's circumstances are, we can always find renewal, healing and wholeness in Him as the source of eternal hope and love. They now testify that the Lord can truly turn everything for good.



YOUR GIVING MAKES THIS HAPPEN

30 years ago Novi Most was established with one purpose. To provide resources to our brothers and sisters in Bosnia and Herzegovina, so they could not just rebuild but build Gods kingdom in this nation.

We need to raise an additional £25,000 by the end of September to cover the costs of what God has done this year. We also need another £18,000 to purchase a new Minibus for our team in Herzegovina so they can do the work God has for them in the next year.

Can you Give a gift today to support what God has done and will you give to help more young people like Josipa and Mile come to know the freedom in Christ.

GIVE A GIFT TODAY



novimost.org



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NoviMost
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