



February Update

Greetings from Budapest! It's time for another update on our progress.

Health and Wellness: Overall we're all doing well. However, Christopher has been having asthma attacks since he recovered from the pneumonia in early December. And in February he caught a cold that turned into bronchitis. The other children all caught the cold from him. But by the time they had already gotten better, he was still sick with it. Since Jennifer had pneumonia twice when she was a girl, we were very concerned for Christopher regarding this bronchial congestion and difficulty breathing. Thank the Lord for those who prayed for him and for the wisdom the Lord gave through our friends like Lisa in Florida. He has now returned to good health again. Unfortunately, Charity is still having problems with gingivitis, a swelling of her gums, due to the braces. It's not bad enough to remove the braces, but it's still bad enough to be of primary concern to us. Please pray for Charity to be healed of this gingivitis.

Jennifer and Charity have finally found relief from their allergies. Praise the Lord for this wonderful answer to prayer!! And thanks for praying with us through this trial.



Joseph celebrating his second birthday



Family with food and blankets they prepared for the homeless

Family: In January, the landlord fixed both our dishwasher and a heating problem. Now they are both running well again, and we are very grateful. Thank the Lord. In February, we celebrated our 14th wedding anniversary and Joseph's second birthday. He is the only two year old we know who is able to blow out both candles on the first try without anyone telling him to do so.

We are still so glad to be in our new rented home! The view from the back windows is beautiful. We are up on a hill, and at night we can see the whole town lit up. It's really pretty. In the morning, we are treated to a gorgeous sunrise! We're very happy to be here and have been thanking God for it.



David with the food and blankets to distribute in Budapest on a cold, winter day



David talking with a homeless man in Budapest

We've encountered our first challenge in our new neighborhood. The street we live on is very narrow and muddy. Cars can only park across the street on the neighbor's side. The neighbor, however, believes that he owns the parking area in front of his house, even though it is city property.

According to our landlord who lived here previously, the neighbor does not want us to park there. Without explaining the whole issue, this has created a problem for us, even preventing us from getting in and out of our driveway. We are praying that we will be able to resolve this issue in a Christ-like way and that this neighbor and his wife would be drawn to the Lord in us. Please pray that they would come to know Jesus Christ personally and that this parking issue would eventually be resolved.

Ministry in Hungary: Back in January, Len went out with David and a man named Sandor to distribute food and blankets to the homeless and to pray for people. The night before, Jennifer and the children were up late preparing twenty-five bagged meals. Then the next day, Len took the meals, along with eight new blankets, and went to a couple locations where many homeless people live. He, David and Sandor distributed the food and blankets, and asked the homeless people if they would like prayer for anything. They also shared Jesus with people and blessed them.

In January, Len continued to conduct training via telephone with Adolphus, the bishop in Liberia, Africa. As always, he is very grateful for the training and growing in his knowledge of the Lord.

Len also spent more time with Vilmos, an elder in our church, equipping him and imparting to him. That has been going great! At the request of Vilmos, they've made plans to continue meeting regularly for impartation.

In February, Len was led by the Holy Spirit to stop at a Baptist church on the other side of Budapest, near where we used to live. He was there for some work on the van and stopped at the church on his way back. This resulted in a great visit with the pastor, Zoltan, who exchanged contact info with Len and invited him to come back and conduct training. We later visited the church on a Sunday morning as a family, and Zoltan asked Len to say a few words of greeting to the church. Len did so in Hungarian for the first couple minutes, and then in English with the help of a translator. After the meeting, Zoltan and his wife invited us to return, so that Len could preach to the youth group. This engagement is coming up within a few days after this newsletter is released, so please pray for the Lord's guidance and anointing in all that Len would speak to them.

Administrative Needs: In February, we made significant progress gathering documents and obtaining photos for the children's passport and residence permit renewals. It has been a huge challenge! Even the simple things here are not simple, like getting photos that meet US State Department standards. But with the Lord's help, we got the passport applications submitted to the US Embassy in mid-February. Once we receive the new passports, we will go to the Immigration Department to submit the residence permit applications. The stack of documents Len has compiled is an inch-and-a-half thick! But going to the Immigration Office is always full of unexpected surprises, so please pray that we will not have any issues getting the residence permits for the children renewed.

We mentioned last month that our van needs more major repairs. Len went to the new mechanic named Karcsi and sensed that he was a Christian. As they spent the morning together talking in Hungarian, Len learned that he is in fact a believer. He replaced the airflow sensor, only charging us his cost for the part, which was half the price we would have paid elsewhere! The time Len spent with Karcsi was also a great language lesson, and Len was able to understand most of what he said. So this was time and money well spent. But the problems are not over. The catalytic converter we replaced one year ago is already malfunctioning. We can hardly believe it; after all we've done to fix the vehicle problems. But this is the reality on the ground here. After-market catalytic converters only have a one or two-year life span, and original parts are ridiculously expensive. So we will deal with this eventually.

Language Acquisition: Another neighbor across the street, Annamaria, has suggested that our children play together so that theirs will learn English and ours Hungarian. We agreed it would be good for all of them. We have already had them over to our home and the children have continued to build their relationship with them.

In closing, we have much to praise God for, and many opportunities for you to join us in prayer.

Praise the Lord with us for the many answers to prayer:

1. For healing Jennifer and Charity from allergies.
2. For healing Christopher from bronchitis.
3. For our overall health and wellness.
4. For helping us get our passport applications submitted and helping us gather all the necessary documents for our residence permit renewal process.
5. For the progress we have made so far with the neighbors across the street regarding the parking issue.
6. For the bringing us together with Zoltan, the pastor of the Baptist church in Csomor.

Next steps and prayer needs:

1. For healing for Charity from gingivitis.
2. For Vilmos, David, Jonatan, and Greg to grow in the walk that they each have with the Lord and for them to continue to multiply.
3. For us to obtain the new residence permits by the deadline.
4. For the Lord to lead and guide Len & Greg as they pray, and as Greg speaks to Zoltán about being equipped.
5. For divine appointments wherever we go. Pray that the Lord would help us make key connections with people all along the way, develop relationships and be a blessing.
6. For the Lord to speak through Len as he meets with the Baptist youth group, and as he meets with Greg and Vilmos.
7. For us to resolve the parking issue with the neighbors across the street in a Christ-like manner and that they will be drawn to the Lord in us.
8. For the Lord to establish His kingdom in Hungary and the nations of Eastern Europe.

Please pray that the Lord will help us and guide us in all of these areas, as well as provide abundantly for every need.

Thank you so much for your partnership in this ministry.

Love from all of us,

The Lacroixs

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