

Jennifer in North Macedonia

February 22, 2026



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Touring downtown Skopje as part of our teen winter event

“The purpose of life is a life of purpose.” ~ Robert Byrne

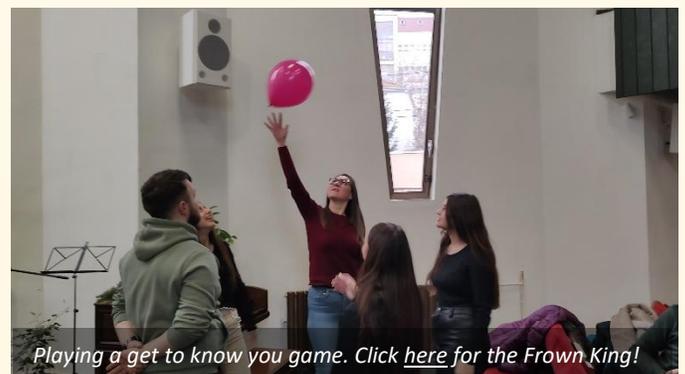
Whose opinion most often influences how I see myself – God’s opinion or the opinion of people (friends, social networks, society)? What in my life most robs me of joy? What is a small, practical step I can take to make God’s love more visible through me? These are just a few of the questions our teens were asked to contemplate during our annual teen winter event. From January 17 to 18, the Commission for Work with Children and Youth hosted an overnight event for teens with the theme „Уживање во младоста“ (“Joy in your youth”). The event focused on how to make wise choices in our youth that will bring us the most joy in life. Our verse was Psalm 16:11 “You make known to me the path

of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”

The event was held at our church in Skopje for the first time since 2018. Those of us in Skopje, were excited about the opportunity to be hosts. There were eight of us from the Skopje congregation assisting with the event, including three volunteers working exclusively to prepare meals. Three more volunteers came from the Strumica region to help with crafts, singing and leading small groups. Two of the program volunteers had never assisted with a teen event before so it was a good opportunity to pair them with seasoned volunteers who could model the taking on of different roles.

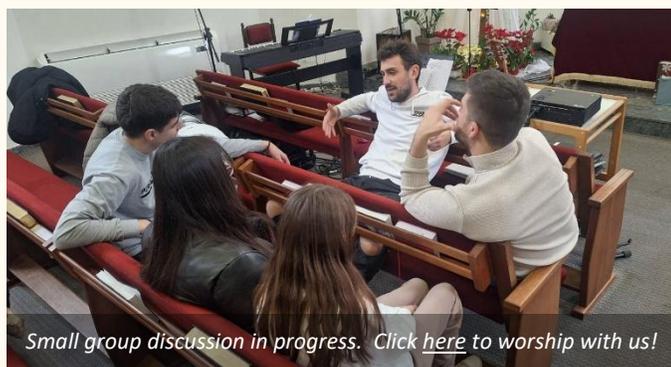


Enjoying a home cooked lunch!



Playing a get to know you game. Click [here](#) for the Frown King!

Our guest speaker for the event was Mihail Kolev, the gentleman who runs the campground in Gevegeliya that we use for our summer camps. It was our first time partnering with him as a speaker and a real blessing. Mihail led three teaching sessions aimed at helping the teens think deeply about their identity in Christ and how they want to live their lives. He shared openly about his own struggles growing up in the church and watching many of his friends fall away. He talked about wanting to have friends and to fit in, but also wanting to follow Christ. He said he eventually came to a crisis point where he chose to go on the path of God, not the path of the world, and encouraged all of us to do the same.



Small group discussion in progress. [Click here](#) to worship with us!

In his second session, Mihail outlined different ways we can be an example to others (good or bad!). The way we speak, the way we treat others, the way we believe and the way we live can all point people towards or away from Christ.

In the third session, Mihail emphasized that God has a plan for everyone's life and it is not boring! He warned that life will have ups and downs, but with God it will also have fullness and purpose. He said God does not reveal His path to us in advance, but step by step, which is why it is so important for us to have a close relationship with Him and communicate with Him daily.

Apart from the teaching sessions we had small groups discussions, free time, singing, games, a craft, and delicious home cooked meals. We also went on an excursion to the center of the city where

we visited the old bridge, various statues, and the GTC mall (a hit with our teens from the villages!).

As I mentioned earlier, this was the first event for some of our volunteers. It was also the first time for several return volunteers to be involved in the planning process of the event. I am deeply encouraged by the number of volunteers and their willingness to contribute, learn and grow. There was a beautiful spirit of camaraderie, and I have nothing but excitement for where God will take these up-and-coming leaders in the future. Thank you for praying for and supporting us in this journey!

In Him,

Jennifer Moore

Making sweet memories



One of the highlights of the event for me was our craft time. I thoroughly enjoyed sitting around a table with a bunch of teens while we made lollipop decorations and chatted about life. The craft was simple, but each one turned out unique and sweet – just like our teens!



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