



MEET

The Madaraszs

THEIR STORY

Gabi grew up in a Christian home, which was highly unusual in the communist country of Hungary. He accepted Christ when he was 14 and felt the Lord calling him into full-time ministry after graduating from college. **Mara knew nothing about Jesus or Christianity growing up. She accepted Christ as her Savior in college when a CRU member came to her dorm room and shared the Gospel with her. Gabi and Mara got married in September 2007, and have a son, Gabo, who was born in 2012 and a daughter, Tamara, who was born in 2014.** Gabi and Mara joined CRU in 2007, focusing on student evangelism and discipleship. Gabi is the National Director of Student Ministries for CRU, overseeing their work with high school and university students. One of his main responsibilities is disciplining and developing the local team leaders and helping to set CRU's ministry goals.

Some of CRU's major strategies are:

- Delivering evangelistic Student Survival Kits to university students at the beginning of each school year
- Speak Out Summer Camp, which teaches Hungarian students English while engaging them around the Christian faith
- Street and door-to-door evangelism

Some of these strategies are the very things that God used to draw Mara to himself, and now she is ministering to others in the same way. In addition to taking care of their two children, Mara teaches a Biblically-based program on healthy eating to help those who are seeking to live a healthy lifestyle and uses the curriculum to introduce them to the gospel. And she disciples women in her home. **The Bible Chapel has partnered with the Madaraszes since 2017**

August 2026

PRAISE + PRAYER

- 95 campers heard the Gospel, and we had deep, personal conversations with many of them. We were able to connect with many of them and help them with the challenges and situations they're facing. And we encouraged them to have the courage to accept Jesus' solution to their situation.
- The many campers who came to the Budapest after party and now know where to find us throughout the year should come back to our various events held during the year.
- Mara: At camp, I led a workshop where Americans could come for a 3-hour open-house-style session to practice sharing and drawing the Gospel diagram with me. To my huge surprise, almost everyone showed up, and we were able to practice a lot. The American students made great progress in this area. Many of them said they'd like to share the Gospel diagram they learned and practiced back at home with friends and acquaintances. We're praying that God will give them many opportunities to do so.
- Please pray for our rest and renewal. The camp wasn't easy emotionally and mentally—there were many difficult situations, conflicts, dramas, and tough conversations. Of course, this was also a great opportunity for us to talk with the students, dig deep, confront issues, and work on areas that may not have been obvious before.
- Now that camp is over, we're on break, and we're praying that we'll be able to rest, recharge, and start the new school year on August 24 with renewed strength.
- Please pray for Gabo and Tami, for their spiritual growth. It is our great desire that they begin, on their own, to have quiet time each morning, to seek God, and to enter into His presence. Please also pray for the school year ahead of them. It will be especially important and challenging for Gabo, as he will be taking his high school entrance exams in January.
- Please also pray for our church; our former pastor is retiring, and we are currently searching for a new pastor.

- Our Speak Out summer camp went off without a hitch at the new location. We're grateful that everything went just as smoothly as before; the new location worked out well, and there were no problems or accidents.
- We are grateful that the 19 American tutors were able to connect well with the campers and build good relationships with them
- We're also grateful for the 15 Hungarian student volunteers, who were able to connect with the campers in Hungarian, and friendships were formed
- On Wednesday, we held a Speak Out after-party for the campers in Budapest at our community space—even students who weren't at camp this year, but were there last year, came
- We're grateful for Nori, our neighbor, who was one of the Hungarian volunteers; one of her favorite activities at camp was the "random beach evangelism". She's a very young believer, and this was the first time she shared her faith—both with campers and with strangers on the beach.
- We're really glad that our kids, Gabo and Tami, did such a great job with childcare. They looked after nine young children for 6–7 hours a day. This was great because it kept them busy, gave them physical activity, and, on top of that, let them practice working responsibly. Our prayer is that they will also be able to live out and experience the ministry aspect of this—the joy of working for God.