

Hayden Rensner LCMS Missionary Serving the Lord in the Czech Republic

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August 2022



A feast of fellowship

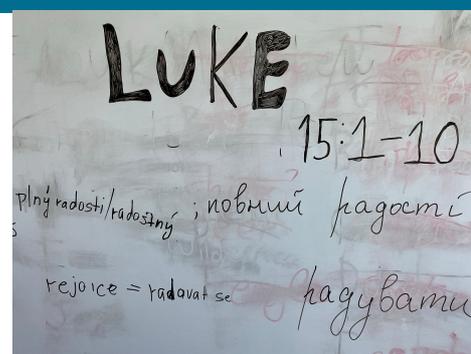
The week of the 15th, the annual Eurasia Regional Conference was held. This was the first time since 2019 that all of the Eurasia missionaries have been able to gather in one place for a time of refreshment, fellowship and learning. What a gift from God to be able to connect with and learn alongside fellow missionaries.

Looking ahead

Now that the summer activities have drawn to a close, it is time to start looking towards the year ahead. This coming semester, I will be teaching in three different schools and tutoring ten students online (seven of which are students with the Riga Luther Academy). I will also have the opportunity to host two different English conversation clubs and assist with other events and programs. I am looking forward to the year ahead and the relationships that will be built and strengthened.

Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep...

One of the stories that I taught to my teen students at English camp was the familiar story of the parable of the lost sheep found in Luke 15:1-10. The word 'rejoice' was a point of intrigue to the students. Above, it is written in English, Czech, and Ukrainian as there were both Czech and Ukrainian students present. For those who do not know God, or who have a skewed view of who God is, the idea that we have a God who rejoices in us seems incomprehensible. Praise be to God for the hundreds of students who heard this Bible lesson this summer at English camp, both in the Czech Republic and Poland. We do not have a God who is waiting to punish or afflict us. We serve a God who rejoices to offer us salvation, eternal love, and life everlasting.



A new relationship that I formed this past summer was with one of the participants at the teen English camp here in the Czech Republic. She is the one whom I am high-fiving in the picture on the right.

I initially connected with her a bit more personally when she shared that there were certain aspects of the camp schedule that she found uncomfortable as a non-believer (e.g., the Bible lesson, prayers, and music). I don't have room in this newsletter space to talk more extensively about the conversations that I had with her. However, it was apparent through our conversations that she was listening closely to the Bible stories we studied. Please keep her in your prayers. Please also pray that I would have continued opportunities to interact and converse with her.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The transition back to 'normal' life
- The student participants of the English camps this summer
- The upcoming school year

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- The successful completion of the three English camp sessions
- Safe summer travels
- New service opportunities
- You! My faithful encouragers and supporters

GET IN TOUCH WITH ME!

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End of English Camp Season

On August 15th, we said farewell to our last batch of American volunteers for the summer. My colleagues and I welcomed our first summer volunteers for the summer on July 5th.

What a great six weeks it has been serving alongside these individuals. They have been a joy and delight to spend time with.

Please pray for the Czech, Polish and Ukrainian students who were reached through the camps this summer. May there be opportunity for them to continually hear God's Word. May they come to the knowledge of who Christ is and His love for them.



Blest be the tie that binds - LSB 649

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

*When here our pathways part, we suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, we hope to meet again.*

This hymn came to my mind the other day as I became sad thinking about this past summer and all the goodbyes that had to be said to many different individuals. What a glimpse of eternity it is when we are able to spend time in fellowship with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As we part ways and return to our individual mission fields, what a blessing it is to know that we are of one kindred mind, and one day we will be gathered with one another again in a fellowship that never ends.

May God continue to bless and keep you all in His gracious care.

- Hayden

Prayerfully consider financially partnering with me as we work together to bring the Good News of the Gospel to those living in spiritual darkness in the Czech Republic. Thank you for your continued support!

Send checks with 'Rensner-Czech' in the memo line to:

*The Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod
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OR

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