

Coleman Family Newsletter - January 2008
Free Methodist Missionaries to Europe (JLKColeman@aol.com)
2007 - The year of CHANGE!

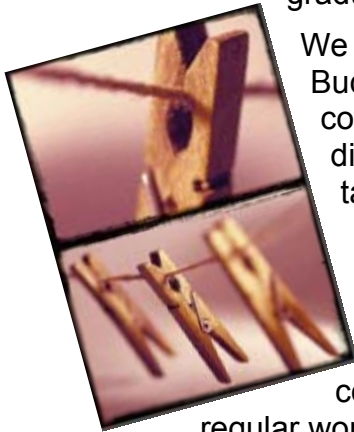
As the last seconds of 2007 ticked down to the New Year I turned to Jerry and said, "Wait! I'm not ready!" He was puckering up for a New Year's kiss and was pretty puzzled by my outburst. 2007 was full of so many changes: in plans, in location, in ministry, in our funding paradigm. I wasn't sure if I was ready for what 2008 would bring!



What changes are you talking about?

Our home base – The plans were to settle in Springfield, Illinois where the folks at Knox Knolls Free Methodist Church had prepared a wonderful home for us. Can you imagine our distress when David's offer from the junior ice hockey team there didn't work out? Not long after the terrible news David got a call from a coach in the St. Louis area who invited him to play for their team – the St. Louis Jr. Lightning.

Now we live in O'Fallon, Missouri – not too far from where we pastored before moving to Hungary! Kristin attends two different colleges to make up credits for a Greenville College graduation. David is a senior at Fort Zumwalt West High School.



We live in a third floor apartment about the same size as our apartment in Budapest. Besides the wonders of a clothes dryer, a garbage disposal, air conditioning, 24/7 'StuffWorld' and window screens, the biggest difference is that we have to DRIVE everywhere. In Budapest we could take a nearby bus or street car to get anywhere we needed to go.

Our ministry – Since the kids are now adults (!) and we now have all these wonderful time saving measures, we thought we'd have lots of time for home assignment visits. We forgot to factor in that while Jan turned her Budapest ministry assignments to colleagues, Jerry continues to have Europe Area Director responsibilities that require a regular work week. AD Travel alone has added up to more than six weeks since we've been back! We now have about 120 churches and individuals that support our ministry. And we're worried about how we can personally connect with these folks who give so sacrificially to our ministry.

Our funding – The good news is that our Ministry Support Account (MSA) is funded at more than 90%! We still need commitments of about \$8000 for 2008. We're concerned that our Country Share Account (CSA) for Hungary is short more than \$20,000.

Prayer concerns – Would you pray with us about 2008, World Missions and the transition of the new funding plan? We are concerned, of course, about the financial aspects – most FM missionaries and country share accounts are currently under funded. But we are also concerned that our ministries and the good work that is being done might suffer as we shift our focus to fund-raising. We trust the Lord to continue what He has begun!

We thank you for your faithful support in prayer and giving. Please keep it up! ☺

You can find our info online at
<http://www.fmwm.org/missionary/index/coleman.php>