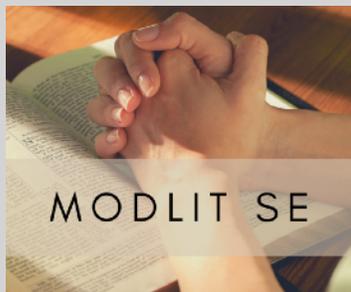


# Blessings from Bohumín

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

## A Visual Impact



### Czech Word of the Month

During our Bible lessons at English Camp we had many opportunities to pray with campers. The picture above is the Czech verb for “to pray”.

### Spot the difference!



The same words here “to pray” look similar, but a little different. Why? This is written in *po naszymu*, which is a common regional dialect spoken here. The dialect is a mixture of Polish, Czech, and German. Many kids at the camp spoke both Czech and *po naszymu*.



**Above:** Czech counselor, Gaby, leads a small group activity during an English lesson.

“Raise your hand if you have someone in your family who is not a Christian.” I stated.

All hands went up. Answers like “my mom, my sister, my brother” came as the students shared their stories. We talked about the challenges of living in a culture where many people are not Christians and eventually prayed for each other in the small group. Over 50 kids gathered at the Lutheran church in Trinec, Czech Republic to learn English and the Gospel, some were Christian, yet many still had pressing questions about faith.

After 11 years of serving at English camps in this area, I am continually surprised by the spiritual impact the camps have on the American teams and the participants. Many students look forward to English camp each year as a time to not only learn from native speakers, but a time to build relationships, and ask serious questions about faith that they may not have the opportunity to ask anywhere else. God continues to remind me of the passion He has placed on my heart for sharing the Gospel in this region of the world.



**Above:** Praising God through song in our opening sessions each morning.

**Below:** Relationship building did not just apply to the kids. We also had the opportunity to get to know the Czech Team. Here, Missionary Ben Helge teaches everyone how to make tortillas in the church kitchen.

**Above:** Each morning someone from the Czech team took the temperature of each person in the camp. This was just one of several precautions we took due to COVID-19.



**Below:** Campers engage in a tug-of-war battle as one of the sports activities in the afternoon.



**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 [lcms.org/service](https://www.lcms.org/service). Click on “Service Opportunities.”

## Sharing my story

### Prayer Requests

Pray that God would:

- Keep our team healthy as we prepare for fall ministries in Bohumín.
- Allow schools to safely open in the Czech Republic this fall.
- Bless our Mission Week in Bohumín next month.

### Prayers of Thanks!

Give thanks for:

- You, my prayer supporters and encouragers.
- An amazing summer with many opportunities to share the Gospel.
- Our team member Miriam as God has began to heal her of her illness.
- A refreshing camp experience in Trinec
- The continued opportunities to build relationships here with the youth and young adults in this region.



“I was never planning to be a missionary, but it was part of God’s plan,” I shared with the campers while telling my testimony.

Each day during morning chapel one American from our team would share a story with the camp that tied into the daily theme. The day I was assigned, the daily Bible verse happened to be my absolute favorite, Ephesians 2:8. The group listened intently as I shared that God’s grace is a gift, and you don’t have to do anything to earn it. What a blessing it was to share Christ’s joy with these students, some maybe hearing it for the first time!

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:

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St. Louis, MO 63166-6861  
(Write "Irwin/Czech Republic" on the memo line),

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

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Contact Chelsea Irwin: [chelsea.irwin@lcms.org](mailto:chelsea.irwin@lcms.org)



