IRWIN. CHELSEA NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020

Blessings from Bohumín

From Chelsea Irwin, LCMS Missionary Serving the Lord in Bohumín, Czech Republic



Czech Word of the Month!

As I continue in God's ministry here, one word I see and hear constantly in Czech is *Víra* or *Faith*. Whether it's meeting with students or talking with our youth team, *Víra* always finds a place in the conversation.

Interested in serving?



Join us this summer at an English Bible Camp!

https://servenow.lcms.org/ opp/english-bible-camppoland/

Já a Moje Místo na Světě (My Place in the World)



Where is your place in this world? This was the question we wrestled through at our winter youth retreat. Our aim was to create a space where youth could know first and foremost, that they are loved by God and allow this truth to help them shape their understanding of their identity in the world. As God continues to work on the hearts of the kids in our group, I can see them beginning to develop more spiritual questions.

Our youth team works hard to create a community where people can engage in fellowship, find belonging and ultimately grow in Christ. Throughout the weekend we engaged in many activities together: hiking, snowball fights, building snowmen, playing games and having meals together. God used this time to strengthen our youth community, and He continues working through our team to bring the Good News to our group.

February highlights from our youth group!

Right: A giant snowball fight occurred after lunch during our youth retreat in Hrádek, Czech Republic.

Below: Once a month we have a youth game night. At the February game night we played an intense game of Jenga. It was awesome to see our youth cheering each other on and building up the community within the group.









Above: Pastor Roman's daughter, Magi, is blindfolded here as we engaged in community building ice breakers at our youth retreat.

Left: I had the opportunity to share my broccoli salad recipe with the youth group. For many, it was their first time trying broccoli salad. I even had one student ask me for the recipe!

YOU CAN SERVE WITH THE LCMS TOO!

There are many opportunities to serve as a short-term or GEO missionary. Check out the current list and download an application at lems.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

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Prayer Requests

Pray that God would:

- Bless my time teaching English and building relationships at the middle school in Bohumín.
- Be with the youth who are searching to deepen their faith
- Keep our Eurasia
 missionaries safe as the
 Coronavirus sweeps
 through the world.

Prayers of Thanks!

Give thanks for:

- You, my prayer supporters and encouragers.
- A great start to our high school and adult English groups at church.
- A wonderful missionary team gathering in Prague in February.
- Granting safe travel and arrival to the Beaudoin's who deployed to Ukraine on March 13th.

Keeping the Community

On March 10th the Czech Republic announced that all schools would be closed for the next two weeks due to the COVID-19 outbreak. On March 15th, the Czech Government issued a nationwide



Above: Missionary team from the Czech Republic in Prague.

quarantine for all citizens. As our team moves forward at this time, we are making it essential to keep our community. Our missionaries are continuing prayer and encouragement for each other and making ourselves available for video calls. We are even finding ways to continue ministry online. God is using us still in this season, and we are thankful that He has provided us with an abundance of technology tools to continue spreading the Gospel in the midst of darkness (Matt. 5:16).

God continues to bless this ministry through your prayer and financial support. Prayerfully consider partnering in God's mission to the Czech Republic and Eurasia through a financial gift.

Send checks to:

LCMS International: P.O. Box 66861 St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 (Write "Irwin/Czech Republic" on the memo line),

You can also send your support to the wonderful people at:

Mission Central 407818 Highway E-16 Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Give online: lcms.org/irwin

Contact Chelsea Irwin: chelsea.irwin@lcms.org

