



The Hiding Place

Vatër e Ngrohtë

Newsletter, Autumn 2018.

“Vatër e Ngrohtë”
Lagjia Palorto 5223
Gjirokastrë Albania

Ps. 91:1 Purpose:
“to take care of needy
Albanian children”

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“The Hiding Place”
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Dear all,

Thank you so much for praying! Since the last (Spring) letter a lot has happened. This summer I just didn’t get to writing a newsletter – so this extra-long Autumn-letter.

April started beautiful, with Easter! Jesus, our Lord, is alive!



Also in the children’s home they talked about this and Easter was celebrated.

Visitors came:

a Danish group of young people

and helpers came:

“aunt” Hilda
and
the dentist



an eye-doctor



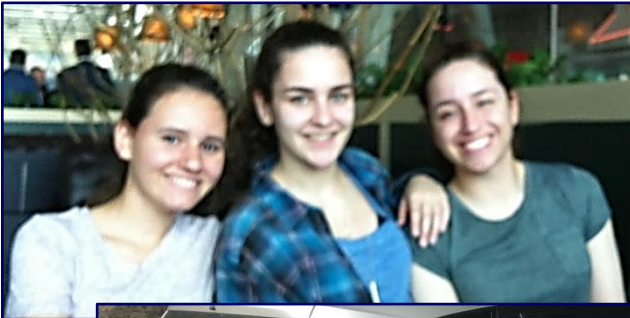
Especially the boys enjoy the company of Jorida’s friend from New Zealand, Jade.

Jade >

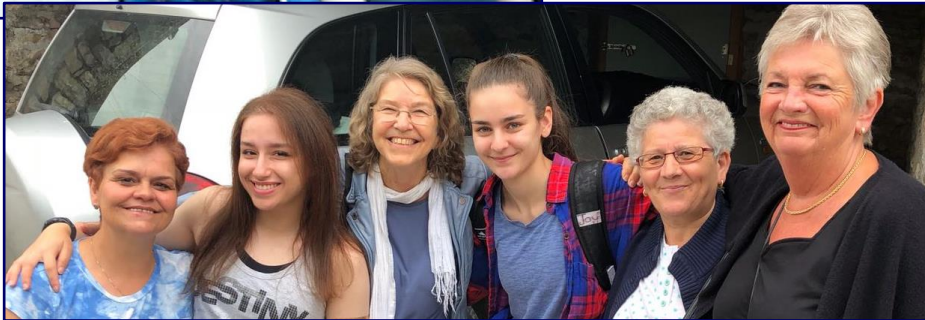


May was really special for me. I went to Albania with my cousin Anneke and when we arrived, Anxhela and Dajana & Joy, 3 of “our” former children, were there waiting for us! Dajana & Joy had just arrived from the U.S., a day or two before!

Angela Joy Dajana



Sorry, that this photo isn't very clear, but: What a beautiful young ladies these girls became! We are so grateful for that! Although, the way to get there has been really difficult for them! We laughed together and we cried together for all the pain that they have endured...



Vana Dajana Marijan Joy Vali Anneke



In May, Vana & Siri came with me to Holland. So nice, they felt like walking in a fairy-tale... We had a beautiful, intensive, time together, until June 4, when I took them back to the Airport.



Summer... ice cream!
and:
they could go again a few days to the beach – so good!



Every Sunday afternoon they have: “happy hour”: singing, telling stories, doing games, eating crisps and drinking fruit drinks...



The children learn to do all kinds of little works and how to help each other..



Even cleaning the shoes and doing the dishes can be fun!



Besides playing and “working” just being together is so nice...!



Then came August and I was in Florida (U.S.), invited by Ben & Bonnie, the couple who adopted 2 of “our” children, Sara and Dhimitri (now David). Xhoana (now Joy) drove down from Tennessee and Lesiona (now Maria) flew over from Spain. This was really very special! Sara I hadn’t seen in 12 years and the last time I saw David had been 11 years before!

Please, pray also for these children, they had a very difficult time – and still have.

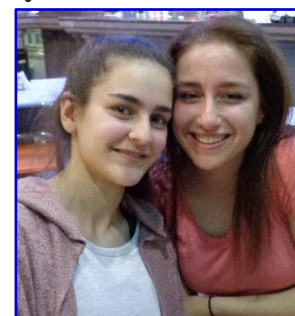
It will be too much to tell everything, but please, pray for them!



David Sara Maria Joy



Sara Maria



Joy Dajana

A retrospect:

Sara, our first baby, came when she was 4 months old and was adopted in 2006, when she was 7. Now she’s 20.

David (Dhimitri) will be 18 in November. He came when he was a few days old and was adopted in 2007 when he was 7, also by Ben & Bonnie, like Sara, the couple who now invited me, Joy & Maria.

Maria, who had been named Lesiona, came when she was 2 weeks, and was adopted in 2007, when she was still 7. She is 19, now. She told us that she will live this year in London, to study.

Joy (Xhoana) came to us at 3 days old, and was adopted in 2014 when she was 14. Now she is 18.

Dajana came age 4 and was adopted in 2009, being 11. She is 21 now. Both Dajana and Joy, were adopted into the same family, but with an interval of 5 years. Dajana joined the military. Joy lives since June on her own and is working 12 - 14 hours a day to live, but also because she wants to start university next year to study criminal-law.

Sara & David are struggling with their faith. Maria still knows many Bible-stories, but has forgotten what she heard in the children's home about the practical side of it. Joy knows that she is not on her own, but that the Lord is with her.

Please, please, if you pray for the children's home, will you also remember these "big" children?

August 31 was the last day that Nikoleta worked in the home. After 10 years she had to leave us, because her husband, Fatjon, found work in Fier and it is really too far for Nikoleta, to come up and down from Fier to Gjirokastër. How we will miss this lovely lady!!!!



Finally:

Where we have been praying for and now can thank the Lord for:

1. **Irvana** could go in June to a special care home, where she can get the help needed.
2. **Migeli & Petrit**, went in July to their grandmother, who receives now help from a Christian organisation and so she can now take care for her grandsons. In August **Ini** went back, to live with his mother again.

Please, keep on praying for:

3. **Silva's** and **Miri's** mother; they have to decide what they want for their children: or to take them back into the family, or to give them up for adoption. Not an easy choice!
4. The court for **Elena & Vilson** (adoption).
5. **Izabela** will, Lord willing, be operated on her hearing, in September.
6. Finance to allow us to continue this faith based ministry.



Irvana



Petrit & Migeli



Ini



Silva



Miri



Vilson & Elena



Izabela

And, please, pray for **Sara & David**, (**Ben&Bonnie**) , **Maria, Joy & Dajana**.

When I came back from Florida I was very much encouraged, when read in my quiet time Philippians 1:6:

"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus."

And: the Lord did start in all these children!

We hope that you had a wonderful summer and will get a very blessed autumn.

Many greetings from all the children and workers,

Marijan.