

# MONTHLY CZECH-IN

August/September, 2021

From Chelsea Irwin, LCMS  
Missionary  
Serving the Lord in the  
Czech Republic and  
Central Europe



## HOME SERVICE IN A NUTSHELL

Many people have asked me what I do on home service.

Aside from presentations and time with family, home service for me is all about Gospel sharing and relationship building. I love visiting with partners just like you and share pictures and stories of how God is working. You too, are a part of God's mission in the Czech Republic! I want to encourage you to stay connected to the field where I serve as well as the mission field in your own communities.

## JOIN ME ON THE ROAD

- October 31st - St. Paul Lutheran Church, Utica, NE
- November 14th - Peace Lutheran Church, Columbus, NE
- November 21st - Pacific Hills Lutheran Church, Omaha, NE

## BACK TO SCHOOL!



**Above:** Kindergarteners at Trinity, Atchison, KS display Czech flag drawings.

“A missionary is someone who tells other people about Jesus”, a kindergartener said proudly. This was the beginning of what I shared with the students at Trinity Lutheran School in Atchison, Kansas. We discussed sharing Jesus with our friends, living in another country, and learning a new language.

This fall on my home service I have ten school chapels on my schedule. Getting kids excited about missions helps the next generation of missionaries and missionary supporters begin to see how they can be a part of God's mission.

At the close, I reminded the students that when they share Jesus in their own communities, they are missionaries too! One student shouted, “I could tell my friend about Jesus, Miss Chelsea!” What a joyful and blessed end to the conversation.



**Above:** Students learn where the Czech Republic is located.



You might remember from my story of becoming an international missionary that God's plans go way beyond any plans we could make ourselves. God continues to work in ways that I could never imagine!

When I moved to Český Těšín, Czech Republic, I had an extra bedroom in my apartment. I began to pray that if it was God's will, another missionary would be sent to serve in the Czech Republic. Six months later Hayden Rensner, a student at Concordia University, NE was accepted by the Board of International Mission in St. Louis to serve in the Czech Republic.

God changed Hayden's plans a lot! I cannot wait to see how He continues answering prayers and revealing His plan as we serve alongside each other in the Czech Republic.

When I arrived back in the United States I spent a week at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis, MO. It was a blessing to be in fellowship with other missionary colleagues. There we had the privilege of going through *Doxology*, a Nonprofit Registered Service Organization (RSO) with the LCMS who provide care and counsel to LCMS church workers. Learning, resting, and conversing with the Doxology staff was a tremendous help in reflecting on the ways in which God is working through me on the field.

**Right:** me, Dr. Yahnke, Pastor Flemming, and his wife from Doxology.



**Left:** Typically when I present at a church farther away from home, I try to stay with someone from the area the Saturday beforehand. Pictured here are Will and Sandi Kiehl, who I stayed with in Columbia, MO. In the back on the left is Monica, a friend who attended Concordia University Nebraska with me. I had the privilege of taking Monica with me to all my presentations for an entire month. What a joy it was to have a friend as I traveled around Kansas and Missouri sharing the work that God is doing in the Czech Republic.

## 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."

## PRAY

- That missional seeds would be planted in each student I visit with
- That God grants me safe travel during my home service
- For all other missionaries traveling on home service

## GIVE THANKS

- For you, my prayer warriors and encouragers
- For the opportunity to spend time with my family and friends
- That my schedule is full of presentations to fill my home service

## THE MISSIONARY COMMUNITY



Above: Missionaries, Hayden Rensner, me, Erin Mackenzie, and Ben and Becca Helge

Missionaries are colleagues, teammates, and friends. We often encourage, pray for and support each other in our various tasks. I love when several missionaries end up in one location! As we raise support on home service we are not only gathering funds, but more importantly, sharing the story of the many ways in which God is working in each region of the world. When I visit with my colleagues, I not only learn about them, but I learn how God is working through them to share His redemptive story with the world that so desperately needs it. Together, we truly are a team.

God continues to bless this ministry through your prayers 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](https://lcms.org/irwin)

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





