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## **Congregations Seeking Partners**

## **Debrecen**, Hungary



Debrecen is not far from the border with Romania (Transylvania.) It is about 3-4 hours from Budapest by car or train. There is a university here.

Many of the 114 Unitarians are from Transylvania. The minister is László Pap and the Lay President is András Csiki. András speaks English and has good access to the internet. The have a church building and a parsonage.

Their expectations for partnership are clearly outlined by András: "We want to find an American or Canadian congregation in which the members are curious to learn about the Transylvanian roots of the Hungarian Unitarian Church, and the Hungarian ethnic minority living beyond the borders of Hungary. We want to build a long distance partnership in which our children may find their roles. We want to show the strongest elements and the valued national characteristics of our faith and church to the youngsters of the partner-congregation. We want to see with our own eyes the life of the partner-congregation, and maintain the connection via the internet."





"We would be happy to involve our secular partner (Non-Profit Association of Trekkers of Transylvania: http://www.ejke.hu/index\_eng.html) in this partnership. We also believe that money alone can not be the single reason to enter a partnership but to we can not afford to neglect this theme: we are organizing cultural events (such as Szekler Day) and have palatial future plans (for example we want to construct and operate a twilight home.) We want to keep in touch directly without moderators. Our main principles are mutual understanding, finding similarities, analyzing and synchronizing distinctions."

