



Hi Friends,

Nov 2018

Life has definitely changed!

You may remember from our last email, the announcement of an answer to prayer and promise fulfilled. This has been in the form of a baby girl. Amariah Hope Graham was born on August 18th and her name means 'promised by God' in Hebrew. Having been the two of us for almost 10 years, our lives are changing dramatically but we are so excited and ready for the change. We had a special time in Bromley, England over the summer, waiting for her arrival and then settling into life with a baby. We were able to reconnect with the church and also spend precious time with family and friends. It was hard to say goodbye. But returning with Amariah has also been special, added to the recent growth of our YWAM team, it's set to be a very exciting year.

Keep reading to hear how our recent DTS has gone, stories of life in Croatia and our hopes and plans for the coming year.

The sailing DTS

As I sit with Amariah, it's easy to reflect on God's faithfulness over the last few months. We ended up having 5 amazing students, 3 Americans, 1 Canadian and a french American. Our staff team was also a huge blessing with 2 families, 2 couples and a single girl, all experienced staff. One of the highlights was having time for staff training and development each week and as a team we could work on our own spiritual growth alongside the students. We had a great selection of speakers who brought wisdom and input and we were able to use the boat every week for times of going deeper with each other and God. The weather always seemed to be on our side! One highlight was spending a week living on board and having lectures while visiting the nearby islands. We were able to join Croatian friends with their Bible study and also be part of a Catholic Bible study and meet with the priest their who has become a good friend of ours.

Outreach

Before the students left for their outreach phase in Serbia, they helped us run our annual teen summer camp for teens. It was the first year that we ran an overnight camp and all the teens stayed in campers. It created a great atmosphere, especially in the evenings when the leaders would share a talk and then share together with the teens in smaller groups. Our teen club will carry on each Saturday evening during term time and we will also try to have some kind of weekend away with them this year.

Prayer Points

Please be praying for our team. It's definitely a time of change for all of us and we need wisdom as we grow together and seek God for this next season.

Please pray that we are able to continue to use St Brendan to reach others and share God's love with people.

Being brand new parents living in a foreign country can bring challenges. Please pray for us as we adjust to this and that we find everything we need for Amariah here in Croatia especially regarding healthcare. Bexi would also love to connect to other mums with babies, pray that God opens doors for this and she has the boldness to make new relationships.



Church

Our church is growing and it's great to have a real family feel with Croatians and internationals. We have quite a few kids coming now, which is a real blessing as it's so great to have different generations worshipping God together.

We continue to feel like God is asking us to connect more with the local Catholic Church here in our town. We have a great relationship with the priest on the Island of Hvar and we are praying for a similar connection with our local catholic priest. Please be praying for this with us.

Photos

First page: Amariah with her cousin Joseph, born 6 weeks before.

Collage: (top going clockwise) Our local church fellowship, Bible study on Island Hvar, Catholic Bible study with local priest, school of navigation on St. Brendan, DTS graduation and Teen camp.

Below: Amariah with our neighbours



St. Brendan

It has been amazing again to see God's provision for the boat this last year. We were needing to pay for another years mooring at the beginning of October and around 4500 Euros came in. We still need to see the last 1000 Euros raised but we are so overwhelmed by God's faithfulness and the generosity of others. Thank you so much for partnering with us in prayer and giving for the boat and all the work she is helping with.

Along with continuing to use the boat for discipleship and connecting with locals and islanders, Jarod is looking at pursuing more sail training this year so that he will hopefully be able to officially teach others. This will help train up crew for the other 25 YWAM vessels working in remote and difficult locations around the World. We will also partner with the YWAM school of navigation and seamanship again this Spring and they will come here to take part in some training which Jarod will be helping to teach.

This next year

We have decided not to run the DTS this year but instead to focus on developing our team and local ministries. We have had new team members join us and we are excited to meet together and hear God for what He has for the coming months and years.

Jarod and I have seen so many of the things God spoke about 5 years ago happen and with new people and a fresh perspective, it will be great to see how God leads us on. Please be praying for our team as we come together and seek God for the new things that He has for us.

One exciting venture in the planning stages, is a team coming from Bromley Baptist Church for a missions trip in 2019. We are looking into the different opportunities they can join us in, which may include practically helping with the boat, ministering to our local church and christian friends and working alongside us with the youth. We feel extremely blessed to be partnering with the church in this way. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please talk to Nick and Hannah Arnold or email us directly.

We will be back in Alberta, Canada for Christmas and we are excited to introduce Amariah to all our friends and family. We would love to make time to get together with you.



Thanks again for your love and support, Jarod and Bexi and Amariah