



September Update

Greetings from Hungary! It's time for another update on our progress. We're enjoying a summer-like September with lots of blue skies and sunshine, which is normal for Hungary at this time of year.



Hope Charity, Christopher, Faith, Jennifer and Joseph at Lake Balaton



Hope, Christopher, Joseph, and Faith on the train to Lake Balaton

Family: The children resumed home school at the beginning of September. Christopher is in first grade now, but already reads proficiently at a second grade level. He's been faithful about reading through the gospel of John during the summer break.

Faith has experienced a flare up of seborrhea dermatitis on her scalp, which we have been treating with prayer, dietary changes, moisturizers, and frequent washes. We're seeing a progressive healing take place, and she is doing much better! It's amazing. Please pray for the Lord to completely heal her.

Len has spent a lot of time at the dentist and that has been going well. He still needs a lot more work done, including a couple crowns.

We decided to take a day trip to Lake Balaton in August for the national holiday known as Saint Stephen's Day. Each year on August 19, everything shuts down for the weekend in honor of the country's first king. And Lake Balaton is perhaps the largest lake in Europe. People come from all over Europe to visit this area.

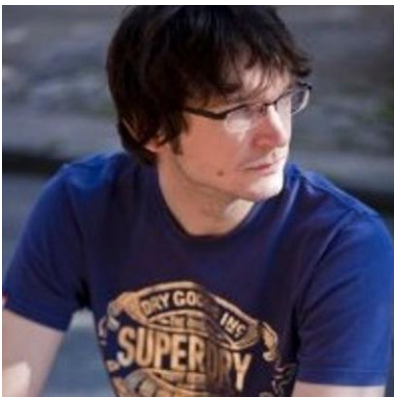
It was our first time there, after living here for three years! People kept telling us we should visit it, so we finally did. The day started off well when we got a 90% discount on train tickets, instead of the expected 50% discount. So we paid only fifteen dollars for the whole family to take a two and a half hour train ride! It was a

"large family" discount, and really beat driving the van there, burning up all that fuel. It was very beautiful at the lake, and the children got to dip their feet in the water.

Altogether, we spent six hours there in a scenic little town called Tihany. We ran out of time at Lake Balaton and had to rush to get dinner. Without our van, we were on foot, and had to rush to catch some dinner. We ended up at a fast food stand, where we ate burgers, fries and gyros.

In our rush to get back to the train station, so we wouldn't miss our train back to Budapest, we were out of good options. We ended up on an open-air, street trolley on wheels. The driver told us it would only take 10 minutes to get us to within 600 meters of the train station and we could walk from there. But he headed right into a major rain and thunderstorm. As it turned out, he dumped us off far from the train station. The crazy part was that he went right by the train station and didn't stop to drop us off, even though he knew we needed to go there. He then proceeded to meander around town farther and farther away from the train station, and further and further into the dark storm. We ended up stranded at a grocery store in the rain, minutes before our train was scheduled to leave, and no way to get there.

Thankfully we found a young man who spoke English, who got his friend to call a taxi for us. Two taxis came to pick us up at the grocery store in the rain, and then got stuck in bumper-to-bumper traffic. They pulled some rather unsafe maneuvers, passing, and cutting through gas stations, braking hard once to avoid an accident. Thank God we made it safely to the train station without getting soaked or injured, and caught our train back to Budapest!



Tamás



Zsofi and Barnabás with their son, Miklos

Ministry: With most others away on vacation during these past weeks, we have had very little opportunity to meet together. But Len has continued to meet with Greg for discipleship, as well Ferenc ("FER'-ens") and Tamás ("TAW'-mush").

Len also met with Sándor to mediate a contentious matter, and the Lord worked everything out for good. Peace has been restored in that situation, and there is complete reconciliation between the people involved.

The pastor's daughter, Dora, who is in her mid-twenties, is Len's translator. You can imagine what a difficult task it was for her to translate in this impartial mediator role for Len in such an emotionally heated situation. Recently, after the Lord resolved this contentious situation within the church, she was speaking to Len about it. She was giving God the glory with such joy and happiness. He asked her if she would put what she said to him into a brief, written testimony that we could share in our newsletter. She gladly agreed to do so and wrote, "Approximately two months ago, a division occurred in the church between one brother and the pastor. Exactly at that time, Len and his family started to come to our church. I felt it was a godly timing. Len saw the seriousness of the issue, and the Lord put on his heart to help us to resolve it. I felt from the beginning that it must be from the Lord, because this could not stay like this among Christians."

She recounted how she felt in the final meeting Len held with the people involved. "Finally, in the last meeting, which took place, everything turned upside down. During the meeting, I felt the presence of the Lord, and I got so much joy and peace during the whole meeting. In the beginning it seemed impossible to resolve this issue, so for me to see those people speaking without bitterness and pain was a miracle for me. God was working in their hearts. During that meeting, there was forgiveness and reconciliation, and the Lord was there, confirming everything. At the end of the meeting, we all acknowledged that the Lord was leading Len in this situation, and we were so thankful for his obedience to God."

She then described the reaction in the church meeting, when Sándor announced to everyone what had happened. She said, "Last Saturday, my father announced in the church that they are reconciled, and that this couple is welcome once again in the church. People were shocked in a good way by hearing this news. You could tell that everyone was happy about the news. Everyone was happy, and it felt like a burden was taken away. One lady even said, 'Finally! This is from the Lord!' I'm so thankful that the Lord had His way in their lives and in the church." Praise the Lord! Please join us in giving God the praise for what He has done in the lives of these precious people.

We mentioned in our last newsletter that Len loaned the Jesus Film to Ferenc. After watching it in English, he commented, "It is a great film, but at the end it made me sad. Why are people so cruel that kill such a true person? I think life and love should be honored by us." But he only understood about half of it, so Len found a Hungarian version of the film for him to watch. After he watches it with his wife in their mother tongue, he and Len plan to discuss it. Please pray that the Lord will speak to them through this powerful film, and that the discussion Len has with Ferenc afterward will be used by the Holy Spirit to lead him to Christ.

We also mentioned last time that Len met a worship leader at a Baptist church named Barnabás. He and Len had been praying about possible training. Len has since begun training Barnabás. The first meeting went very well, and Barnabás had good feedback about it.

Len met with David, whom he discipled during our first two years in Hungary. He is doing very well, attending college, and engaged to a lovely young lady, named Kati, who loves the Lord. He is serving the Lord in numerous ways, including worship, sharing Jesus, and making disciples. Pray that he will continue to bear much fruit for Christ.

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 our overall health and wellness.
2. For the progressive healing of Faith's scalp.
3. For the way Len's dental care has been going so far.
4. For blessing us with a relaxing day off as a family in August at the lake.
5. For the good feedback from Barnabás following his first meeting with Len.
6. For the way the Lord brought about reconciliation in the Erd church.
7. For the fruitfulness in David's life.
8. For the good response from Ferenc after viewing the Jesus Film in English.
9. For the good report that Greg's father, Zsolt, is back to work and healing.

Next steps and prayer needs:

1. For complete healing for Faith's scalp.
2. For Greg and David to grow in his walk with the Lord and continue to multiply.
3. For Greg's father, Zsolt to recover completely from his back surgery.
4. For the Lord to reveal Himself to Ferenc and Tamás, the businessmen Len has been training, so that they would come to know Jesus personally.
5. For the Lord's help in training Barnabás.
6. For divine direction regarding opportunities to help the pastor in Romania, named Dr. Ceuta.
7. For the Lord to continued to anoint us and lay the foundation in the Erd church.
8. 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.
9. For our financial blessing. That the Lord would continue to raise up partners to help us with special gifts and monthly partners, so that we will be able to focus on the ministry in Eastern Europe and accomplish all that He has put in our hearts to do.

Thank you so much for your partnership in this ministry.

Love from all of us,
The Lacroixs

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