

## Steve and Rosie Kennedy

Location: **Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA**

Mission: **Outreach and teams ministry**



...“First seek the counsel of the Lord.” 1 Kings 22:5 & 2  
Chronicles 18:4

As I (Rosie) recently read this repeated line in both 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles, it was one of those moments when I knew God was speaking directly into our situation, and a very timely reminder considering some ministry opportunities before us.

At the end of September, Steve attended a conference organised by Blythswood, Romania on trauma and resilience, with a particular focus on Ukraine. A number of discussions since developed with leaders from the Tóköz congregation, in an effort to assess the support currently being given to those who have fled the war in Ukraine. As the war continues, it felt appropriate to review the immediate responses begun in February, to ensure that these measures are still appropriate and meaningful, meeting the needs of these vulnerable, scared and often traumatised people.

The Tóköz congregation has been providing housing, meals, supplies and general advice to a number of Ukrainian families since February. The congregation has also been providing space to an After-Schools programme for children aged 7-11. This has allowed for good relationships to be established with a group of families. A Mums and Toddlers group was established elsewhere in the city by a partner organisation, Pulzus, however a need has arisen for this group to find a new space to meet.



**GLOBAL DISCIPLES**  
*Go Deep Go Wide*

## NOVEMBER 2022

As we have discussed our support with the Ukrainian community, a number of other needs have been identified. While there is much provision for younger children, there is little for teenagers. There are an increasing number of Ukrainian university students who have transferred their studies to institutions in Cluj-Napoca. There is now a small number of Ukrainian men resident in the city. And while after-school and Mums and Toddlers groups have provided for children, we see a need to give greater provision to the mothers themselves, especially in counsel and pastoral care.

Together with the leadership of Tóköz, we see an opportunity to integrate a number of these initiatives into a cohesive project. We see the possibility to develop stronger links with existing ministries in Tóköz and CCF, to widen involvement, and to create some new areas of service. We are thankful for those already involved, and for the help of Ukrainian/Russian translators and psychologists who can provide much needed support and advice.

It is both daunting and exciting, as some of these developments overlap with areas we were already considering within the ministry of CCF; hence, a double reminder to seek first the counsel of the Lord is so relevant.

### Prayer Points

- Pray that we will listen well to God’s direction, and that, together with the church leadership, we will establish strong links and support mechanisms between the church and the Ukrainian community.
- Pray for Steve and Rosie as they continue with their Hungarian language classes.
- Pray for the plans to host another walking City Tour with our International Student group and that we would find ways to connect with some more new students and develop this work.