

Dear Friends

Quite a lot has happened since our last newsletter - there's lots we would like to share, but without overwhelming and turning this into a half-hour read! First some bullet point highlights:

- Virág passed her **driving test**! This BIG thing in her life went way back...she asked Luke if he wants his Mummy to learn to drive. Virag's decision took a long time but she promised to herself she has to do it for her 40th :)
- The Hungarian version of *24-7 Prayer's* "**Prayer Course**" video series is now complete, and James and the team are working on the "Prayer Course II: Unanswered Prayer." Both courses are jampacked with really helpful content and real life stories, and if you haven't done them yet, then I highly recommend them: prayercourse.org for English and imakurzus.hu for our Hungarian version.
- At the recent **24-7 Prayer Gathering**, through a few connections we managed to form a reasonably sized Hungary group! We now meet online and are praying for someone suitable and available to be the coordinator, as well as churches interested in running prayer rooms.
- The **prayer van** is practically ready, but not getting a lot of use at the moment.
- The new English language Christian group at Miskolc **University** has been harder to get going than expected...we have one student from Syria but of course we'd like it to become a more vibrant community!



Local church news

In the summer, the pastor of our village church sadly passed away, and whilst we started getting to know the interim cover pastor, all of a sudden in September a new pastor was offered to us on a kind of 1 year trial. (Quite a different system from what the CofE uses!).

Significantly, unlike the previous pastor, Márton only pastors in our village, which means when he moves here shortly, he'll be able to play a bigger part in community life and everyday encounters, rather than just turning up to 'do a service'.

He has already visited a lot of homes to introduce himself, and some of these visits have been very fruitful. There are actually a lot of new people coming to church, which is really encouraging.

Virág started a Sunday morning kids group with around 5 - 15 kids each week, and given that for the past 6 years, there haven't been ANY children attending, it's really positive, and Virág is enjoying serving in this way. James' recommendation to project the words to the songs was accepted (important, because any visitors who turn up don't have a copy of the songbook), and so the church is really looking quite different.

Up until 2 weeks ago, the Sunday service was still being held in our completely unheated church building, despite outdoor temperatures of around zero, because “it isn’t too cold yet”. But now we’ve made the annual winter move into the church’s community building where the ‘tiled stoves’ in each room are lit the night before.



Community Coffeeshop Development

As we look towards 2026 there is a government funding opportunity for rural businesses that we'd like to apply for. If our application is successful, we will be able to install swings in the backyard, along with buying kayaks and more bikes to hire out to tourists, and possibly an e-car charging point, which all will help contribute to improving our community coffeeshop's viability, as well as expanding the village's facilities.

The funding would provide 65%, and so we'd like to ask, if you could consider making a one off contribution of any amount towards the 35%, to submit this online pledge to enable us to take these next steps. <https://forms.gle/FdWvwS5T8bY65uLM6> We hope to raise around £1,500 (for the total project cost of around £4,500). Thank you very much in advance, and we'll let you know what happens.

Thanks for reading our news, and we hope to see many of you on Sunday 21st December at All Saints Weston.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and blessed new year! James, Virág and the girls