

HUNG^aRY 4 GOD'S WORD.

story and photos: Tom Price



In Eastern Europe, Hungary shines the brightest among the nations formerly under the cloud of communism. It has the third fastest growing economy in the world. Vanishing is the monetary corruption that followed this transition from decades of authoritarian rule to democracy. As fields of sunflowers blanket the countryside, turning their golden petals in unison toward the sun, so the people of this nation are turning their hearts toward the Son of God.

Many missionaries pioneered the Calvary Chapel movement. Relinquishing thriving ministries in America to others, they felt God tug at their hearts to enter a newly opened mission field, with Pastor Brian Brodersen's gentle encouragement. The iron curtain of communism was lifting across the land, and Pastor Brian felt the Lord calling Calvary Chapel to begin reaching out to the millions previously denied the opportunity to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



Two-year-old James Csaba Payne intently watches worshippers at the conference while sitting in front of his parents, Mike and Marika from CC

HUNGARIAN CALVARY CHAPEL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - CSILLEBERC



Visual skits are acted out for the worship leader's workshop.

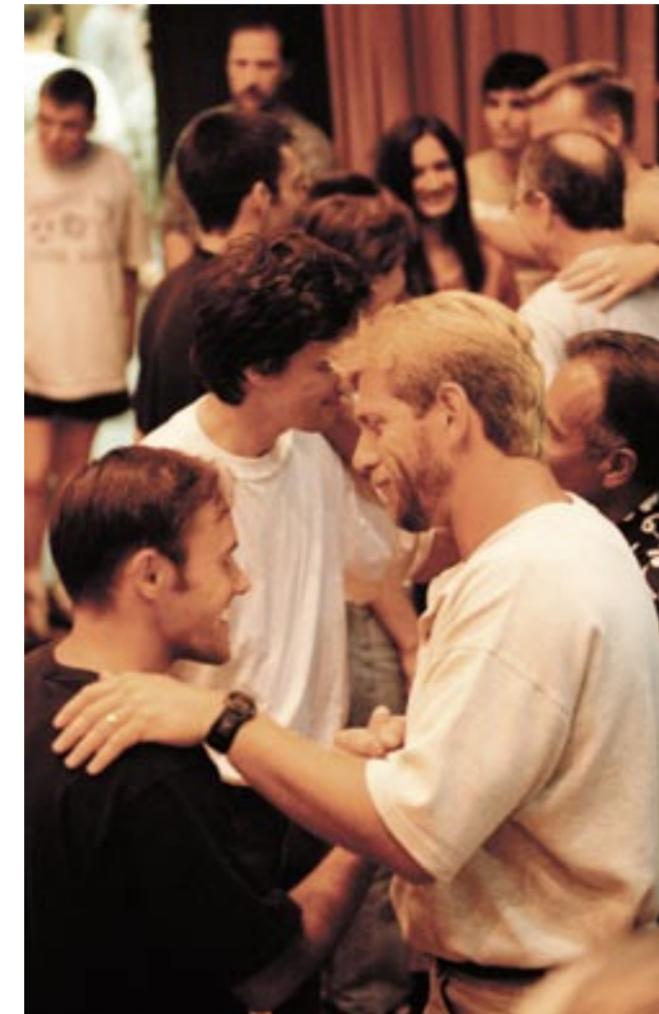
"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9

The Hungarian physician, Dr. Anita, was puzzled. These people spoke of God. In the beginning, she had no interest. However, she had encountered things she had never seen before with this Ukrainian fellow, Oleg. She knew this seriously ill man had come to a Christian conference held in Csilleberc, outside the Hungarian capital of Budapest. The Guillain-Barre syndrome that paralyzed his body was devastating and fatal if not treated. In spite of this, he was the most cheerful patient she had ever encountered. Even as he slipped in and out of consciousness, he tried to cooperate.

Oleg's friends stayed by his bedside overnight, watching over him. Most were fellow Ukrainians. One of them, Zsolt Bodogan, known as Bodi, was a Hungarian doctor.



Left: Pastor Lloyd Pulley (right) listens to the evening's teachings sitting outside.



Pastor Ken Graves (right), CC Bangor, Maine, ministers to believers after communion at the close of the conference.



Pastor Lloyd Pulley (right), CC Old Bridge, New Jersey, and his wife, Karen, share a laugh at the conference with Pastor Lance Cook.

"In 1989 CC Old Bridge first visited the Bible College/Conference Center in Austria and we found the Europeans to be truly hungry for the Word of God. The Lord began to open doors to send teams over to facilitate conferences and outreaches in Hungary and Yugoslavia. Soon after we began our involvement, we planted a church in Kula, Yugoslavia."



Arches in a riverside cafe frame the parliament building in the capital city of Budapest.

This fact mystified the medical staff at the hospital. Bodi had graduated from the top medical school in the country, the fourth highest in his class. He had finished his residency and could have established a practice at a prestigious hospital. As he talked with her about Oleg's rare blood disorder, Dr. Anita realized Bodi's medical knowledge was extensive. With the Lord's guidance, Bodi chose to pastor a Christian church rather than to practice medicine. The Calvary Chapel he pastors in Debrecen is 100 miles east of Budapest.

Bodi had not even known Oleg before he got sick. Their only connection was their shared belief and the conference. Nevertheless, Bodi came twice a day to check on Oleg and to speak with Dr. Anita.

"I am quite intrigued by your church," Dr. Anita confided to Bodi on the seventh day of Oleg's hospitalization.

"You told me Oleg had no money, but even strangers at your conference gave enough to pay for all the blood treatments he needed, which exceeded \$3,500. His friends stayed with him and prayed for him. Now we see him recovering so fast that it seems a miracle, unlike anything we have seen before," she said.



Laughter abounded at the conference.

Bodi smiled. He knew God was using Oleg's ordeal. "May I share the faith Oleg and I have in Jesus Christ with you?" he asked. Dr. Anita was ready to listen.

Full of excitement, Oleg traveled from CC Kiev in his native Ukraine to attend the Leadership Conference in Budapest. His pastor, George Markey, had rented a bus for 35 members to make the trek to Hungary. John Chubik, an American missionary in Kiev, had served in Hungary before and made the arrangements. Soon after arriving, Oleg became ill. He lost feeling in his extremities and was rushed to the hospital.

Rod Thompson was coordinator of the conference. The gravity of the situation led him to have John Chubik inform the body of believers of Oleg's condition. The treatment would cost \$3,500 because Oleg was not a Hungarian citizen. Help would be needed to pay the hospital in advance, so a love offering was taken. The love offering combined with other donations provided the \$3,500 needed.

"I felt that God was calling us off the sidelines and into the battle with Oleg's illness," said Rod. We needed to stand up and be counted. Some



Saint Stephen, Hungary's first Christian King.



Dzmirty Shankov (right), CC Smolensk, Russia, practices vocal techniques given by Billy Purnell, a professional voice instructor who gave a week-long seminar for worship team members.

people gave almost all the money they had brought for the conference." Oleg recovered from his ordeal in the hospital and was deeply moved by the love and generosity shown to him by his brothers and sisters in Christ.

Rod is the director of the Calvary Chapel Bible College/Conference Center (CCBC) at the Castle in Millstatt, Austria and the pastor at CC Spittal. His service in Europe had begun as a call from Pastor Chuck Smith to be a plumber at the Castle nearly 12 years before. He and Greg Opean set out to plant churches in Hungary in 1991. Ministering in Subotica, Yugoslavia, and in several Hungarian CC church plants, he had seen everything imaginable.

Yet the generosity of God's people never failed to humble him. He had returned every year from the Castle to help guide the conference.



Zuza (right), wife of Pastor Rod Thompson, had a



Pastor Ken Graves hitches a ride atop a van driven by Pastor Lloyd Pulley.



Pastors Raul Ries (left), CC Golden Springs, CA, and Bob Grenier (right), CC Visalia, CA, chat with David Markey, one of the sons of Pastor George Markey, CC Kiev, Ukraine.



Pastors Rod Thompson and Lloyd Pulley pose with the

In earlier years, the missionary conference was held at the Castle in Austria, but the lay and national leaders from eastern Europe could not afford the time or money to journey so far. The goal is to bring the teachings to them, whether they are in children's ministry, leading worship, Bible study, or some other area of ministry.

Pastor Lloyd Pulley from CC Old Bridge in New Jersey arranged for veteran Calvary Chapel pastors to pattern expositional teaching through Ephesians in the main sessions, while others gave specific workshops geared to a particular ministry. Pastors Raul Ries, Lance Cook, Lloyd Pulley, Randy Walls, John Milhouse, Jim Orate, Bob Grenier, Ken Graves, Greg Opean, Dave Sylvester, George Markey, Bill Walden and Rod Thompson taught at the sessions. Dave Sylvester and Mark Walsh instructed worship leading, and Billy Purnell gave a week's class in voice.

Pastor Pat Kenney brought a dozen volunteers from CC Escondido to provide childcare during the teachings. This allowed both husbands and wives to participate in the sessions. The volunteers also taught the children's workers how to prepare a Vacation Bible School. As the buses headed home, it was obvious lives had been changed and bonds of friendship had been established through a shared love of Jesus Christ.



Sinisa, from CC Subotica, Yugoslavia, invites his friends to visit him at his church.

Right: Pastor Rod Thompson joins his daughter, Simone, in waving goodbye.



Redlands youth group to the other side of the world," said Greg.

After several weeks, Greg felt the Lord gave him assurance that this was the way to go. He packed up and headed for the Castle in Austria. The plumber at the Castle, Rod Thompson, was sent to pick him up in Munich. They discovered they had gone to junior and senior high school together, and had even graduated the same year. However, they had run in different circles, neither of them knowing the Lord in those days. Twelve years later in March of 1991, they found themselves together and having fellowship in the grace of God. They felt God's leading that Rod would join Greg in this ministry. One month later, they were dropped off in the southern Hungarian town of Baja. The only other CC pastor in that part of Eastern Europe, Mike Harris, was across the border in Subotica, Yugoslavia.



Nathan, a missionary at CC Budapest, leads worship at a refugee camp in Bicske, outside Budapest.

Very few people spoke English in southern Hungary in the early '90s. Both Greg and Rod felt they were certainly in the outermost parts of the world. On their first Friday night, Greg carried his guitar as they toured the town. A young English-speaking teenager asked if Greg would play for them. Soon there were 40 young people standing around them. After trying to play all their requests, someone asked what the two Americans were doing in Hungary. "We are Christians," replied Greg. "We are here to start a Bible study."

Stunned, the crowd stared at both of them. They had never heard of such a thing. "How many of you would want to come if we started a Bible study?"

Greg asked. All raised their hands. Soon the regular meetings grew to five nights a week. Rod and Greg took turns teaching. After one study, they noticed the interpreter talking quietly with several teenagers. She approached the Americans. "We wondered if you could do another Bible study now since it is only 9 p.m." This began a twice a night study, which became the norm. The group of new believers soon grew to 80.

"It was an amazing time of grace...and the presence of the Lord," said Greg. "Newcomers would walk in and without a doubt you knew they would accept Christ as their Savior before they left." Since



Pastor Dave Sylvester (right), CC York, England, chats with Pastor Greg Opean before sharing in music and song at CC Budapest. He was at the leadership conference to mentor the Hungarian worship leaders.

Mike Harris returned to the States, Greg moved to Subotica in Yugoslavia. Rod stayed in Baja and was joined by Paul Lange. Rod and Paul had come over together from Costa Mesa several years before to handle the plumbing repairs at the Castle.

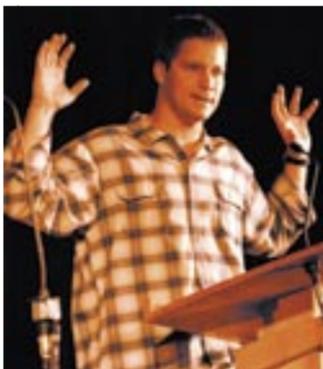
Having the heart of a pioneer, Greg returned to Hungary to pastor new churches in Szeged and Esztergom. Under his leadership, the churches flourished. Teenagers from the three Calvary Chapels and the church in Subotica, Yugoslavia, had left home to attend the universities in Hungary's capital city of Budapest. They began sharing with the missionaries their disappointment in not being able to find a simple church in this beautiful ancient city, where they could worship the Lord and be fed a steady diet of the Word of God.

Greg and several others began making a two-hour journey to Budapest for a weekly Bible study. Greg felt called to move permanently to the capital to plant Calvary Chapel Budapest, or what is known in Hungary as Golgota Budapest. Today the Budapest fellowship is thriving. Most who attend CC Budapest are Hungarian, although it attracts many expatriates. Missionaries from Youth With a Mission, Campus Crusade for Christ, and



Refugees listen as Matt Henscheid teaches from the Bible.

CALVARY CHAPEL BUDAPEST



Pastor Greg Opean, CC Budapest, was one of the early pioneers in planting Calvary Chapels throughout Hungary.

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." John 3:17

Greg Opean took a deep breath and handed his resignation to his mentor and pastor, Don McClure. He treasured the time he had spent learning under the leadership and teaching of Pastor Don. Greg felt he had grown tremendously during the past two years as youth pastor at CC Redlands. In the last six months, however, Greg had experienced a powerful restlessness, and he knew the Lord was urging him to move on. "It was hard because I had no idea what the next step was or what the Lord might be trying to do...I simply knew that it was time to step out." His only concern was giving the appearance of being ungrateful for the great opportunity of ministry.

At that very moment, the phone rang. Brian Brodersen, pastor of CC Vista, was on the line. He had just returned from a tour in Eastern Europe, doing outreaches in Yugoslavia and Hungary. He felt God's leading to ask Greg if he would ever consider beginning a work in southern Hungary. Brian saw the need for a Calvary type of ministry in the area. Greg thought that the phone call was "interesting timing" and held this opportunity in his heart as he waited on God to confirm His will. As he waited, he remembered something that had happened months earlier. Greg and Armando Garcia, one of the youth leaders at CC Redlands, felt led to pray together after cleaning up the church. "We found ourselves on our faces in prayer before the Lord. Armando saw an arch of light reaching from the



Pastor Zsolt Bodogan, CC Debrecen, known as "Bodi," brings joy from the Scriptures as he shares weekly with nursing home patient Marika Tóth.

other evangelical groups fellowship at Calvary Chapel. There are ministries in refugee camps and orphanages. The Lord has raised up Bible studies and churches in 13 Hungarian cities and towns. "We feel that it is only the beginning of all the Lord wants to do," said Greg.

Several years ago, he married Jennifer Rea, daughter of Ed Rea, the pastor of CC Redlands. Jennifer received her master's

degree from the University of Budapest and has been offered a position on the faculty of the University. They feel led to continue ministering in Budapest.



CALVARY CHAPEL DEBRECEN



Zsolt Bodogan, known as Pastor Bodi or Dr. Bodi, came to know the Lord at 17. He was selected for a scholarship in America, where he saw the love of God demonstrated in a small southern Baptist church. Upon return to his hometown of Debrecen, he joined a Bible study that was being taught by Calvary Chapel missionaries from Budapest.

Eventually, Bodi translated for the Bible study, sometimes six days a week. He later became involved in planting the church at Miskolc, a town northwest of Debrecen.

Bodi eventually became the pastor at CC Debrecen. The church continues to thrive under his leadership. The church is growing as they reach out to the community and in the nursing homes.



Women from CC Debrecen share at the nursing home.



CC Debrecen members journey to the leadership conference.



Worshippers from CC Debrecen sing at a Thursday night Bible study.

CALVARY CHAPEL MISKOLC

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

"Not only does God desire for me to call upon Him in prayer, but He is going to answer me," said Justin Eastwick, senior pastor at CC Miskolc. "The Lord will do a work that I cannot imagine with the church and in the hearts of all the people we meet on the streets and in the orphanage we serve."

Justin graduated from CC Bible College in Murrieta, California, in 1998. A mission trip to Hungary gave him the desire to return. Stephany, his wife, had journeyed three times to Hungary with outreach teams.

Justin's three-year ministry experience gained as youth pastor at CC Verde Valley in Cottonwood, Arizona, translated directly to the orphanage outreach by CC Miskolc. Several of the youth are Gypsy by birth and are treated as outcasts by Hungarian society. Justin and Stephany have built a strong bond with the teenagers at the orphanage. Their youthfulness allows them to interact as friends and teachers.

Zachariah, their one-year-old son, is the center of attention on visits to the orphanage. With another baby on the way, the Eastwicks' willingness to share the lives of their entire family allows the teens to feel a sense of belonging most have never felt before.



Stephany Southwick (red blouse), wife of Pastor Justin Southwick, CC Miskolc, Hungary, has developed a close relationship with the girls at the orphanage.



Pastor Justin Southwick (left) relates well with the teenagers at the orphanage. He had been youth pastor at CC Verde Valley, CA, before coming to Hungary with his wife, Stephany, and son, Zachariah.

CAIVARY CHAPEL



Béla Kovács was not interested in religion. As his country made the transition to a free market economy in 1991, he found contentment providing for his family with his hi-tech computer job.

However, everyone in Tompa was talking about the change in Marietta, a cheerful teenager in his village. Previously, people worried that she needed professional help to deal with severe depression following her parents' divorce.

Marietta found the peace she was seeking at a new church called Golgota Christian Church located in Baja, 30 miles away. Calvary Chapel missionaries, Paul Lange, Rod Thompson, and Emil Jaksa, founded the church. Marietta had been "saved," according to what the Americans called it. She had come forward after the service, professed her faith in Jesus Christ, and asked Him for forgiveness of her sins. She was healed of her depression.

Béla's wife, Ici, pleaded with him to come to the church. He finally agreed because he wanted to satisfy his curiosity about the Americans. He did not realize it would transform his life. "I was so puzzled why these nice men were so crazy about God," said Béla. "I could tell what they said was genuine. I was touched by their concern for people and their lifestyle. Their teaching convinced me that God's Word was relevant for today."

His entire family soon dedicated their lives to Christ. Béla then joined the worship team. Two years later, Paul and Rod asked Béla if he would ever consider becoming a pastor. He responded with a definite no; he did not feel God calling him. They thanked him for his honesty and did not bring it up again.

As Béla studied the Bible, the Lord began to give him what he describes as a vision. A small fellowship had started in his hometown. In the vision, he saw a sad congregation who were not hearing the Word of God taught because they had no leadership. Would he answer the call?

In 1997, Béla became pastor of Calvary Chapel Tompa. A worship team is now in place, and they continue to reach out to their small village.



CAIVARY CHAPEL



Here they roast bacon, not marshmallows, over the open flames. Campfires glow in the park as dusk settles on the southern Hungarian town of Szeged. The local Calvary Chapel church celebrates a national holiday in the warm spring evening.

Kyle Eckhart, a missionary from CC Costa Mesa, had come to this Eastern European country in 1995. He was asked to be assistant pastor in Szeged in February 1999. A year later he became senior pastor.

As he watched his congregation, he noticed how intense their fellowship had become. They had been through trials. This body of believers was being purified, like iron forged by fire. The Lord was healing wounds. Kyle felt the Lord designated him to build and plant, as spoken through the prophet Jeremiah. "...See, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant." Jeremiah 1: 9-10 "We are getting to know each other on a deeper level than we could have imagined before," said Pastor Kyle. After a time of worship, they shared their testimonies. People in the park listened.

Less than a year before, Kyle had married Odi Kovács a Hungarian national who interpreted for the church. Her father, Béla Kovács, is pastor of the nearby fellowship in Tompa. In 1995, Kyle had come to Hungary at the request of Pastor Brian Brodersen, who was pastor of CC Vista at the time. Kyle was asked to assist Paul Lange in Baja at Golgota Christian Church, a Calvary Chapel church plant. "My first several months in Hungary were very hard," said Kyle. "I was so homesick." He had committed to stay for a year and that was what he intended to do. However, after eight months, he began to be able to communicate in the language and started teaching youth Bible studies in several local towns. After several furloughs to the States, he realized his heart was with the Hungarian people. Today he is thankful that the Lord impressed upon him the need to stay and minister here.



Pastor Kyle Eckhart, CC Szeged, Hungary, and his wife, Odi, travel on the city's trolley. Odi is the daughter of Pastor Bela Kovacs in

CAIVARY CHAPEL PECS



"...Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts." Zechariah 4:6

"What would it take for you to go to Pecs as a missionary?" asked Pastor Brian Brodersen, visiting from CC Westminster, England. He had noticed the great enthusiasm of the students from the CC Bible College in Millstatt, Austria, who were returning from an outreach. The outreach leader was Arpad Kava, an ethnic Hungarian who grew up in Yugoslavia. Later Rod Thompson approached Arpad. "Why don't you pray about recruiting a group of graduates from the Bible College and begin a church in Pecs?" Several graduates journeyed with Arpad to Pecs in February of 2000 to pray for the city. In the spring, a group came from the Castle to do outreaches. It was productive and exciting, serving the Lord. "We soon made the mistake of trying to do the work of God in our own strength," said Arpad. "We were so enthusiastic that we spent all of our time on the street, reaching out for two months."

Struggling and weary from constant outreach, they came together in a time of prayer. One of the graduates, Billy, felt he experienced a vision from the Lord; he saw a man climbing a tower to a place where he could see the town of Pecs. At the top, the man finally found rest and peace. He had a rotten tomato in his hand that he threw down. It fell apart as it hit the ground, and the man was happy. Days later, Billy hiked to a tower where the others had been going to pray for the city. It was the exact replica of the place in his vision. The group saw this as an indication that the fruits of their labors were rotten in comparison with what the Lord wanted to do. They decided to change the focus of the ministry. They would watch, pray, and wait until the wall of resistance in the hearts of the people came down. "If we truly trust God, then He will do the work," Arpad said.

Six women and two men make up the permanent team, and this past summer an additional three students came down from the Castle to assist. Two of the students were interviewed on a popular radio station about hip-hop music. A local artist cancelled just before airtime, and the CC Bible College grads were quickly recruited for an hour-long, live broadcast. "Is the ghetto scene in America as hopeless as it is portrayed on TV?" asked the Hungarian disc jockey. Greg Pollick, one of the CC missionaries, was able to honestly answer, "In some ways, yes, there are a lot of single moms and homeless people. Drug addiction continues to ruin lives, but there are Christians who care enough to reach out to these people. They are bringing hope for a better life through a relationship with Jesus Christ." Greg was able to tell about his relationship with the Lord. When a caller asked how they could mix planting a church with being experts on the hip-hop scene, Greg responded, "God will rock your world. He's not about church or looks, but love."

CAIVARY CHAPEL KAPOSVAR



"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us." Ephesians 3:20

Phil Metzger, pastor of CC Kaposvar, saw a young man dressed in punker clothes. Studs and makeup did not hide the hate in his eyes. His hair was teased and worn long on the top, while the sides were shaved. An outreach team was here, and Phil shuddered at the thought of the group trying to talk to this man.

"I looked at this angry, scary-looking person, and thought to myself, 'This is one guy that would be very hard to reach for the Lord,'" said Phil. The next day Phil was with the outreach team and someone came from behind and put his arm around him. It was the same fellow from the night before.

"Hi, my name is Zsolt. I saw you yesterday. I just prayed to receive Jesus," he said to Phil. "Now two years later, Zsolt Rosos is a pillar in the church," Phil said. "He is on fire and wants to attend the Bible College. He desires to be an evangelist."

Noelle Swedlow and Michelle Torres, graduates from the CCBC in Millstatt, Austria, play with the children at the new church in Pecs.



CCBC outreach team from the Bible College in Millstatt, Austria, pose in a field of sunflowers. photo by CC Pecs



CCBC outreach team to Pecs also share meals when they meet to pray.



Pastor Phil Metzger, CC Kaposvar, Hungary, leads worship at the beginning of the service.



Pastor Phil Metzger, CC Kaposvar, Hungary, lovingly ministers at a home for disabled children.

Senior pastor at CC Kaposvar since March 1998, Phil was previously assistant high school pastor at CC Costa Mesa. He had been in Russia ministering and had assisted Greg Opean in Esztergom, Hungary. When Greg Opean returned to America on furlough, he called Phil and his wife Joy. He told them of a couple at the Castle that had been praying for a work to begin in their hometown of Kaposvar, Hungary.

CC Costa Mesa, CC Corvallis, and CC San Diego sent the young couple as missionaries to start a church in 1998, not long after the birth of their daughter, Karina. An outreach team from CC Corvallis went with them and performed street evangelism dramas. The Jesus film was shown in a rented auditorium.

Those first people that accepted the Lord formed the foundation of the new church. People started attending Bible study three times a week. Outreach teams continued to come from different Calvary Chapels, nurturing and encouraging the church.

Janus has been very active in the fellowship. He has been blind from birth and prayed to find a Bible teaching church. A friend took him to CC Kaposvar. He had already received the Lord but felt unwanted at the faith healing church he attended. "I guess the other church thought since they couldn't heal my blindness, I just didn't have enough faith," joked an always upbeat Janus.

CALVARY CHAPEL ESZTERGOM



A Hungarian couple had journeyed to Szegez for the therapeutic mineral baths. During their visit, they attended the Calvary Chapel in Szegez and received Christ. It became evident the healing would be spiritual, not physical. The Molnar family fasted and prayed that Calvary Chapel would begin a work in their hometown of Esztergom.

Hearing of this family's sincere desire, Greg Opean urged several missionaries from CC Redlands to go to Esztergom. Armando Garcia, who had the initial vision for Hungary, was among the group that came to begin the Bible study. There was much excitement as many Hungarians in Esztergom were open to the Gospel. After several months, Armando returned home and questioned his long-term calling to the mission field.

Armando returned to Hungary as Greg's assistant. The work they had started had grown tremendously under Pastor Greg's guidance. "I loved working under Greg. I learned about grace and how to lead people," said Armando. Greg felt led to move full-time to Budapest and needed to know whether Armando would lead the church by himself.

"I wanted Greg to stay, but he felt called to Budapest," said Armando. Greg needed to know he could count on Armando's commitment to CC Esztergom.

"We had a heated argument while at the Castle for a conference," said Armando. "Greg was to teach at the conference and he wanted an answer that night."

Armando earnestly prayed throughout the evening and felt God confirming that he should take over the ministry. Looking back, Armando is grateful that he listened to the Lord's direction as he leads the thriving church. CC Esztergom has a powerful outreach to a home for troubled teenage girls. CC Redlands sends outreach teams several times a year to hold youth camps in neighboring Slovakia.

Pastor Armando Garcia (top right), CC Esztergom, Hungary, and his wife, Amanda, watch the team from CC Redlands interact with the teens from



Outreach team from CC Redlands depicts Christ being crucified in a skit.



CC Redlands team plays games with youth at an outreach in Slovakia.



Left: Olga Csizmadia, (left) CC Esztergom, developed a close relationship with the girls at the orphanage.



CC Redlands team plays games with youth at an outreach in Slovakia, which is across the Danube River from



A rap rendition prepared for their trip to Hungary is performed by CC Redlands team.



NEW BIBLE COLLEGE &

Story by Rick Cooper Photos by Tom Price



Plans are underway to remodel a 45,000 square foot mansion, the future home of Calvary Chapel's European Bible College and Conference Center. The renovation is projected to be completed in the fall of 2001.

Pastor Chuck was thrilled to acquire this property. Located on 35 acres just south of Budapest, Hungary, this facility is centrally located to all of the Calvary churches in Hungary. "The transportation infrastructure is already in place, making it easier to get to than the Castle," said Pastor Chuck.



Istvan "Steve" Erenyi

"We plan to build an outdoor amphitheater for teaching and concerts," said Pastor Chuck. "We'll also have some large tents in case of rain. There is plenty of property to include a campground, and we will build restroom and shower facilities for this purpose. Families will be able to camp and fellowship while receiving the Word of God. This will be a good place to take a vacation."

The number of students who can attend will almost triple, with plenty of room for housing both students and conference attendees. "I believe we are heading into an explosion of growth in leadership," said Greg Opean, pastor of CC Budapest. The new Bible College and Conference Center will allow pastors to fellowship, receive encouragement, and benefit from teaching that is grounded in the Word.

The property has many striking features, including a rotunda. The inside of the mansion has intricate moldings and beautiful wood. Hungarian-born Istvan "Steve" Erenyi from CC Vista, California, is overseeing this project.



CONTACT INFO

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