



Ksenija Magda
President
BWA Women's Department 2015-2020
Croatia

Since I can remember (and my mom claims even before that) I have wanted to become a pastor's wife. And that's what I got! Toma and I have been in ministry together since 1982, at first as lay youth leaders in Belgrade and later as a ministry couple in the Baptist Church of Osijek, Croatia. I have come through all stages of ministry – from cleaning the church and decorating to children's and youth work to women's work, preaching and teaching. They even elected me the first woman Executive member in the Baptist Union for a term, and then also president of the Croatian Baptist Women and kept me there for 16 years. Toma and I initiated and

organised all sorts of events and have been active in many projects of the Baptist Union of Croatia. We even served the European Baptist Family at times. Looking back, it is all too amazing.

In my free time (or is it the other way around – sometimes it is difficult to tell) I hold a tenured position of Professor of the New Testament at the University of Zagreb (Protestant Theology). I love the work with students. They challenge me and keep me humble. Sometimes I even think I try to make up to them what I missed doing with our own children! However, God has been gracious and Speranca, Kristian, Tamara and Ela have grown up to be wonderful adults with ministries and faith of their own. They have brought us more great young adults into the family: Andrej, Elaine, Ian and Elvis – and all of them are of different nationalities! You can bet it is the best of times to have all of them around our dining table!

If that is not possible, I find my joy in books. Finding a quiet spot and reading novels is my favorite relaxation; That and spending time at the Baptist Camp Cinta on the island of Ugljan, Croatia. There is no place more peaceful than Cinta! (You should consider a visit. Seriously!)

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Ksenija was born in 1960 as the oldest of 5 children to Rudolf and Ankica Časni. She married Toma in 1982 and together they studied theology at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Osijek, Croatia to begin full time ministry together in 1987. Ksenija continued her theological studies towards a MTh at ETS and completed her PhD at the London School of Theology in 2008. She has worked in many capacities with the local Baptist church, with the Baptist Union of Croatia, and the European Baptist Federation. She has served as president of the Baptist Women in Croatia for 12 years.

Currently Ksenija holds a tenured position of Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Protestant Theology Studies at the University of Zagreb. She has written a book and a number of articles in the area of the New Testament. Her interests are in the application of the biblical text in contemporary circumstances.

Toma and Ksenija have four adult children: Speranca, Kristian, Tamara and Ela.