

FUTO FORUM

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Prayer for our girls

Hajni and Csenge are enjoying the church and continue to invite all their friends to the youth meetings. They are celebrating their 17th and 15th birthdays this December. It is a joy for me to lead the youth group and spend time with them. Please pray for our meeting tomorrow when we continue our discussion about dating and relationships.

Christmas Outreach

Tündi has been enjoying leading (25 people) a choir these past months. They have been learning Christmas carols and have been singing during the advent worship services. Next week they will sing at the subway stop which is very close to the coffee shop. We have prepared a flyer and will invite everyone to our Christmas day service. Please pray for their outreach and for visitors to join us.



Sarokko celebrates 1st Anniversary

Dearest family, friends churches and prayer partners,

It is hard to believe that this past October we celebrated the one year mark since the opening of the Sarokko (Cornerstone) church plant in Budapest. It has been a tremendous amount of work, but we have felt the Lord carrying us on eagle's wings. After a year I sensed the start-up team was getting tired and in need of some help.

In October we had our first membership class and the Lord blessed us with 20 fresh pairs of hands and feet who were ready to serve. Ever since then, even more people have volunteered to help out. Last month, our family was running unusually late to the Sunday morning service and we showed up twenty minutes before the start of the service. We opened the door to the coffee shop and were humbled and encouraged to see so many new people scurrying everywhere and getting everything prepared for the worship service.

Praise for the church volunteer workteams:

- coffee team gets refreshments set up (first things first)
- setup team who transform the coffee shop into a worship center, moving tables & chairs
- "greeters" who pay special attention to those who are there for the first time
- technical people who are responsible for video and microphones (God has blessed us with a professional technician who faithfully serves us each week with his son).
- prayer team committed to meeting for prayer in the back room before the service
- children's ministry team: 8-10 people who rotate and are responsible for the children's teaching time that meets upstairs in our office
- a team of women who share the responsibility of reading Scripture during the service
- webmaster Nori, who has done a magnificent job with our web page and uploading all the sermons:
www.sorokko.com.
- powerpoint presentation team does a great job every Sunday
- worship team makes beautiful music each week
- four men who are in a weekly rotation and responsible for being the emcee: they open the worship service, greet everyone, give announcements, prepare us for worship and pray.

What a joy to see so many people finding their place and wanting to serve!! Jesus promised to build His church. What a privilege to be a part of it and to see Him do it.

This has been my greatest joy the past few months to see so many people catch the vision and want to be a part of God building His church in Budapest.

Our average weekly attendance has been between 90-100 people with new people coming all the time. My main responsibilities have been to preach (I am preaching through the psalms this year) and to meet with people throughout the week. My biggest challenge is to get the sermon below 40 minutes, which doesn't always happen. Our small groups also got started in October and we have four communities meeting throughout the Budapest area.

Starting in January, we will project the service onto a large screen which is in a room next to the coffee shop. There is a double door that connects the two rooms. This "expansion" will be a big help because we have already reached capacity at the coffee shop and this will double our space.

So thank you all for praying with us this past year and for asking God to build His kingdom in Hungary! These were the main highlights from this past fall. God continues to patiently teach us, shape us and form us into a community for His glory despite my failures and weaknesses. He is good and He is faithful to His people and His promises.

May He grant you much joy and peace this Christmas as you look to the manger and worship the One who was sent to save us from our sins.

In His steadfast Love,
Rob