



What's Happening with Hannah?

August 24, 2026

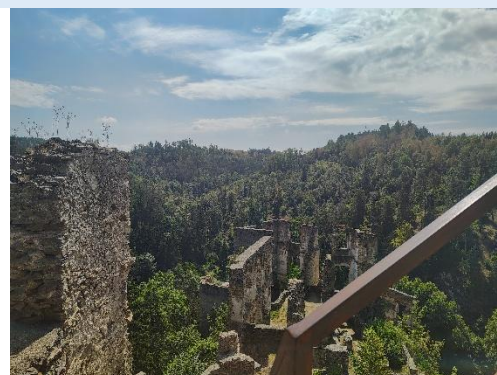
I hope your summer has been going well. Fall is around the corner. Next week, my language class starts back up. Students are moving back to the city in preparation for the upcoming academic year. Other students are completing their master's thesis and are moving away. Here are some of the highlights from my summer.



A friend, Stephanie, and I took a day trip to Bratislava, Slovakia. It was a lot of fun to walk around and see a different type of architecture than we are used to enjoying in Vienna. We also did a guided tour through the city, which was conducted in German. It was a small group, which made it easier to get close to the guide and hear what she was saying within the busy streets. We ran into a soccer-themed bachelor party. They kidnapped our tour guide and insisted she successfully kick a goal before leaving. Fortunately, she was rescued by one of the other

attendees of the tour.

More recently, Stephanie and I went on a longer hiking trip. It felt really rejuvenating to escape the city. Since my move to Austria, it was the first time I have felt surrounded by nature.



As I am now in my second summer here, I am beginning to understand how differently this season operates in Vienna than back in the US. People leave for very lengthy vacations. My church's attendance drops sharply in the summer simply because people are traveling. Doctors' offices, small businesses, restaurants, etc. will be closed for, what seems to me, a very long time.

I have been on the lookout for a new apartment in a more central location. Because of the nature of summer, however, it is simply a challenging time to be searching. Realtors and private landlords may also be out of the office.



One fun thing about apartment hunting is that it has introduced me to "new" parts of the city. I've enjoyed walking around different neighborhoods. The frustration of feeling ghosted by realtors or building managers is less fun.

One of my friends recently finished her master's thesis and is now returning to Germany for the beginning of her exciting new career. We celebrated that accomplishment and said farewell by going together to the butterfly house and then to a beautiful café next door. I am thankful for her friendship and help. She had helped me with often with German language practice, and she was a very sweet and intelligent person. I know that student ministry will continue to come with a lot of goodbyes.

How you can be praying for me:

- Please pray that I will find an apartment soon that fits my needs and is within my budget. In an ideal world, I will be moved into a new place mid-October. The time pressure is a bit stressful.
- The students are moving back into the city, and classes start back up in October. Please pray for the student ministry. Much of our staff is new this year.
- Please pray for long-term friendships.

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