



Living Hope Foundation

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“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says” (James 1:22).

“If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them” (James 4:17).

These biblical verses encourage us that despite the length of time and tiredness the December programmes, we do what God has entrusted to us.

Children’s Christmas

We look back to our Christmas celebrations with gratitude in our hearts. It was good to see again that that Lord knows our work, and He is with us, helps us, and blesses us, despite every difficulty and obstacle. In autumn we began to get prepared, feeling anxious, because there were few of us left, and we would have needed more people for the programmes and performances. But we were sure that we had to do it, so we had rehearsals weekly, trusting that it was pleasing to God and that He would arrange everything. However, for a long time we were not sure what kind of performances should take place and how to create them.

Things slowly came together, and thanks to the director of the Bárdos Lajos Primary School, we were allowed to use the auditorium of the lower primary school at that weekend. Thank you. On Saturday the stage set was made, this way we had more time for rehearsals, too.

On 22 December we had our Christmas service primarily for children, but not only for them since their parents were present, too. As we heard everyone enjoyed it. We hope it was not only a pleasant experience for them but also helped people understand more the love of our mighty Lord.



Christmas at Baracska

Although prison ministries find it more and more difficult to serve in Hungarian prisons, members of the Hungarian Evangelical Prison Mission were received kindly during the Christmas celebrations. We expected to meet two groups of 120 people in the prison of Baracska; eventually, there was only one group present. Though we had been at the entrance of the prison already at eight a.m., we were able to start the service only from ten due to the long procedure of entering the building. We were and are glad about those people who readily come with us to this unique but joyful Christmas celebration year by year.



Sub-Carpathian Relief

Though at first it seemed that we would not be able to transport the prepacked things (clothes, toys, blankets, rugs, kitchen utensils – all donations from you) to Ukraine, to the people in great poverty, beside several programmes before Christmas, yet, due to God’s encouraging, following Christmas, between the 27 and 30 of



December, officially 2950 kilogrammes (in reality, almost four tons) of relief were transported in three large cars and two trailers by the grace of God. We arrived in Berehove, into a warehouse on Friday, where our brothers from Cherkasy near Kyiv also arrived with three large vans and a trailer before long. Our brother Negro Valentin, who is the pastor of the church in Berehove, ordered food in the local supermarket for the people living near the front as they needed it. The supermarket delivered the food on credit, also to the warehouse. Our brothers serving in the eastern Ukrainian regions also came by car to take over the transport, and when their cars were packed, they started back to their homes in 600 kilometres. There was no point in buying food in Hungary because prices



in Ukraine are similar or even lower, so following packing, the prices were paid by credit card out of the/your donations in the supermarket. Tamás and Zsolt (he drove the Fiat Ducato borrowed from the Hungarian Baptist Aid – thank you) immediately started back to Hungary. To cross the border toward Ukraine took about one



hour, but for them to get back with empty cars took several hours. Vicus, Gyula, and me slept at Irene in Mukachevo. On Saturday and Sunday we could participate in several programmes: sermons, food distributions, and meals are done and given five times a week to refugees and people in need in the church building in Berehove; a visit and sermons in the church in Mukachevo, a visit to the deacon in Bene at the church.

We started home on Monday. In Mukachevo, in the supermarket, we bought food with pastor Igor (he is a pastor in Pavshyno) and his wife for them, too. They provide meals for poor people and many children five times a week as well as they can. Then in the supermarket in Berehove we bought food with pastor Józsi and his wife for the soup kitchen they manage. They fed hungry children several times a week in the Roma settlement.

Here is the account concerning the donations:

Cherkasy food invoice: 1 110 730 HUF / 2777 EUR

Mukachevo food invoice: 179 809 HUF / 449 EUR

Berehove food invoice: 92 379 HUF / 230 EUR

Fuel cost of our Cherkasy brothers: 400 EUR

EcoFlow Delta 2 Max Portable Power Station 637 900 HUF / 1590 EUR

Perhaps many people know that in Sub-Carpathia too there are outages regularly. The portable power station, which stores power when there is no outage but provides power supply in periods of outages, is a solution for such a problem, giving power for lights, electric appliances, furnaces, etc. Because of the problematic power supply in Berehove, we bought this portable power station for the church after consulting with Ukrainian and Hungarian experts.

Fuel cost of our Hungarian cars: 700+700+850 = 2250 kilometres 170 000 HUF / 315 EUR

Small and large donations came from private individuals, the Christian Brotherhood Győr, the Brethren Church Biatorbágy, the Baptist Church Újpest, and the french Espoir et Vie organization, from which amounts, with a small addition, we were able to cover the above expenses.

Our Ukrainian brothers and sisters thank us our prayers and donations with gratitude. We took many photos of our travel and in the past few days we received several photos and videos from brother Szatnisláv about relief distributions. We plan to share each photo and video on Google Drive to be seen by everyone. We ask for a little patience because the photos must be given names so that everyone could see where they were taken. Our

brothers and sisters in Cherkasy are looking forward to our further visits and help; they would even like to visit us here in Hungary.

Clothes Distribution

Last year we had regular clothes distributions, which were awaited by many people. Marcsi, Margit, and a few helpers prepared these distributions with many hours of work. Unfortunately Laci, the husband of Marcsi, felt ill because of his heart; he was hospitalized but could not be helped. He died. Let us pray for the family. His funeral service will take place in the cemetery of Dunakeszi at 2 p.m., on 31 January.

The Family

We will give an account of the large family (Bea, Móni és Fanni, Rózsika, J. Zoli, István, Szabolcs, Zsolt, Laci, Sanyi) in our next circular letter.

Jó Hír [Good News] Hungarian Literature Mission

Paul, our American missionary brother and director of the Jó Hír [Good News] Hungarian Literature Mission, died on 20 December at the age of 77. We know that he is in a good place, yet his passing left a huge void.



Thank you for praying for us until now; we ask you to do it in the future, too, since we need it very much.

We thank you your financial support as well.
József Szabó and Éva (Jóska & Vicus)