



# The Shirkmans

Jordan, Niki, Raegan & Everett | Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia

September 28, 2018

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018 was one of the most significant days in the history of our ministry in Slovenia: the first Slovene joined our team full-time!** Since the start of our student ministry in Slovenia in 2010, our prayer and desire has been that Slovenes would give their lives to Jesus and would eventually join with us and lead the ministry here.

From our perspective, the day of having a Slovene join with us full-time felt far off. But God has a way of surprising us, and he did just that. Enter Diana (dee-AWN-uh). Diana is a Slovene woman who goes to church with some of our team members. She finished her undergraduate degree in Chinese and then went on to study theology. She became a believer during high school through another ministry in Ljubljana.

As our teammate Hannah became friends with Diana, Hannah started to consider asking her to join with us in reaching Slovenes for Christ. She asked Diana, "If you could do anything, what would you want to do?" Diana replied, "I would be a missionary in Taiwan." Her response was far from what we typically hear in Slovenia! While she was studying Chinese at university, Diana's heart shifted toward missionary work. For the last 10 years she has worked, filed paperwork, and studied theology to become a missionary in Taiwan.

Recently the door to her dream was shut and she was devastated. But the Holy Spirit offered words to cling to as she realized that God's intent was to break her heart for what breaks his. Hannah asked Diana to prayerfully consider joining our team to come alongside us in proclaiming the gospel to lost students in her home country. The pieces quickly fell into place and Diana spent the summer doing ministry work alongside our team and raising her financial support to be a fully-funded staff member.

We are praising God that he provided 100% of her financial support and raised up a team of partners for Diana that are excited about the privilege of joining with our first Slovene staff person. This is a monumental step in what we're trusting God for here and an incredible answer to prayer.

Having Diana on our team will certainly lead to invaluable cultural insight and will bring diversity to our team that was previously only made up of Americans. We can't wait to see how the Lord uses her to help reach Slovene students for Christ.

Trusting the Lord with you to reach Slovenia with the gospel,

*Jordan + Niki*



*Diana shakes hands with our team leader Justin just after signing her official contract to work with us.*



*The women on our team enjoyed a breakfast out together and spent time deepening their relationships with one another.*

## Prayers + Praises

- o Pray for Diana as she transitions to our team. Pray for her health as she's been struggling with some intense migraines lately. Pray that the Lord would work in and through her in significant ways this year.
- o Pray for the start of the school year. Pray for students to be dissatisfied with their lives apart from Jesus. Pray for our team to have great energy, momentum, and faith in what God can do as we kick off another year.
- o Praise the Lord for Diana, for working in her life, and bringing her into relationship with herself. Thank God for providing her needed funds and for the privilege of working with her here.

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