

Dear brothers and sisters from San Diego,

The whole Unitarian community from Brasov/Brassó, including the leaders and the members, send you all kindly greetings.

The year 2020 was a difficult and challenging year for us, too. Starting from the middle of March, until the middle of May, our country was in a complete lockdown because of the pandemic, so during this time we had online religious services on Sundays and also prayings every evening. After this period of time, the religious services were held in the churchyard and, in the end, in the church, keeping the required social distancing and the proper hygiene requirements.

The schools were closed in March, and from then on the children study online, this being a huge challenge for all of us, parents and children, including me as a teacher of Religious Education.

The Women's Association and the Youth Organization have stopped their activities since then and we still do not know when should we start meeting again. It is still a question how are we going to celebrate Christmas this year.

Many people from our religious community unfortunately got this disease (Covid-19), and a few of them passed away. Nowadays our choir-master is in quarantine due to the coronavirus.

The great news is that the Hungarian Government helped us to build the building of the Nursery and it is ready now. But there are still things to be done: we have to buy some equipment for the classrooms and also we need the accreditation of the institution. Hopefully, starting from next fall, the Unitarian Nursery can open its doors officially.

Another excellent news is that we managed to repair and automate the bells of our church. Therefore, both bells are ringing at the beginning of the religious services.

I would also like to thank you for the several donations you have sent during the year. We have used the money in the repair work we have made.

I hope this e-mail finds you all in good health and also, that the following year is going to be a better one than 2020.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Rev. András Benedek

the 9th of December, 2020

Brasov

P.S. I hope I can write you more often from now on. My knowledge of English is poor, so Noémi Tudor, one of the member of our community, helps me with the translation.