

03 March 2022

Budapest, Hungary

Dear brothers and sisters

Though we are well into 2023, and praise the Lord for his goodness in seeing us through to this point, we thought to recount some of the wonderful news from last year and share some challenges that we see in the year ahead. May you be encouraged as you read this and drawn to pray with us as we bring these matters before the Lord.



Ps Jeff Riddle presents with Ps Miki as translator at the Reformation Conference, October 2022

Reformation Conference

In an item that just missed our last newsletter, pastor Jeff Riddle and his wife, Llewelyn, joined us for a week and presented a Reformation themed conference. Pastor Jeff led us through the basics of biblical translation and highlighted the importance of the received texts over the critical texts as he taught through the original ending of Mark. We were privileged to host 54 participants including brethren from Croatia and Slovakia with several sessions and lunch served in between.



Refreshments enjoyed in the fresh air of the public square.

Termination of Zala mission

As we shared last time, the mission in Zala was under threat and has now sadly been terminated. We trust that the Lord will work in drawing those in Zala near to himself and that they would seek to find or form a congregation. Our final visit took place in January, and we remain open to contact and visitations in the future from them.

Members reunited

One of our members from Debrecen, Béla, has been re-admitted into membership after faithful attendance and service with us over the last few months. His wife, Erika, has also been attending of late, which has offered wonderful fellowship. Both help in our weekly street invitation session before the evening service and in other ministries.

Departing members and a church plant



From left back: Bence, Máté, Peti, Sara, Szofi and Benjámín.

Benjámín, his wife Zsófi, his brother Máté and their friend, Bence, joined us temporarily in 2020 as they awaited the Lords leading in planting a church on the Buda side of town. The time has come, with both joy at the prospect of the potentials inherent in this work, and with deep sadness as they leave a void in leadership, music (Bence regularly played the organ and has compiled our new hymnal), assistance with translation from all three men, hospitality, and a rich and compassionate brotherly affection, to the glory of God and benefit of others.

This departure has raised a further sense of urgency in praying for additional elders and deacons. May you join us in that to the growth of the church, spread of the gospel and glory of God.

Restructuring of services

Given these changes in human resources, we have moved our weekly Monday prayer meeting to Wednesdays, and Wednesday bible hour to once a month on a Saturday, followed by a fellowship bring-and-share lunch. This structure has been well-received, reducing the mid-week pressure, and increasing engagement around the Word with a less formal, more communal approach. The focus is on strengthening theology and doctrinal standpoints while allowing a space for questions and discussion.

Publications

The republication (a completely new Hungarian edition) of the 1689 Baptist Confession arrives this week from the press after many months of work from our members!

Sunday school

Long have we conceptualised and planned for the start of our evangelical Sunday school with the guidance and experiences of the London Metropolitan Tabernacle, and our first class is scheduled for Sunday 5 March!

In the last few months, we have taken steps towards actualisation. Two weeks of preparation and consultation sessions with our volunteer teachers has set our structure and helped us to strategise. Do pray with us as we begin to promote our activities in the neighbourhood, as we plan for student collection and parental engagement, and as we translate and prepare our teaching materials. May many families come to Christ through this work.

Supporting churches

And finally, we have been greatly blessed in being able to make several sizeable contributions to a church in Chugyev. Ukraine. Below is a January 9 update from for your encouragement.

Thank God! Evangelization occasions and services continue, I have never seen or heard such a revival. Many people from the church have gone abroad or to a place where there is no danger, so those who remain serve almost every day. Rocket attacks continue in places, but we are safe. There is gas, there is always no electricity, but there is water. Now we are trying to travel to places where it is especially difficult...in other villages. Accept the heartfelt greetings of our church and my family, may God bless you and your work, which is not in vain before the Lord.

Vladimir



Images from the church in Csuguev

May God be forever praised and may His church prosper.

On behalf of pastor Miki,

In Christ,
Cuan