

"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

## **Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,**

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

## **The fruit bearing tree**

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

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Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## **THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES**

### **Budapest**

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### **The Mother's Shelter is being born again.**

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

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*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

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The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

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according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

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*Tünde Rácz, Office manager*

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**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

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**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

### **Temporary Home for Homeless Families**

#### **Our service in the homeless care**

**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

**We are still in great need of someone who can live here locally and can be the qualified director of this ministry. We also need a caretaker who can solve technical problems and would be able to start systematically the development work. A social worker is needed too who would serve among the homeless here. Please pray for the right people to come and join us with a call from God.**

*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

### **Thanksgiving**

*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

We were very thankful for Christmas, that everyone received a gift and heard the Word of God. We are thankful to see how God works in the hearts and to see changes. We pray for those who are under our care.

Our children's day was a great joy and fun and fellowship.

We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

### **If you wish to support our ministry you can do so: The bank details are:**

Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



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*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

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OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

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Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11

"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

## **Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,**

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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### **Budapest**

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

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*Anita Ficsór, Teacher*

### **THE NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR BODROG**

**Please note that the bank account for Bodrog has changed!**

**If you wish to support our ministry you can do so. The new bank details are:**

**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkért and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray



together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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### Budapest

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**Please note that the bank account for Bodrog has changed!**

**If you wish to support our ministry you can do so. The new bank details are:**

**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

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**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

### **Temporary Home for Homeless Families**

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**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

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*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

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Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

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Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

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The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

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The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but



according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

In 2009 the great financial challenge of the Foundation will be to provide the four millions of HFTs we had to add to the grant we won from HEFOP to modernize the Mother's Shelter.

We also won a grant with the aim to plan our ministries' strategy in the future. This project will start soon.

Sadly two applications for grants by the Men's Shelter were turned down. We are going to have another one for renovating the manual engineering of the home. Please pray for success.

*Tünde Rácz, Office manager*

## **Bodrog**

**In March the leadership of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church visited us.** This church has been supporting our ministry for years now. The main aim of that visit for the leadership was to see our ministry, to meet our leadership and to share the two churches' vision, mission and plans, to pray together seeking God's guidance.

On the second Saturday of May The Biblical Marriage counselling Ministry organized a conference for couples, Mónika Miklyá Luzsányi and Ottilia and László Selmeczi were the teachers.

At the end of May the students of the music school had a concert, showing the fruits of their work. The school year was very blessed and successful. Seven children left the kindergarten to start their studies in primary school and ten pupils finished their studies in the primary school and go to secondary school.

**The building project of the BOK (Bodrog Educational Centre) continued.** Antal Fodor is in charge to lead that work. The kindergarten's wing (the kindergarten, the offices, the kitchen and 2 classrooms) were completed. The work on the last phase (the residential flats) started in June



with a help a team from Bloomfield Presbyterian Church.

Philip Surgenor from Newtownards is going to stay for another year, and Andy Loughran, from Bloomfield arrived in July to start his one year voluntary service among us.

**For our great joy God miraculously answered our prayers in our great need of school buses.** Three businessmen donated a brand new 24 seated Mercedes bus as a gift to help our ministry. We were able to change our old 21 seated Iveco to a 46 seated Ikarus. These new buses are able to meet our need. We believe that even more children will receive Christian education and get to know God in the future in our institutes.



**Early July we had a team from Newtownards who helped with the preparation for our Christian music camp.** Flóra Földesi helped with the interpretation

**In mid July we had our music camp it was a great blessing and fun.** At the end we had a concert where offering was taken to help an ill child and his family in the village.

**At the end of the month we had a team of young people from Exodus, Northern Ireland, who together our young people had evangelistic programmes in the nearby villages.**

**In August, with a help of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church we ran our English/Bible Holiday Club.** During the week more than 50 kids came along. On three evenings we had evangelistic events in three villages nearby.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "The Lord is good" Baptist Church and "The Beginning of Wisdom" Kindergarten.** We praise the Lord for his faithfulness during the last 20 years.



**The school year started**, there 33 children in the kindergarten, 75 children in the primary school and 82 in the music school.

**Since the last newsletter two babies were born:** Fanni Erdei, the third daughter of Attila and Mónika Erdei, and Erik Gál, the first child of Noémi and Tibi Gál.

**There are new workers and helpers from who joined our team from 1<sup>st</sup> September.** Dániel Dan is a primary school teacher (biology and PE lessons), Balázs Varga and Zsóka Koncz are helping in Bodrog.

*Anita Ficsór, Teacher*

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11

"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

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**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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1221 Budapest

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Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

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Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

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News letter

## Autumn 2009

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I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

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## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

Each "family" (the mother and her children) are accommodated in their own room, there is play room, a baby kitchen and a kitchen and a dining room. Outside there is a small playground too. The residents can live here for eighteen months at the longest. We would like to use this time in the best way, to show them and demonstrate to them the Christian life. Everyone in the staff is a born again believer, they either belong to Baptist or Pentecostal churches in Budapest and it is a joy to serve together with them. A great number of the residents attend the Budafok Baptist Church regularly and the children can join in the kids' programmes in the church. It is good to see the changes in their lives by the grace of Christ and to be a tool of God in their lives.

Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

## ***The Men's Shelter***

### **Our life and our plans in the Men's Shelter.**

**We are thankful for the ongoing ministry in the Men's Shelter.** There are more and more young people applying for accommodation and the

Shelter is full. In the attic now there is a residential room, where Gábor Sinka, social worker moved to so downstairs there are 4 rooms with 3 beds each. Soon the toilet, the shower and the living room will be ready. We would like to make the Shelter accessible for disabled people. The yard is very nice and friendly. We plan to have a vegetable garden, growing our own veggies. Two of our residents received a grand to learn a trade, which is very encouraging. It is a vital step for the homeless to get work to make improvements.

The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but





according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

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**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

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OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

In Luke 13. 6-8 Jesus tells a story. He talks about a fig tree that has an owner. For three years there was no fruit so the owner decided to cut it down so it would not use up the soil. The man who took care of the vineyard knew the circumstances but did not give up hope: he begged the owner, trying to convince him with his professional knowledge to give one more year to the tree.

Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.



## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

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1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

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Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

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The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

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**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

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**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

### **Temporary Home for Homeless Families**

#### **Our service in the homeless care**

**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

**We are still in great need of someone who can live here locally and can be the qualified director of this ministry. We also need a caretaker who can solve technical problems and would be able to start systematically the development work. A social worker is needed too who would serve among the homeless here. Please pray for the right people to come and join us with a call from God.**

*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

### **Thanksgiving**

*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

We were very thankful for Christmas, that everyone received a gift and heard the Word of God. We are thankful to see how God works in the hearts and to see changes. We pray for those who are under our care.

Our children's day was a great joy and fun and fellowship.

We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

### **If you wish to support our ministry you can do so: The bank details are:**

Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





News letter

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*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

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**Budapest**

*The Mother's Shelter*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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1221 Budapest

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Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

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## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

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#### *The Mother's Shelter*

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**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray



together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

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**If you wish to support our ministry you can do so. The new bank details are:**

**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

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**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



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*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

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*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

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OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

## **Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,**

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

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Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

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### **Budapest**

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### **The Mother's Shelter is being born again.**

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**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

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The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

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The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but



according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

In 2009 the great financial challenge of the Foundation will be to provide the four millions of HFTs we had to add to the grant we won from HEFOP to modernize the Mother's Shelter.

We also won a grant with the aim to plan our ministries' strategy in the future. This project will start soon.

Sadly two applications for grants by the Men's Shelter were turned down. We are going to have another one for renovating the manual engineering of the home. Please pray for success.

*Tünde Rácz, Office manager*

## **Bodrog**

**In March the leadership of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church visited us.** This church has been supporting our ministry for years now. The main aim of that visit for the leadership was to see our ministry, to meet our leadership and to share the two churches' vision, mission and plans, to pray together seeking God's guidance.

On the second Saturday of May The Biblical Marriage counselling Ministry organized a conference for couples, Mónika Miklyá Luzsányi and Ottilia and László Selmeczi were the teachers.

At the end of May the students of the music school had a concert, showing the fruits of their work. The school year was very blessed and successful. Seven children left the kindergarten to start their studies in primary school and ten pupils finished their studies in the primary school and go to secondary school.

**The building project of the BOK (Bodrog Educational Centre) continued.** Antal Fodor is in charge to lead that work. The kindergarten's wing (the kindergarten, the offices, the kitchen and 2 classrooms) were completed. The work on the last phase (the residential flats) started in June



with a help a team from Bloomfield Presbyterian Church.

Philip Surgenor from Newtownards is going to stay for another year, and Andy Loughran, from Bloomfield arrived in July to start his one year voluntary service among us.

**For our great joy God miraculously answered our prayers in our great need of school buses.** Three businessmen donated a brand new 24 seated Mercedes bus as a gift to help our ministry. We were able to change our old 21 seated Iveco to a 46 seated Ikarus. These new buses are able to meet our need. We believe that even more children will receive Christian education and get to know God in the future in our institutes.



**Early July we had a team from Newtownards who helped with the preparation for our Christian music camp.** Flóra Földesi helped with the interpretation

**In mid July we had our music camp it was a great blessing and fun.** At the end we had a concert where offering was taken to help an ill child and his family in the village.

**At the end of the month we had a team of young people from Exodus, Northern Ireland, who together our young people had evangelistic programmes in the nearby villages.**

**In August, with a help of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church we ran our English/Bible Holiday Club.** During the week more than 50 kids came along. On three evenings we had evangelistic events in three villages nearby.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "The Lord is good" Baptist Church and "The Beginning of Wisdom" Kindergarten.** We praise the Lord for his faithfulness during the last 20 years.



**The school year started**, there 33 children in the kindergarten, 75 children in the primary school and 82 in the music school.

**Since the last newsletter two babies were born:** Fanni Erdei, the third daughter of Attila and Mónika Erdei, and Erik Gál, the first child of Noémi and Tibi Gál.

**There are new workers and helpers from who joined our team from 1<sup>st</sup> September.** Dániel Dan is a primary school teacher (biology and PE lessons), Balázs Varga and Zsóka Koncz are helping in Bodrog.

*Anita Ficsór, Teacher*

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H-1054 Budapest

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

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Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11

"The Lord is good,  
a REFUGE  
in times of trouble."

Nahum 1:7

# MENEDÉK



News letter

**Autumn 2009**

## **Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,**

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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## **THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES**

### **Budapest**

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### **The Mother's Shelter is being born again.**

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

Each "family" (the mother and her children) are accommodated in their own room, there is play room, a baby kitchen and a kitchen and a dining room. Outside there is a small playground too. The residents can live here for eighteen months at the longest. We would like to use this time in the best way, to show them and demonstrate to them the Christian life. Everyone in the staff is a born again believer, they either belong to Baptist or Pentecostal churches in Budapest and it is a joy to serve together with them. A great number of the residents attend the Budafok Baptist Church regularly and the children can join in the kids' programmes in the church. It is good to see the changes in their lives by the grace of Christ and to be a tool of God in their lives.

Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

## ***The Men's Shelter***

### **Our life and our plans in the Men's Shelter.**

**We are thankful for the ongoing ministry in the Men's Shelter.** There are more and more young people applying for accommodation and the

Shelter is full. In the attic now there is a residential room, where Gábor Sinka, social worker moved to so downstairs there are 4 rooms with 3 beds each. Soon the toilet, the shower and the living room will be ready. We would like to make the Shelter accessible for disabled people. The yard is very nice and friendly. We plan to have a vegetable garden, growing our own veggies. Two of our residents received a grand to learn a trade, which is very encouraging. It is a vital step for the homeless to get work to make improvements.

The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

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Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





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### Budapest

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**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

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OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

In Luke 13. 6-8 Jesus tells a story. He talks about a fig tree that has an owner. For three years there was no fruit so the owner decided to cut it down so it would not use up the soil. The man who took care of the vineyard knew the circumstances but did not give up hope: he begged the owner, trying to convince him with his professional knowledge to give one more year to the tree.

Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.



## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

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1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

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Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

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### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

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The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

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*Tünde Rácz, Office manager*

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**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

### **Temporary Home for Homeless Families**

#### **Our service in the homeless care**

**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

**We are still in great need of someone who can live here locally and can be the qualified director of this ministry. We also need a caretaker who can solve technical problems and would be able to start systematically the development work. A social worker is needed too who would serve among the homeless here. Please pray for the right people to come and join us with a call from God.**

*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

### **Thanksgiving**

*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

We were very thankful for Christmas, that everyone received a gift and heard the Word of God. We are thankful to see how God works in the hearts and to see changes. We pray for those who are under our care.

Our children's day was a great joy and fun and fellowship.

We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

### **If you wish to support our ministry you can do so: The bank details are:**

Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





News letter

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*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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1221 Budapest

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Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

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Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray



together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

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*Péter Csaplár, Social worker*

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

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*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

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*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

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Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

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*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

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The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

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Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

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The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but



according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

In 2009 the great financial challenge of the Foundation will be to provide the four millions of HFTs we had to add to the grant we won from HEFOP to modernize the Mother's Shelter.

We also won a grant with the aim to plan our ministries' strategy in the future. This project will start soon.

Sadly two applications for grants by the Men's Shelter were turned down. We are going to have another one for renovating the manual engineering of the home. Please pray for success.

*Tünde Rácz, Office manager*

## **Bodrog**

**In March the leadership of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church visited us.** This church has been supporting our ministry for years now. The main aim of that visit for the leadership was to see our ministry, to meet our leadership and to share the two churches' vision, mission and plans, to pray together seeking God's guidance.

On the second Saturday of May The Biblical Marriage counselling Ministry organized a conference for couples, Mónika Miklyá Luzsányi and Ottilia and László Selmeczi were the teachers.

At the end of May the students of the music school had a concert, showing the fruits of their work. The school year was very blessed and successful. Seven children left the kindergarten to start their studies in primary school and ten pupils finished their studies in the primary school and go to secondary school.

**The building project of the BOK (Bodrog Educational Centre) continued.** Antal Fodor is in charge to lead that work. The kindergarten's wing (the kindergarten, the offices, the kitchen and 2 classrooms) were completed. The work on the last phase (the residential flats) started in June



with a help a team from Bloomfield Presbyterian Church.

Philip Surgenor from Newtownards is going to stay for another year, and Andy Loughran, from Bloomfield arrived in July to start his one year voluntary service among us.

**For our great joy God miraculously answered our prayers in our great need of school buses.** Three businessmen donated a brand new 24 seated Mercedes bus as a gift to help our ministry. We were able to change our old 21 seated Iveco to a 46 seated Ikarus. These new buses are able to meet our need. We believe that even more children will receive Christian education and get to know God in the future in our institutes.



**Early July we had a team from Newtownards who helped with the preparation for our Christian music camp.** Flóra Földesi helped with the interpretation

**In mid July we had our music camp it was a great blessing and fun.** At the end we had a concert where offering was taken to help an ill child and his family in the village.

**At the end of the month we had a team of young people from Exodus, Northern Ireland, who together our young people had evangelistic programmes in the nearby villages.**

**In August, with a help of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church we ran our English/Bible Holiday Club.** During the week more than 50 kids came along. On three evenings we had evangelistic events in three villages nearby.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "The Lord is good" Baptist Church and "The Beginning of Wisdom" Kindergarten.** We praise the Lord for his faithfulness during the last 20 years.



**The school year started**, there 33 children in the kindergarten, 75 children in the primary school and 82 in the music school.

**Since the last newsletter two babies were born:** Fanni Erdei, the third daughter of Attila and Mónika Erdei, and Erik Gál, the first child of Noémi and Tibi Gál.

**There are new workers and helpers from who joined our team from 1<sup>st</sup> September.** Dániel Dan is a primary school teacher (biology and PE lessons), Balázs Varga and Zsóka Koncz are helping in Bodrog.

*Anita Ficsór, Teacher*

### **THE NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR BODROG**

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**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

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Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

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Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

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## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.

## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

Each "family" (the mother and her children) are accommodated in their own room, there is play room, a baby kitchen and a kitchen and a dining room. Outside there is a small playground too. The residents can live here for eighteen months at the longest. We would like to use this time in the best way, to show them and demonstrate to them the Christian life. Everyone in the staff is a born again believer, they either belong to Baptist or Pentecostal churches in Budapest and it is a joy to serve together with them. A great number of the residents attend the Budafok Baptist Church regularly and the children can join in the kids' programmes in the church. It is good to see the changes in their lives by the grace of Christ and to be a tool of God in their lives.

Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

## ***The Men's Shelter***

### **Our life and our plans in the Men's Shelter.**

**We are thankful for the ongoing ministry in the Men's Shelter.** There are more and more young people applying for accommodation and the

Shelter is full. In the attic now there is a residential room, where Gábor Sinka, social worker moved to so downstairs there are 4 rooms with 3 beds each. Soon the toilet, the shower and the living room will be ready. We would like to make the Shelter accessible for disabled people. The yard is very nice and friendly. We plan to have a vegetable garden, growing our own veggies. Two of our residents received a grand to learn a trade, which is very encouraging. It is a vital step for the homeless to get work to make improvements.

The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but





according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

In 2009 the great financial challenge of the Foundation will be to provide the four millions of HFTs we had to add to the grant we won from HEFOP to modernize the Mother's Shelter.

We also won a grant with the aim to plan our ministries' strategy in the future. This project will start soon.

Sadly two applications for grants by the Men's Shelter were turned down. We are going to have another one for renovating the manual engineering of the home. Please pray for success.

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IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

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*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

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**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

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We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

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We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

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1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Otilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

In Luke 13. 6-8 Jesus tells a story. He talks about a fig tree that has an owner. For three years there was no fruit so the owner decided to cut it down so it would not use up the soil. The man who took care of the vineyard knew the circumstances but did not give up hope: he begged the owner, trying to convince him with his professional knowledge to give one more year to the tree.

Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.



## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

Each "family" (the mother and her children) are accommodated in their own room, there is play room, a baby kitchen and a kitchen and a dining room. Outside there is a small playground too. The residents can live here for eighteen months at the longest. We would like to use this time in the best way, to show them and demonstrate to them the Christian life. Everyone in the staff is a born again believer, they either belong to Baptist or Pentecostal churches in Budapest and it is a joy to serve together with them. A great number of the residents attend the Budafok Baptist Church regularly and the children can join in the kids' programmes in the church. It is good to see the changes in their lives by the grace of Christ and to be a tool of God in their lives.

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117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

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HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

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1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

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Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

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If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

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People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

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**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

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**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

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**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray

together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

### **Temporary Home for Homeless Families**

#### **Our service in the homeless care**

**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

**We are still in great need of someone who can live here locally and can be the qualified director of this ministry. We also need a caretaker who can solve technical problems and would be able to start systematically the development work. A social worker is needed too who would serve among the homeless here. Please pray for the right people to come and join us with a call from God.**

*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

### **Thanksgiving**

*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

We were very thankful for Christmas, that everyone received a gift and heard the Word of God. We are thankful to see how God works in the hearts and to see changes. We pray for those who are under our care.

Our children's day was a great joy and fun and fellowship.

We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

### **If you wish to support our ministry you can do so: The bank details are:**

Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11





News letter

## Autumn 2009

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#### **Our service in the homeless care**

**We are thankful for the ongoing work in the Refugetown, we constantly have new residents arriving to our institute. Our workers are:** Mrs. Katalin Réti, Mrs. Marika Rácz, Péter Csaplár, Ibolya Farkas, Mrs. Bödök as social workers, Gábor Liptai as institute manager. We are happy to see that most of the people settle down well and join the church. It is sad whenever we must say good bye to someone due to problems. The leading problem is alcoholism. We need the grace and love of God that our residents may live a happy and whole life without alcohol. We are glad to know that some people have employment and even those who do not have can occupy themselves by working in the Refugetown. It is very important for lie-up is a bad adviser. Simple work such as tidying up, cleaning, doing dishes, gardening etc can help people to find the joy of work and to learn responsibility.

**We are still in great need of someone who can live here locally and can be the qualified director of this ministry. We also need a caretaker who can solve technical problems and would be able to start systematically the development work. A social worker is needed too who would serve among the homeless here. Please pray for the right people to come and join us with a call from God.**

*Gábor Liptai, Institute manager*

### **Thanksgiving**

*He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me, and he prepares the way so that I may show the salvation of God." Psalm 50: 23*

Together with the psalmist I believe in this verse. So many times we bring our requests, problems and sins and so often we forget to give thanks. Now I would like to do that.

In the last news letter we wrote about our great need for new workers. Since then God has sent a trained family worker Mrs. Margó Gyöngyösi who is a member of the Baptist Church in Kecskemét. (She spent her practical term as a college student in the Refugetown and was called by God to join the team after her studies were completed). We still need a dedicated child carer.

We were very thankful for Christmas, that everyone received a gift and heard the Word of God. We are thankful to see how God works in the hearts and to see changes. We pray for those who are under our care.

Our children's day was a great joy and fun and fellowship.

We are thankful for successful studies and exams. In June three of us finished their studies; during that time we experienced God's support too.

We wish God's richest blessing upon your lives, families and service, we wish that you may experience the Lord's goodness and be thankful for it.

*György Antal, Social worker*

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Menedék Hungarian Forints Account:

117 220032002222200000000

IBAM electronic form: HU7211722003200222200000000

IBAM printing form:

HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000

OTP Bank SWIFT code (BIC): OTPVHUHB

Bank address:

OTP Bank Rt.

1221 Budapest

Kossuth L.u.31.

Menedék Foundation

Budapest: 1221 Budapest, Leányka út. 34. III/ 21.

Internet: [www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

Bodrog: 7439 Bodrog, Kossuth u. 155.

Kiskunmajsa: 6120 Kiskunmajsa, Szegedi u. 11



News letter

## Autumn 2009

### Dear Friends and Supporters of the Menedék (Refuge) Foundation,

I greet you with Christian love from Bodrog, on behalf of the Menedék team. The summer has gone, the new school year has started. There is a lot to share since our last news letter; we trust you will enjoy all our news. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support and interest in our work. If you want to receive this newsletter in the future, please let me know. You can send me an email on [selmecziles@gmail.com](mailto:selmecziles@gmail.com) or a letter to the foundation's address.

If we can reach you by email, please let us know. Thank you. May God bless you and keep you.

*Yours in Him, Mrs. Ottilia Selmeczi*

### The fruit bearing tree

Two weeks ago I pruned the fig tree in the garden of the Men's Shelter. I started treating it two or three years ago. Since then the illness has gone: before that it was very ill: its branches were full of fungus, louses attacked it and it grew in its own way.

Now even the fruits from last year were hanging, they were black and withered. The knives of the pruning scissors were working hard in my hands: the dried died branches were falling on the ground. From time to time I stopped to have a look; I did not want to cause any harm. I am not a gardener, I do not know a lot about pruning. But I was interested in how to free that tree from the fruitless branches. I wanted the tree to produce fruit, which is good to look at and edible. It would not be a problem if it only produces few but lovely, healthy fruits.

People are much more sensitive than any tree. Those who work with people who are despised know very well how much fight, failure, victory pain and dilemma it takes to care for them as we teach, help, give example, correct them and show them the way to heaven.

In Luke 13. 6-8 Jesus tells a story. He talks about a fig tree that has an owner. For three years there was no fruit so the owner decided to cut it down so it would not use up the soil. The man who took care of the vineyard knew the circumstances but did not give up hope: he begged the owner, trying to convince him with his professional knowledge to give one more year to the tree.

Each of us belong to God, even those who are at the edge of our society, God is their owner even when many do not recognize them. By grace we are called to cut, to prune the dried branches, hoping for fruit in the future. We can be such gardeners.

*Gábor Sinka, Social worker*

## THE NEWS OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES

### Budapest

#### *The Mother's Shelter*

### The Mother's Shelter is being born again.

**Early July the renovation work of the Mother's Shelter started.** The budget of this project is approximately 40 millions of HFTs. More than 36 millions are covered by the support we won from a grant specialized for renovating/modernizing homes in central Hungary.

The building itself is more than 100 years old, there are ten bedrooms, a play room, a kitchen, a dining room, a laundry room, two offices and a gate house. The two computers in the shelter are old. The whole building is worn out: the lagging system is out of date, the walls take in water, there is no access for disabled people, etc.

**Please pray for the renovation project as it is being carried out.** The project manager of the grant is Zoltán Kovács, the chairman of the Refuge Foundation, who receives help from a professional staff.



## **The life in the Mother's Shelter**

The leader of the work is Géza Huszár, who is in that post as a retired person. About the life in the Shelter he says:

It is a special that the Shelter is in the former prayer house in the Szent Gellért Street.

The schedule of the work is ongoing, 24 hours a day. We have permission for 30 people and at present there are nine mothers with their children. Most of the children attend kindergarten or primary school

Each "family" (the mother and her children) are accommodated in their own room, there is play room, a baby kitchen and a kitchen and a dining room. Outside there is a small playground too. The residents can live here for eighteen months at the longest. We would like to use this time in the best way, to show them and demonstrate to them the Christian life. Everyone in the staff is a born again believer, they either belong to Baptist or Pentecostal churches in Budapest and it is a joy to serve together with them. A great number of the residents attend the Budafok Baptist Church regularly and the children can join in the kids' programmes in the church. It is good to see the changes in their lives by the grace of Christ and to be a tool of God in their lives.

Visitors are welcomed from churches. There are small teams coming who organize activities for the children and who talk to the mothers. College and university students who study social work usually join in as they do their practical placement here, and get useful experience in the Home. On Monday mornings there is a prayer time for the staff, led by Géza Kovács, on Tuesdays in the Menedék (Refuge) Office we have a workshop and a quite time, led by Zoltán Kovács. The governing body of the Refuge Foundation meets on the first Tuesday each month.

Please pray for those who are afraid and running away due to the violence at home,

that they may find a home and may grow spiritually.

*Géza Huszár, the Home manager*

## ***The Men's Shelter***

### **Our life and our plans in the Men's Shelter.**

**We are thankful for the ongoing ministry in the Men's Shelter.** There are more and more young people applying for accommodation and the

Shelter is full. In the attic now there is a residential room, where Gábor Sinka, social worker moved to so downstairs there are 4 rooms with 3 beds each. Soon the toilet, the shower and the living room will be ready. We would like to make the Shelter accessible for disabled people. The yard is very nice and friendly. We plan to have a vegetable garden, growing our own veggies. Two of our residents received a grand to learn a trade, which is very encouraging. It is a vital step for the homeless to get work to make improvements.

The counselling work is ongoing, each evening we have a Bible Study. On Thursday evening the Teaclub is on, led by Tivadar Molnár. Some of the men attend the church regularly on Sundays. We hope and pray that more and more of them will find their place in Christ's family and in the church.

*Gábor Liptai, Shelter manager*

## ***Office***

### **Mission Week End in Tóalmás**

The leadership of the "Word of Life" Foundation invited the Refuge Foundation to talk about its work on 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> January. We had stands with photos of our work and we talked about the ministries of our mission. The choir from Bodrog took part during the service and at the end a collection was taken to support our work. We want to thank everyone for their gifts.

### **Projects and grants**

In 2005-2007, the Menedék Foundation provided two years of educational training for its workers supported by HEFOP from the EU. Sadly, the organization, which handles that grant even today owes us 2,9 millions of HFTs.

In Kiskunmajsa from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 we have received the operation permit to accommodate homeless people, and so the work started, but



according to the budgetary law the permission and the normative support from the government does not go hand in hand. It meant that (9,6 millions HFTs) the functional expenses and the wages were not covered. So we tried to get help, grants from the Public Foundation for The Homeless (we did not get any) and from the Social and Labour Department we got help to cover nearly 2/3 of the missing normative support.

In 2009 the great financial challenge of the Foundation will be to provide the four millions of HFTs we had to add to the grant we won from HEFOP to modernize the Mother's Shelter.

We also won a grant with the aim to plan our ministries' strategy in the future. This project will start soon.

Sadly two applications for grants by the Men's Shelter were turned down. We are going to have another one for renovating the manual engineering of the home. Please pray for success.

*Tünde Rác, Office manager*

## **Bodrog**

**In March the leadership of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church visited us.** This church has been supporting our ministry for years now. The main aim of that visit for the leadership was to see our ministry, to meet our leadership and to share the two churches' vision, mission and plans, to pray together seeking God's guidance.

On the second Saturday of May The Biblical Marriage counselling Ministry organized a conference for couples, Mónika Miklyá Luzsányi and Ottilia and László Selmeczi were the teachers.

At the end of May the students of the music school had a concert, showing the fruits of their work. The school year was very blessed and successful. Seven children left the kindergarten to start their studies in primary school and ten pupils finished their studies in the primary school and go to secondary school.

**The building project of the BOK (Bodrog Educational Centre) continued.** Antal Fodor is in charge to lead that work. The kindergarten's wing (the kindergarten, the offices, the kitchen and 2 classrooms) were completed. The work on the last phase (the residential flats) started in June



with a help a team from Bloomfield Presbyterian Church.

Philip Surgenor from Newtownards is going to stay for another year, and Andy Loughran, from Bloomfield arrived in July to start his one year voluntary service among us.

**For our great joy God miraculously answered our prayers in our great need of school buses.** Three businessmen donated a brand new 24 seated Mercedes bus as a gift to help our ministry. We were able to change our old 21 seated Iveco to a 46 seated Ikarus. These new buses are able to meet our need. We believe that even more children will receive Christian education and get to know God in the future in our institutes.



**Early July we had a team from Newtownards who helped with the preparation for our Christian music camp.** Flóra Földesi helped with the interpretation

**In mid July we had our music camp it was a great blessing and fun.** At the end we had a concert where offering was taken to help an ill child and his family in the village.

**At the end of the month we had a team of young people from Exodus, Northern Ireland, who together our young people had evangelistic programmes in the nearby villages.**

**In August, with a help of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church we ran our English/Bible Holiday Club.** During the week more than 50 kids came along. On three evenings we had evangelistic events in three villages nearby.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> August we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "The Lord is good" Baptist Church and "The Beginning of Wisdom" Kindergarten.** We praise the Lord for his faithfulness during the last 20 years.



**The school year started**, there 33 children in the kindergarten, 75 children in the primary school and 82 in the music school.

**Since the last newsletter two babies were born:** Fanni Erdei, the third daughter of Attila and Mónika Erdei, and Erik Gál, the first child of Noémi and Tibi Gál.

**There are new workers and helpers from who joined our team from 1<sup>st</sup> September.** Dániel Dan is a primary school teacher (biology and PE lessons), Balázs Varga and Zsóka Koncz are helping in Bodrog.

*Anita Ficsór, Teacher*

### **THE NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR BODROG**

**Please note that the bank account for Bodrog has changed!**

**If you wish to support our ministry you can do so. The new bank details are:**

**THE NAME OF THE ACCOUNT:**

**„JÓ AZ ÚR” BODROGI BAPTISTA GYÜLEKEZET**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN):**

**HU80-13597539-12302010-00040670**

**BANK:**

KDB Bank (Magyarország) Zrt.

H-1054 Budapest

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 42-46.

Hungary

**SWIFT Code:**

**KODBHUHB**

## **Kiskunmajsza**

### **Spiritual life in the Refugetown**

**Every day there are lots of opportunities to do counselling and to talk about spiritual issues and challenges with the people who are under our care.** We are seeking the Lord's guidance as we counsel the people.

On Mondays there is a Bible study for the workers, which helps to build up the spiritual unity as a serving body. The goal is *“love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1Tim. 1:5)*

Each evening there is a Bible study with two fold aims. One is to make disciples. There is practical and relevant teaching about everyday life to help us to grow as followers of Christ. The second part of the Bible study is about worship and prayer and praise. We have church services on Thursdays and on Sundays. At present we are studying 2 Samuel.



The numbers vary: sometimes there is a bigger number, sometimes there is a smaller, and the average number is 15-20. On Sunday morning services there are 35-40 people. There are two families who regularly attend our services from the town. We have kids' club for the children both in the mornings and in the afternoons. There are people who get saved and we can do follow up work with them. Our aim is to keep in touch with the families who have moved out from the Refugetown, so we visit them regularly.

**We have a good relationship with the mission called 4H (Helping His Hungarian Heroes). On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the leaders of that ministry, Eric and Rosemary Barrett came and taught us about the universe and how it reveals the almighty being of the Lord.**

We have good, supporting relationship with the Budafok Baptist Church and the Baptist Church in Soltvadkert and other local churches.

Péter Csaplár, Social worker

**It is important that the church may provide opportunities to grow, to find rest and to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. It is important to demonstrate the Christian life and its values to those who are under our care and to let them know that they can choose it and make a decision about it.** We give a call regularly to choose the grace of God, to pray



together or to carry someone's burden. People in need are receptive and open to come along and there are only very few who do not come to Church. We share the services with Péter Csaplár, he is in charge of the daily Bible studies. He is dedicated and faithful and his work brings a lot of joy to him and to the church. Peter completed his studies at the Baptist Seminar. His initiation ceremony has not happened yet. He wants to be known by the church and by the residents in the Refugetown first.

We ask you to keep praying for our ministry and we are looking forward to having visitors who serve among us from different churches.

*Géza Huszár, Social worker*

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