

March Update

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

Health and Wellness: Springtime has arrived in Hungary, and the birds are tweeting again. There is no snow on the ground, and we've had some very mild days around sixty degrees. It's so good to be out of the bitter, cold winter season.

Charity has been very diligent about taking good care of her teeth. She's been doing everything she can do, and we're trusting the Lord to heal her. We took her to see a different orthodontist for a consultation, and the doctor had nothing but positive remarks about her dental health. She acknowledged that there is still one "stress point" on her gums, where they are still a bit inflamed, but she said that generally there is no longer a problem with gingivitis. Christopher has not had any more respiratory problems either. Praise the Lord for these answers to prayer! And thank *you* for praying. Aside from the children having pretty bad colds since we last wrote, everyone has been well.



Len prepares to blow out the candle on his homemade birthday pie



Joseph and Christopher during bedtime prayers

Family: In March, we celebrated Len's birthday together at home. Jennifer served a delicious, homemade, strawberry pie, and the children gave him cards and little gifts they had made.

The children are doing well in home school. Christopher is already reading books at five years old, and he is not even in first grade yet. We are very pleased with his progress in school.

We have also recently discovered an American Christian library maintained by some missionaries here in our community. One day, Jennifer went there and picked up a stack of excellent books for the children to read. They love to read, and have been enjoying the books immensely. Jennifer also discovered a home school coop that happened to be meeting at the library while she was there. She plans to join them from now on, which will be a huge blessing to us.

We were able to find a baby sitter who could watch the children overnight, which allowed us to take a day off without them. It took us months to find someone, and we were grateful it worked out. It was a much needed break and time together.



Charity and Faith

Greg

We have not had any major problems with the parking issue across the street in front of our driveway. There have been a couple incidents, where we were blocked from getting into our driveway, but fortunately they were easily handled, and it gave us an opportunity for contact with our neighbors. Thank you for praying for that.

Ministry in Hungary: Len continues to meet with Greg for discipleship, and that is going well. Len also spent more time with Vilmos, an elder in our church, equipping him, imparting to him, and encouraging him. That has been going great!

Len has also been relating to some businessmen in Budapest who are not disciples yet. He's already had an opportunity to have some excellent conversations with them. Their names are Ferenc, Dávid, and Tamás. Please pray that the Lord would draw them to Christ, and reveal Himself to them.

Administrative Needs: In February, we brought our van to the auto service garage for the clunking problem in our steering. For two years now, whenever we go over bumps, the steering under the vehicle has made a loud clunking noise. We were told it was probably the lower ball joint, and possibly also the upper ball joint. Thankfully, we only needed the lower ball joint, saving more than half the estimated cost to replace both. We're so glad to no longer have clunking when we go over bumps! Please join us in thanking and praising the Lord for this answer to prayer.

Also in February, we spent almost three hours at the Immigration Office, submitting a pile of documents that Len had spent a month gathering. As usual, there were surprises. But we got through them all with the Lord's help, and we were so glad to be out of there. Our American friends and family wouldn't believe what we go through in this process, unless they have experienced it for themselves. For example, Len went to the office a few weeks ago to obtain blank address cards, so that we could complete them in advance and submit them today with all of our other documents. However, the doctor of law at the front desk assured him we would not need new white address cards, since we had just recently renewed them when we moved. We have found in the past that it makes no difference what we are told, the final answer lies with the doctor of law who handles our case on the day we submit the documents. So Len asked for her name and she wrote it for him on a slip of paper. When we returned in February to submit all our documentation, even though Len showed them the slip of paper with name of the doctor of law at the help desk in that same building, it didn't help. We were still required to complete four new address cards, doublesided, and we had to call the landlord's sister to come down to the Immigration Office and sign them. Other than that, everything went well, and we have been asked to return at the end of March to receive the government's decision. We are not anticipating any issues in obtaining their residence permits.

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 Charity from gingivitis.
- 2. For helping us find a babysitter and take a day off together by ourselves.
- 3. For our overall health and wellness.
- 4. For helping us get our residence permit applications.
- 5. For helping us get our van's steering problem fixed inexpensively.
- 6. For resolving the parking issue in front of our driveway.
- 7. For the opportunities He has given Len to be a witness recently.

Next steps and prayer needs:

1. For healing for Jennifer from back problems causing leg pain again.

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 the Lord to reveal Himself to Gergély, Ferenc, Dávid and Tamás, the businessmen Len has been relating with.

4. 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.

5. 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