

## SANTA MONICA

### ARANYMENYEGZŐ



Rev. John & Martha Vadász Hunter

Január 24-én a család és több mint 50 barát, ismerős, gyülekezeti tag jött össze megünnepelni Rev. John & Márta Vadász Hunter 50. házassági évfordulóját.

Nagy meglepetés volt az ünnepeltek számára a vendégek száma és a kitűnő vacsora az Odyssey étterembe. (Granada Hills, CA) Köszöntések hangzottak el a család és a megjelentek részéről. Az ünnepeltek Novák József lelkipásztor előtt újra elmondták hűségfogadalmukat és jegygyűrűt váltottak ugyan úgy, mint 50 évvel ezelőtt Torontóban Cserepka János lelkipásztor és a gyülekezet jelenlétében.

A 37. Zsoltár 4-5 verseit olvasta fel Novák testvér, mint Márta testvérnő igeverseit, majd János testvér igeversét a Galatákhöz írott levél 6. rész 14-dik versét. Torontóból Márta testvérnő két húga, Helen és Magda jött el erre az alkalomra.

Aldott, boldog alkalom volt ez a Hunter-Vadász család és a megjelentek részére.

On January 24-th, 2009 over 60 family and friends gathered to celebrate Rev. John and Martha Hunter's 50th wedding anniversary. The surprise luncheon was held at The Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills, California where the celebration included a short program and delicious food.

Reverend Joseph Novak conducted a rededication of vows and an exchange of new gold bands.

It was a day filled with surprises for the guest of honor beginning with the discovery of a room full of people awaiting their arrival, including two of Martha's sisters who had flown from Toronto, Canada for the occasion. It was blessed day for the Hunter family will not soon forget.

Ramona Hunter Turmezei

## ALHAMBRA

Augusztus 9-én bemelegítési istentiszteletet tartottunk. Az istentisztelet első felében a fiatalok szolgáltak. A zenekar vezette az éneklést, majd az ifjúság tagjainak biznyságtételét hallgattuk meg. Szin Jonathán elmondta a megtérés történetét (amiből részletet közlünk), majd bemelegített. A fiatalok szolgálatait Herjeczki Annie és Dávid beszámolója zárta, akik kínai missziós útjukról fényképeket is vetítettek. Köszöntöttük Szárnyasi Zsuzsit is, aki egy keresztyén táborozás során, korábban, július 24-én merített be. Az igehirdetés után úrvacsorával zártuk az istentiszteletet.

### Szin Jonathán biznyságtétele:

As I reflect upon my life, it comes to mind that I've always considered myself to be a Christian. My brothers and I were blessed to have been raised in a family that based its foundation in Christianity and in the sole teachings of the gospel.



Having grown up in the church, I obtained the common conception that there is an almighty God



that controls everything in my life and everything that happens in the world. But as a child, I never sat down to think about who God REALLY was and how he could change my life in AMAZING ways. I was the typical kid that went to school, wanted to have fun with friends, and would try my hardest to stay out of trouble. And in that aspect, I believe I was successful. I always considered myself to be a good kid. I was a good student in school, had good friends, and stayed out of trouble (for the most part) and that was enough for me. Life was good, and as the years went on, and as I slowly began to grow up, I stuck with the same routine thinking that I was living the life that of a Christian.

The years flew by and by the time I knew it I was a young adult in high school unprepared to face the challenges in life in one of the most difficult environments teenagers today have to face daily. My easy going lifestyle changed drastically as I was confronted with hard problems

and situations I had no idea how to handle, and instead of going to God for help, I foolishly took matters into my own hands. Time went on and I adjusted to my new environment, think that I had successfully overcome everything, when in reality, I was hiding from God.

I knew that God was trying to use me in many ways throughout my time in high school, but out of fear and insecurity, I hid from those opportunities thinking, every time, that I had dodged another bullet. The truth I didn't know why God wanted to use me and I didn't want him to. I was under the impression that I could handle everything on my own and that I didn't need God for any help.

I went on with high school with this mentality, and got through. I graduated, was accepted into music school, and moved to San Francisco all in this past year. But even when I made the move, I went about thinking that I could do everything on my own. As time went on, things slowly began to change. I started to struggle with school and being off on my own, but stubbornly continued to ignore God's voice inside me saying that I need his help. I kept hiding from God and before I knew it, the heavy weight of my life without God's guidance has me pinned to the floor, and for the first real time in my life, I turned to God for guidance. I couldn't

do everything on my own anymore and decided that it was time I stopped hiding and put my life in God's hands. My life immediately started to change. School became very enjoyable and, with God's help, I was able to handle everything that was thrown at me. But most importantly, my relationship with God began to grow. I found myself reading the bible daily and applying everything I had learned to my everyday life. I found myself making friends with other Christians in school. I also found myself sharing the gospel with others who didn't know God or have a personal relationship with him; people who were in the same situation I was in only weeks prior to that. And the amazing thing is that I started to see changes in their lives as well.

I finally realized how important Jesus was in my life. He paid the ultimate price and died on the cross so that my sins can be forgiven and that I may be given the chance to receive eternal life. I finally un-

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## GOD'S CALLING

by Irma F. Matrai

When God selected the Israelites to be his chosen people, he had a very important task for them to accomplish. Since he loved each and everyone of his creations equally, he wanted all of them to hear about him; the one and only, true God. For, his original hope and desire was to get all nations and persons **to believe in him and follow him**. But after sin entered the world; one nation after the other began to worship idols. Thus, he needed a nation to witness about him. He selected the descendants of the God fearing Abraham, to do that. It was their responsibility to show the pagan world that the idols are unable to help, save, or do anything for them; but God can. He chose the Nation of Israel for this task; **making witnessing one of their main calling.**

**But how could the people of Israel witness about God in those days? 1 – Through continuous praise of his name. 2 – Through the blessings they received in return for their obedient lifestyle. And 3 – Through the verbal testimonies of each individual.**

In Psalm 6:2-20 and 67:1-8 (NIV) we read:

**Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.** Sing unto the Lord, **praise** his name; **proclaim** his salvation day after day. **Declare** his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of **praise**; he is to be feared **above all gods**. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations, **ascribe to the Lord glory and strength**. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. **Worship the Lord... Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."**

May God be gracious to us and **bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.** May the people praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule... Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God will bless us. **God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – Evidently, one of Israel's witnessing tool was the **praise of God**. **"Sing unto the Lord, praise his name... Ascribe to the Lord glory... Worship the Lord..."** – We read. For, when we continuously praise and glorify a person;

people pay attention because they wonder: why do they praise and love their God so much? How much better is he than our gods? What did he do, or is he doing that our idols are unable to do? Then, when they even observe those who praise him or inquire about these matters from them, they may find out that they are continuously praising God because they experienced his love, forgiveness, and grace repeatedly. And when they pose the question: How much better is your God than our gods? They will find out that he is better because he can create. He created the heavens and the earth, humans, animals, and everything; while their idols can not do that. In addition, their God can hear, see, and guide his children. While the idols are deaf, blind, and unable to guide. In other words, the idols can not do anything for their followers, because they are human creations; made of wood, or metal. And since **praising God can be a powerful tool of soul winning**; that's why God encouraged his chosen people in our text to **"...praise his name."**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – We also mentioned that the **chosen people were able to witness through the blessings they received in return for their obedience.** For, in those days God decided, and told his people too that **when/if they'll obey him, he will bless them; but when/if they'll disobey him, he will chasten them.** Therefore the pagan observers could clearly see what results were following their actions. Meaning, that – although nonverbally – but through the blessed results of their obedience, they witnessed about God's goodness. While by the results of their disobedience, they demonstrated God's firm stand against sin or disobedience. For, **he chastened those whom he loved.** He did not tolerate idol worship, or other misconduct. And since in those days God decided to work in this way, that's why the psalmist pleaded: **"May God... bless us and make his face shine upon us that your ways may be known on earth, and your salvation among all nations."** In other words, may all nations realize the goodness and power of God from the blessed results of our obedience; **and decide to follow him.**

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – They could witness verbally as well. Although the praise of God, was a verbal testimony too, yet when they specifically **spoke** about God's personality, will, and words; their testimony may have been even more powerful. Furthermore, everyone of them had a chance to do that. For, each of them had neighbors, co-workers, relatives, or friends to whom he/she could have witnessed. That is why we read in our lesson: **"...proclaim** his salvation day after day. **Declare** his glory

among the nations... **Say** among the nations, "The Lord reigns." Especially since the chosen people had countless experiences to witness about; if only their heart was aching for the salvation of the lost.

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God always made sure that he had witnesses. In the days of the Old Testament, he chose the people of Israel to fulfill this calling. However, even though he **still considers them his chosen people because he still has plans with/for them in world history**, yet after Jesus Christ came down to this earth, died, rose again, and returned to heaven; **he turned the responsibility of witnessing over to those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God, invited him into their heart, asked him to forgive their sin, and totally yielded themselves to him; whether they came from a Jewish, pagan, or other background.** Therefore, if Jesus lives in your heart already, then – these days – **regardless of your background, you are his child, and it is your calling to lead others to salvation, or to be a witness of his.**

The methods are similar to the ones in the olden days. For, **praising God** in sunshine and rain is still a powerful witnessing tool. It doesn't only help those we witness to, but lifts up and strengthens ourselves as well. In addition **an obedient, Christ-like lifestyle can speak volumes to the lost also.** Especially, since people pay more attention to what we do, than what we say. And when our actions do not match our words; they don't trust us. Thus, it is important that people around us **may see** that whatever we declare, we also live. That's the only way to become a credible witness.

Finally, **our verbal testimonies are still important also.** Therefore, let us use every opportunity to witness, when God opens the doors for us.

**God so loved the whole world that he always made sure that he had witnesses who would bring the lost to him and salvation.** Before Jesus came down to this earth, he used his **chosen people, or Israel for that mission.** After Jesus' visit on earth, he began to use those **who believed in him, and invited him into their heart; regardless of what background they came from.**

Thus, if Jesus lives in your heart already; he entrusted you with this calling too. Namely, that you witness by **praising him, by living like him, and speaking about him to the lost.** Are you doing that? Do you praise him? Does your life prove your faith? Do you speak about him to anyone you meet, or get in touch with?



**ELMER S. KISH**  
1935 - 2009

God called home to eternal life a beloved and faithful servant, Elmer

Kish. He was reared in a Christian home by very devout parents and was baptized as a teenager at the Silliman Memorial Baptist Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut where he was an active member all of his life. He served as a Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent, Youth Leader, Board Member and Deacon. Elmer was a quiet man, but had a strong witness for our Lord Jesus Christ.

During World War II he served in the United States Army Rangers, European Theatre which was a very dangerous assignment. God watched over him and brought him home safely. At his interment in the Oak Lawn Cemetery in Fairfield, he was given a very touching U.S. Army veteran's farewell; a trumpeter played "Taps" followed by a 21 gun salute.

Elmer graduated with a Master's Degree at Teacher's College in New Britain, Ct. and had a long career of 32 years as a teacher and Dean of students. He had an excellent opportunity to share his Christian principles with countless young students.

Elmer was a wood craftsman and made hymn boards, floral stands, book

cases and tables for the church. If there was any work to be done on the church building, Elmer was the first one there to help.

He had a long active role in our Hungarian Baptist Convention serving as Chairman of the Bethesda Baptist Retirement Home in Palm Bay, Florida and for many years on the nominating committee.

Elmer was loved by all who knew him. He loved his family and friends. The past few years with declining health he was unable to visit or attend church services, but he kept in touch by telephone. Family ties and friends were very important to him. Elmer was my brother-in-law and I have many fond memories of his friendly and caring relationship with Ernie and me.

Elmer met Rose Szabo at a Youth Conference and they were married in the Hungarian Baptist Church in New York City. They had a loving marriage for 62 years. Elmer touched many lives and will be missed by his many friends and loving family: Wife, Rose; Son, Bruce; Daughter, Ilona; Grandsons, Scott and Stephen; and Granddaughter, Alexandra. Also, Sisters, Marguerite Stumpf; and Helen Kautz; and his Brother, Julius. He was predeceased by his two Brothers, Ernie and Edward.

The funeral Service was conducted by the Reverends: Joseph Delahunt, Skip Rowe and Kenneth Smith.

God blessed Elmer with 84 years and he was truly a faithful servant. We will miss him but are comforted in knowing he is free from pain and suffering in his heavenly home—the place God had prepared for him. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" Matthew 25:21

May his memory be cherished in our hearts.

*Ethel Petre Kish*



**ID. GUTI MIKLÓS**

1921. szeptember 2-án született Tarpán, 1938-ban

merítkezett be, Pünkösöd napján. 1947. december 23-án házasságot kötött Kun Bertával, gyermekei Margit és Miklós.

Élete nagy részében a Pestszentimrei Baptista Gyülekezet tagja volt, ahol 1974-től diakónus, majd 1987-től presbiter. 2000-tól a Gyáli Új Élet Gyülekezet tagja.

2009. július 21-én az Úrhoz költözött. Temetésére augusztus 5-én került sor a Pestlőrinci temetőben, Fóris István és Szegedi Tivadar lelkipásztorok szolgálásával.

Édesapánk Isten Igéje iránti szeretete és élete példa marad számunkra. Ő már a célba ért, ahova nagyon vágyott, és ahova mi is boldogan készülünk. Hálásak vagyunk Istennek, hogy ilyen édesapát adott nekünk. Józsué 1:8

*Palotai Margit*

Lapunk olvasói többször is találkoztak id. Guti Miklós testvér nevével az Evangéliumi Hírnökben, a Lapozgassuk a Bibliát rovattal kapcsolatban. (Feladványt is küldött, s a leghűségesebb megfejtők közé tartozott.) Nagyon szeretete az Igét és több igeverset ismert kívülről, mint bárki, akit valaha is ismertem. Aki ennyire szereti az Igét, az nekem édes testvérem. Emlékére megtanulok egy új igeverset és olvasóinkat is ugyanerre buzdítom! (szerk)

Testvérünk halálhíre e levélben jutott el hozzám:

Kedves Herjeczki testvér!

Gondolom, szokatlan a levél tárgya és az, hogy id. Guti Miklóstól nem érkezik meg azonnal a megfejtés az Evangéliumi Hírnök legfrissebb számának elolvasása után. Mindig az volt a legelső a számára a lap megérkezésekor, hogy a rejtvényeket nagy lelkesedéssel megfejtse. Nagyon sok a rejtvényben szereplő igevers közte volt az általa megtanult 1021 igének. Mindig szerepelt imatárgyai közt Herjeczki testvér és az Evangéliumi Hírnök szerkesztősége is.

A legutolsó lapban lévő rejtvényhez már nem volt ereje hozzákezdeni.

Hogy miért írom ezt múlt időben? Édesapám 2009. július 21-én délelőtt az Úrhoz költözött. A 88. születésnapja szeptember 2-án lett volna, de ezt már nem érthette meg. Csendben, békességgel ment el, betegségével járó szenvedései ellenére. Már régóta készült a Teremtőjével való találkozásra, de most hangzott el a hazahívó szó. Utoljára ezeket az igéket mondogatta, amíg volt ereje:

*"Mert a mi pillanatnyi könnyű szenvedésünk minden mértéket meghaladó nagy, örök dicsőséget szerez nekünk."* 2Kor. 4,17

*"Nem szeretnénk, testvéreink, ha tudatlanok lennétek az elhunytak felől, és szomorkodnátok, mint a többiek, akiknek nincs reménységük. Mert ha hisszük, hogy Jézus meghalt és feltámadt, az is bizonyos, hogy Isten az elhunytakat is előhívja Jézus által, vele együtt."* 1Thessz. 4,13-14

Testvéri üdvözléssel: **Guti Miklós**

## ALHAMBRA, continued from p. 10.

derstood my purpose and God's plan for my life, and I was happy. As soon as I came out of hiding and let God use and control my life, I realized the purpose in where I am today. Not only was he throwing opportunities at me through music and school, he was giving me the opportunity to share his love and grace with everyone around me. I am very grateful to God for the way he has changed my life and am excited to see how he continues to use me this upcoming year.

Having said all this, I cannot finish without saying how important it is for our younger youth to realize how God wants to work in their lives. I know how easy it is to hide from God and the ways he wants to use you in your lives. But let me tell you this: A LIFE WITHOUT GOD IS NOT WORTH LIVING. I have accepted Jesus into my heart and life, and I am excited and eagerly waiting to see where my walk with Christ will lead me in the days and years to come.