

## August Update

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

We're enjoying seasonably warm temperatures and sunshine right now. But since our last update, the weather has been quite unusual. Thankfully we have the sunshine and warmth for now, so we'll enjoy it while we have it.



Jennifer, Joseph, Faith, Hope, Charity, and Christopher in Vienna, Austria



Faith in the garden for her ninth birthday celebration

*Family:* We mentioned last month that we had planned to take the fourth week in July to do some day trips as a family. However, the weather was not favorable. It was very cool and rainy most of the time. So we did some indoor things, including a trip to the local children's science museum. We also went for submarine sandwiches and enjoyed a visit to the garden in front of city hall, where there are fountains. We managed to take our first trip to Vienna, which is a two and a half hour drive from our home. We spent the day walking around the city center, ate dinner there, got an ice cream cone, and returned home – all in the same day! More recently, we had nice enough weather to go up on a big hill in a countryside village and fly a kite, which was a lot of fun.

The girls have been very self-disciplined about studying Hungarian each day this summer, and have learned some very difficult phrases that even Len and Jennifer cannot say. They have received compliments from our Hungarian friends for their excellent accent and pronunciation. So we're very pleased with this, which has been their biggest progress so far. But they still have a long ways to go to be conversational.

Charity wrote a poem, called Eternal Dwelling, a few months ago. She submitted this to Clubhouse Magazine, which we receive by mail here. Among many other

poems that were submitted for consideration, the editor selected hers for publication in the August edition! Naturally she is very excited about this. She has really been blossoming beautifully in her talents with poetry, writing, and drawing! She certainly seeks to use all of her talents for the Lord's glory, and we know He is pleased.

In addition to our daily family devotions, the girls continue to meet together weekly for discipleship, as they have been doing since June of last year. They have consistently been reading a chapter a day in their Bibles, and meeting weekly the whole time. As for Christopher, he is reading through the gospel of John. And it was such a blessing one morning to see our 2-yr old son, Joseph, listening to kids' worship music in his room by himself with his hands and face lifted to the Lord Jesus in worship. We didn't go in and interrupt him. We just prayed for the Lord to continue revealing His presence to him.

The children have continued spending lots of time with their friends in the neighborhood during the summer break. Some of their missionary friends from Switzerland were out of the country for a couple weeks. But the children are very glad to have them back now.

Len needed to get a broken tooth repaired, and this led to discussions with the dentist about additional, extensive dental work that is necessary. We trust the Lord to guide us through this and provide for it.

We celebrated Faith's ninth birthday in August, which was a lot of fun. As usual, Jennifer made her delicious cheesecake, and Faith received a few, small gifts from each of us.



Hope, Charity, Faith, and Christopher flying a kite in the Hungarian countryside



Greg on his guitar

*Ministry*: Our online training continues to reach spiritual leaders in foreign countries worldwide. We praise God that these teachings have now been accessed thousands of times via the Internet from people in nearly eighty nations. Through this ministry of ours, the Lord has connected Len with a Romanian pastor named Dr. Ceuta. He is pastor of the Bucharest Christian Center in Romania, and leader of his denomination there nationally. He wants

Len to visit him in Bucharest in September to preach and build a relationship with him, in order to see what the Lord may have for them in ministry together. He is planting churches and is interested in finding out more about our training. As with everything, this is a matter of prayer for the Lord to guide us and provide for it, if He wants Len to go there.

The Lord has recently connected us with a gifted worship leader, named Barnabas, at a local Baptist church. We appreciate his heart for the Lord. Len recently met with him and his brother, Celesztin, to continue building the relationship and discuss opportunities for collaboration together. It was an excellent time of fellowship and prayer. The brothers have indicated a desire to receive training from Len. We've all committed these things to the Lord in prayer for His direction and guidance, and we're expecting good fruit to come from this relationship.

Len continues to meet with Sándor and Dezső, the elders of the church in Érd. The focus right now has shifted from training to that of helping them deal with a contentious situation. Ultimately it is all part of laying the foundation in this church, so your continued prayers for the Lord to work through Len there are appreciated.

Greg continues to meet weekly with Len for discipleship, and that is going well. He plays guitar in a band he formed several years ago. They regularly perform concerts around the country, and recently played at a festival in a village called Vizsoly. This village is considered the cradle of the Hungarian translation of the Bible, because Gáspár Károli first translated the Bible into Hungarian there. However, since then, the crime rate and the gypsy population have grown significantly. So there is a great need there for the salvation that only Jesus Christ can give. Greg's band got the gospel message out, and received plenty of good feedback afterward. Pray that the Lord will water the seeds they have planted.

Last month we mentioned that Greg's father, named Zsolt, had been having terrible back pain, and that he had been told he had a terminal form of spinal cancer. We received good news about him in July. He went into the hospital for surgery, and the doctors found absolutely no cancer. Praise the Lord! The problem was deformed cartilage in his vertebrae. Now he is recovering, which will require a lot of time. He still needs prayer, because some of his muscles don't yet work like they should. So we continue to pray for him to be healed completely. Thank you for your prayers for Zsolt.

Len has continued to train a couple of businessmen in Budapest, named Ferenc and Tamás. Please pray that the Lord would draw them to Christ, and reveal Himself to them.

Administrative Needs: We have been making plans for Len to make a trip to the US this fall. If you know of a church that would be interested in having him come and share about our ministry, please let us know as soon as possible.

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 wonderful birthday celebration we had for Faith.
- 3. For blessing us with a relaxing time off as a family in July, including Vienna.
- 4. For His impact on the world for Christ in nearly eighty nations through Len's teaching.
- 5. For the spiritual growth of our children and spiritual children
- 6. For the good report that Greg's father, Zsolt, has no cancer.
- 7. For the impact that Greg's band made for the Lord in Vizsoly.
- 8. For the opportunity to build relationships with Barnabás and Celesztin, and the pastor in Romania, named Dr. Ceuta.

## Next steps and prayer needs:

- 1. For His continued protection over the whole family, especially the children.
- 2. For Greg to grow in his walk with the Lord and continue to multiply.
- 3. For Greg's father, Zsolt to recover quickly from his back surgery.
- 4. For the Lord to continue to anoint us and lay the foundation in the Erd church.

For the Lord to touch the hearts of the people who are reading Len's online teachings, to encourage them, to draw them to Christ, and speak to them clearly.
For the Lord to reveal Himself to Ferenc and Tamás, the businessmen Len has been training.

7. For the Lord to water the seeds that Greg's band planted in Vizsoly.

8. For divine direction regarding opportunities to help Barnabas, Celesztin, and the pastor in Romania, named Dr. Ceuta.

9. 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.

10. 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

There are two ways to donate to Doulos Missions International. You may either send a check or money order by mail to: Doulos Missions International PO Box 5526 Manchester, NH 03108-5526