

Hope in Hungary

Serving Christ and sharing hope

Blurbs from MCN mission partner, Melissa Karges, in Bonyhád
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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

December is always abuzz with fun activities in preparation for Christmas; it was a joy to be able to share the Advent season with so many people as I participated in dorm events and spend time traveling to cities like Budapest, Győr, Zomba, and on to Germany to visit colleagues and friends to share the joy of our savior's birth with them.

Christmas in English

Through my travels during the month of December, I noticed that I was fortunate enough to get to attend church services in English 3 times. While I understand services in Hungarian these days, getting to listening to a sermon in my own language and to sing the songs I grew up with during this very special season of the church year has a refreshing effect. It was something to be thankful for. I was at

Updates from the Dorm

The last month brought a lot of new challenges working with my group in the dorm, from parent meetings to dealing with the director to processing through the full spectrum of teenage emotions, December was quite the adventure. While there were moments I found myself wondering how I'd gotten there, it helped me to grow in love for the kids in my group much more. Perhaps it is mutual as many of these students have let me know they would like me to be able to remain their leader for the rest of the year. Although touching, the plan is for them to change back in the middle of January; it will be harder for me to let them go now that I've gotten to know them better.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting my service in Hungary! I am **98%** funded and completely overwhelmed by your generosity! Working with MCN has been a *wonderful* thing for me and *partnering with you makes it possible!*

Tax deductible gifts can be made online or checks sent to:

Mission of Christ Network
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Upcoming Events

End of January: Visiting a former class in Sopron graduating later this year

February 3-6: Retreat for MCN Mission Partners in Central Europe

February 10-15: Travel to Brussels, Belgium to participate in exchange program with students from my school

Story Corner

During my pre-Christmas travels, I had the chance to catch up with a special former student. We keep in touch through messages, but there were some things she was waiting to share with me in person. As we sat down to lunch together, she began recounting some of the events of the last few months and how things have been changing for her. She then mentioned that she is thinking about being baptized.

It is not common to find individuals in Hungary who have never been baptized, but I recalled that this was true for her, and I also remember a girl who previously didn't want anything to do with religion or Christ during our class prayer times or discussions. I was witnessing a 180. She went on to tell me she believed Jesus had been born, died, and raised to life, that He was still living and He loved her.

Hearing her story about how God has been moving in her life to bring her to this point was amazing, and to her her confess Christ for the first time may be the most beautiful thing I will ever know in this life. We may not always see what God is doing, but He is never done working!

There were many special moments like this the last month. Go to my [blog](#) to see more of [this story](#) and others like it!



My "Tea Time" group during our annual Christmas celebration. We still meet every week and are going strong! I'd like to thank the groups who have sent packages of tea and baking supplies for this!

JANUARY PRAYER CORNER

Week 1:

-The end of the Christmas season to continue to provide opportunities to share Christ with people.

Week 2:

-The end of the first term of school and helping my students in the dorm transition back to their former teacher

Week 3:

-My friend (mentioned above) who is looking to be baptized. For so many others still searching!

Week 4:

-Everything to come together for our Mission Partner retreat in Sopron and safe travels for all.