

Prayer Opportunities

The three biggest challenges that we have faced this year are with our family, personnel, finances.

Family: Our aging parents have come to the point where they need some extra assistance. *Pray that we might have wisdom as we try to encourage, counsel, and support from afar.*

Personnel: We need people to help with children's ministries, outreach and evangelism, English ministries, web and technical development, and more! *Pray for people called to serve alongside us in Budapest.*

Finances: Contributions to both the Winckles Missionary Support Account (Winckles MSA) and the Hungary Church Planting and Development account (Hungary CPD) are in decline. This is due to several of our supporting churches having been closed and other churches redirecting their giving. The Hungary CPD, in particular, is experiencing a funding crisis! *We are thankful that our home church in Holland, Ohio shares this concern with us and has issued a challenge grant to other churches. They will match dollar for dollar donations made to the Hungary CPD made by other churches, up to an overall total of \$7500!* If your church would like to take up this offer, please contact Pastor Keith Simpson at keithsimpson@hollandfmc.org or at 419-865-4640. You can make your donation online at <https://give.fmcusa.org/hungary>. *Pray that many churches would accept this challenge grant and that the need would be met in full.*

Our partners

We are grateful for the many people who pray regularly for us and for the ministries in Hungary. Prayer is essential! We are also grateful for those who partner with us financially, and for those who come and help serve. We look forward to our partnership with you continuing in the coming year. Our support page is <https://give.fmcusa.org/winckles>

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving, a hope-filled Advent season, and a joyous Christmas! May you sense God's presence and guidance each day!

With thankful hearts,

Larry and Katie Winckles
Serving in Europe with Free Methodist World Missions
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Write kwinkles@gmail.com and ask to be added to our **weekly prayer email list**.

Winckles Family Update Thanksgiving 2019

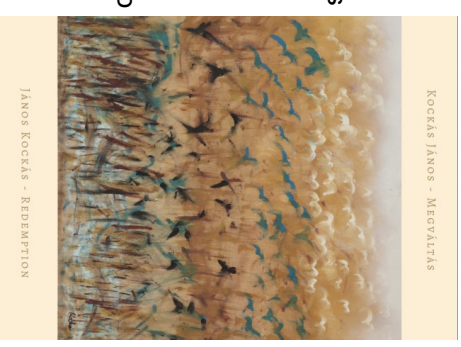
*Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

Praise the Lord!
Psalm 117:1-2

Greetings once again from Budapest, Hungary! As we approach Thanksgiving we thank God for how he is working in lives in Hungary and throughout Europe. We'd like to share with you some highlights from 2019 in thanks for your ongoing partnership in ministry.

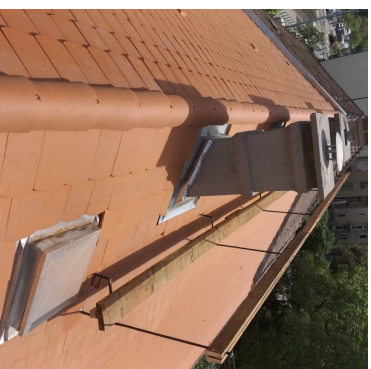
"Redemption" by János

Many of you may remember the story of János, the homeless man who has led a tragic life damaged by his alcoholism. He is now participating in a residential rehabilitation program and has been alcohol free for almost three years! He credits his turnaround to the transformation that Christ has made in his life, and his painting (at right) represents his life before and after Christ. Prints of his painting are available to order at www.zazzle.com. Search for "redemption hungary". We are thankful for the continued transformation of János' life.



The Budapest Ministry Center

The Budapest Ministry Center is home to the Budapest Free Methodist Church and also hosts a number of community-related programs and outreach events. In the spring we found it necessary to replace the roof of this 125-year-old building. This was a costly undertaking that necessitated raising additional funds in order to complete the work. We are thankful that this was accomplished.



Family

This summer we received the good news that our youngest son, Péter, is engaged to be married! We really love his fiancée, Rachel, and we look forward to celebrating with them next June in Madison, Wisconsin. Our oldest son, Andrew, and his wife Christy are kept busy with our grandchildren, Goldie and William. Goldie is



active in dance, choir, and drama whereas William plays the cello and is active in sports. It is always a joy to be able to visit with them in Adrian, Michigan.

General Conference 2019

One of the highlights of the summer was attending General Conference in Orlando, Florida. While there we were able to connect with many friends and share about the ministries in Europe. We were happy that Pastor Péter was able to attend as well and meet in person many people who contribute to his support and to the ministries in Hungary through the Hungary CPD account. It was also at General Conference that the Free Methodist Timeline game that Larry developed premiered. *Enclosed with this letter is one of the cards from the game, showing a particular person, place, or event from Free Methodist or Methodist history. The game is available for purchase at www.freemethodistbooks.com. Scroll down on the page and you will find a link to the game.*

Other Events

Many guests passed through Hungary in September and October. It was a blessing to show them the Budapest Ministry Center and to tell them about the work here in Hungary. *We are grateful that Pastor Eric Perry from Michigan and Dr. Mitch and Lynn Sue Pierce from New York were able to help with two very special events in September.*

Gulyás cookout: First, we hosted a gulyás bean soup cookout at the homeless shelter where János lives. At the cookout János organized other men from the shelter to help with the cooking. Pastors Péter and Eric played the mandolin and guitar and sang, and they both gave short testimonies. About 30 people from the shelter participated.



Installation Service: On September 22 we held an installation service for the new leaders of the Budapest Free Methodist Church, led by Mitch Pierce. Péter Tóth was installed as the pastor and Zsuzsa Mecser-McNamara was installed as the part-time assistant pastor. It was a privilege to turn over the leadership of the church to Hungarians who are called and well-prepared to serve.



Pastor Péter continues to use his musical talents to reach out to the community around the Budapest Ministry Center. This fall he not only is teaching three faith classes at a local pre-school, but he is also leading a weekly folk music class for mothers and their young children. Now when these children see him somewhere around town they all run up to him and greet him as *Péter bácsi* (Uncle Péter)! Péter is supported through the Hungary CPD fund. Donations to this fund may be made at <https://give.fmcsusa.org/hungary>.

Pastor Zsuzsa is working to complete her degree in social work, as well as coordinating the Set Free Movement in Hungary. In September we traveled together to Bulgaria for the dedication of the St. John's Home, a safe house for young women who are at risk of being trafficked. The home is part of the Set Free – Bulgaria ministries. Zsuzsa is supported through gifts made to the Hungary Set Free Coordinator EMP. Donations may be made at <https://give.fmcsusa.org/donation/hungary-set-free-coordinator>

Hungary Church Retreat: In early October we hosted a Hungary Church Retreat at Lake Balaton. People from the Budapest and Győr churches gathered together for this weekend of teaching, fellowship, relaxation, and fun. *We're thankful that Pastor Keith Simpson from the Holland, Ohio Free Methodist Church and Marcie and Clive Potts from England served with us.*

