

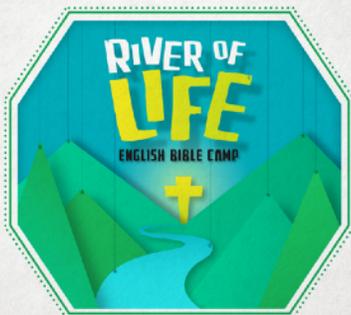
# ŠUMBARK SIGHTINGS & STORIES

from Benjamin Helge, LCMS Missionary  
Serving our Lord in Havířov-Šumbark, Czech Republic



## River of Life

Jesus Christ is the life-giving water. His love has washed over us like a river. In about two months, English Bible Camps begin in Poland and the Czech Republic. Children, volunteers and parents will hear throughout the week how God has poured out His grace upon us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Join me in praying for each camp, each volunteer serving and each person that hears this great news. Thank you to all who will serve and who continue to pray.



## Singing the Gospel

Few people know Havířov outside of those living in the Czech Republic (and of course you, my dedicated reader). Yet despite its lack of fame, God brought yet another group of Lutheran singers to the community. The Singing Saints from Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO shared their gift of singing with the Silesian Lutheran congregation in Albrechtice, as well as a Polish Lutheran congregation right across the border in Cieszyn, Poland. In addition to giving concerts, the choir sang at a local high school in Havířov and also heard the local school choir sing.

God again used another choir, another group from the United States, to share His Gospel message in a way that I normally could not do during the school day. He continues to provide new opportunities and unique experiences to connect with the people of Havířov to make His name known.

Thank you to the Singing Saints, for being a witness to our Lord, for interacting with the Czech people and for spending time and energy in traveling all this way. And, as they so beautifully sang, "In Christ alone, our hope is found!"



Singing in Albrechtice, Czech Republic, director Jerrode Marsh and the Singing Saints present a phenomenal evening of music.

## Serve with LCMS

There are many opportunities to serve as a short-term or GEO missionary. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](https://www.lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."

## Thanksgiving and Prayer Requests

Join me in giving thanks to God for:

- The Singing Saints and the ministry of Saint Paul Lutheran High School.
- Music and the message and power which it offers.
- The 10 plus English Bible Camps happening throughout Poland and the Czech Republic.
- A variety of foods, cultures and peoples, all of which He has created.
- Three new students coming to ETG on Wednesday nights.
- Friends and family who continue to support and encourage God's mission here.

Pray that God would:

- Strengthen the members of His church and encourage them to boldly share the Gospel message.
- Provide time to rest amidst the business of activities and events.
- Fill every English Bible Camp to full capacity that many will hear the Good News and be saved.
- Raise up young people, especially young men, to be active members of His church.
- Rid the community of spiritual evil, sorcery and shamanism.



## Talk Group and Tacos

“What’s a taco?” one student asked me while I was inviting a high school class to our English Talk Group (ETG) Fiesta. I thought to myself, “Well, that’s a question I never thought I would have to answer.” But the curiosity of trying new food (carnitas tacos), speaking English and spending time together connected a handful of new students to ETG.

Aside from every Wednesday evening, ETG hosts a variety of special events to bring students into our community. About 20 people ate tacos (some for the first time). In addition to the food, the group heard the Gospel message of Christ crucified for them. And some students continue to hear this message each week as they now join us for Wednesday nights.

God uses each opportunity and interaction for the building of His kingdom. Pray that those students who came to ETG for the special event will join us for our regular meetings and know the love of the Jesus Christ.



Assembling tacos as we gather around the table together.



Enjoying some chips and salsa with a few new girls who joined our Fiesta.

**PRAY | SUPPORT | ENCOURAGE**

To financially partner with this ministry, please send your tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks “Support of Benjamin Helge.” Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at [www.lcms.org/helge](http://www.lcms.org/helge).

You can also send your support to my friends at:

Mission Central  
407818 Highway E-16  
Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Contact Benjamin: [benjamin.helge@lcmsintl.org](mailto:benjamin.helge@lcmsintl.org)

