

MOMMY, HOW ARE CHURCHES MADE?

Imagine a time when the plot your church building is built on was just an empty field; no building, no Sunday services, not even a pastor. **Have you ever thought about how it all started?** Who God instilled the vision in, who they worked with, and what their first steps were?

Much like whoever was involved in planting your church, right now we are in that exciting phase too! God has given a small group of us a vision for **ministering to our neighbors** and planting a church



in the community. And with big dreams, we are prayerfully planning our next steps. Imagine coming to visit us one day, and **being able to worship in a church you had a role in planting!**

Phase I: Team-building

Here are some of our first-steps:

- ◆ Every Monday morning we meet for prayer (normally 4-6 people)
- ◆ Met with other pastors/Christian leaders in the area to discuss the possible church plant
- ◆ Started a Friday night home-group to get to know others interested in being part of the church planting team
- ◆ Encore Christmas caroling performance (due to popular demand), followed by Christmas Eve program!
- ◆ Helping organize a neighborhood yard-sale with proceeds to benefit those less fortunate in the community.

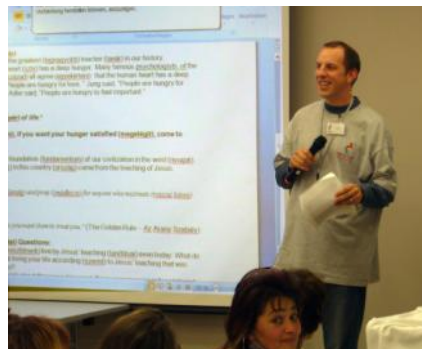
MORE THAN JUST DINNER

Have you ever invited some non-Christians over for dinner, just to talk about life, meaning, and the basic principles of Christianity in a relaxed, non-threatening environment? Well, that is what the Alpha Course is. And it has proven so successful over the last several decades, that worldwide **over 8 million people** have attended an Alpha Course!

Working together with a church in Győr, Zsófi and I are helping run an Alpha for ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) Course. And since **over 70 people registered** for the 20-week course (a few too many to fit around the dinner table!), we decided to do it at a local restaurant.

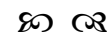
The normal Alpha Course involves watching a DVD to set the foundation for

discussion, but since the ESOL version is designed for non-native English speakers, we give live talks that involve slightly easier vocabulary. Obviously this takes a little extra preparation and training, but so far **the response has been great**, and people seem to enjoy practicing English while learning about God!



Prayer & Praise

- ◆ **Praise:** For the successful launch of the **Alpha for ESOL Course**, with over 70 guests attending
- ◆ **Prayer:** For this year's round of Christmas caroling and the **Christmas Eve service**—that many would be blessed through it
- ◆ **Prayer:** That God would continue to form the **church-planting team**, including our vision, relationships with one another, as well as who should be on the team



Building relationships, striving for unity, and counseling the broken so that exciting, healthy, mature local churches can reach Hungarians with the hope of Christ



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FINANCIAL SUPPORT UPDATE

A special thank-you to those of you who, responding to our last newsletter, gave a special contribution for a new laptop computer and extra language courses for John! One of the most incredible parts of our journey as missionaries here in Hungary has been to watch God provide for all of our needs. And you are a huge part of that provision.

So much like the Pilgrims, who after completing their first year in the New World, gave thanks to God for his provision, this year we will be doing the same—giving thanks for you, along with all the other ways God has blessed us throughout our first year here in Hungary.

Happy Thanksgiving!



♥ KIDS' CORNER: HOLIDAY QUIZ ♥

(by Zsófi)

Have you ever wondered what kids do for Christmas or for their Birthday in another country? Well, here is a little quiz to test your knowledge about how they celebrate holidays in Hungary.

(Circle the correct answer)

1. Do Hungarians celebrate Thanksgiving?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.
- c) Only every four years.

2. When do children open their Christmas presents?

- a) On the evening of the 24th.
- b) On the morning of the 25th.
- c) On the morning of the 26th.

3. What do Hungarian boys do on Easter?

- a) They paint eggs and then throw them into a lake.
- b) They eat a lot of chocolate and then jump around like a bunny.
- c) After saying a poem, they pour perfume on a girl they like.

4. In Hungary, when does Santa Claus come?

- a) On Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th).
- b) On December 6th.
- c) On December 31st

5. Do Hungarian kids go trick-or-treating on Halloween?

- a) Yes, but they don't wear costumes.
- b) Yes, but they only get fruit & vegetables instead of candy.
- c) No, they don't celebrate Halloween at all.



6. What is a "Name-day" in Hungary?

- a) A celebration of the day your parents gave you your name.
- b) Each year, everyone has one day that is named after them and their friends give them presents.
- c) A tradition where everyone writes their name in the snow.

7. How do Hungarians celebrate Birthdays ?

- a) On your birthday, you give other people presents.
- b) People give you presents on your birthday, and you eat lots of cake!
- c) Your friends try and play tricks on you.

(Check your answers below)

We hope you enjoyed learning some interesting things about how kids in Hungary celebrate holidays. As you can see there are many differences, but there are also many similarities, even if they live in another part of the world. :-)

Solution: 1.) b 2.) a 3.) c 4.) b 5.) c 6.) b 7.) b