



Czech Update

Dear Saints,

The Spirit of Christ is at work in Czech, in Kladno and in the surrounding villages. Every Sunday morning there are new faces and new stories to tell. More and more we strive to preach Christ and Him crucified. More and more we labor diligently for the equipping of the saints for the work of service in the body of Christ. And more and more we need your prayers.

The godly preacher Charles Spurgeon said, "There is a general kind of praying which fails for lack of precision. It is as if a regiment of soldiers should all fire off their guns anywhere. Possibly somebody would be killed, but the majority of the enemy would be missed." With that helpful illustration in mind, please consider this update as 'target practice'.

Eva, Matouš, and David.

Eva is a forty-something year old woman who trains dogs and breeds German shepherds for police departments around the world. Dana V from our church has known her for many years and ministered the Gospel to her numerous times. Three weeks ago Eva, her five year old son Matouš (Matthew) and her boyfriend David came to BSKK's Sunday gathering. David returned to church the following week, spoke for some time with Aleš about Christ, took a Bible home, and has been pouring over the Scriptures. Pray for his salvation and for the salvation of Eva.

Vašek.

In this same village lives 14-year-old Vašek (Vashek), who comes from a broken, impoverished home. His mom and her boyfriend drink their money away, even taking money Vašek makes from his job as a tractor driver. This family (including a 2-year-old) lives with no electricity and no hot water.

Dana V gave Vašek a bike a couple of years ago and invited him to (and paid for) his attendance at English Camp. He showed no interest at all in Christ. We had little contact with him until this past summer drew near, when he contacted Amie through FB to ask if he could come to English Camp again. Amie challenged him a bit, sharing that his attitude and behavior at the last camp didn't encourage us to want him back. He begged to come, and we gave in. At this summer's camp he once again showed little interest in Christ (we had to remind him about his promise to attend the evening meetings). Joshua Smith and I had a number of opportunities to share with him, and the church and teams served him in numerous ways. After camp our car was broken into, and some of his personal belongings were stolen, giving us an opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love and to meet his mom.

Since last summer, Vašek has been regularly attending BSKK's Sunday gatherings, and in October we noticed a marked difference in his demeanor and behavior. The last Sunday of October, he listened attentively to my sermon and afterwards took a Bible, saying that he wanted to begin reading it. He also asked if we could pick him up for the Wednesday evening Bible study. On top of this, Daniel briefly spoke with his mother and her boyfriend, and they expressed interest in visiting the church sometime. Pray for Vašek's salvation and for his family. The Lord has laid it upon our hearts to reach Czech villages with Christ. Please pray with us that God would use David and Vašek to begin a work in their village.

Irena.

I previously shared about **Irena** (from Greek, meaning 'peace'), an older woman whom a family in our church found living in a car. The Dragouns greatly ministered to Irena, feeding her, washing her clothes and sharing the Gospel. Irena's family was broken apart by sin (her daughter had abandoned her to live in a



broken-down car in the dead of winter). Irena has since professed faith in Christ, is growing in her knowledge of love of the Savior and is praying for her family. Pray that Irena's life would reflect the Savior.

Tonda.

The Grandson of Irena, Tonda has also had a rough life. Born with a minor heart defect when his dad first saw him he said, 'get this invalid out of my sight'. He has since had little contact with his father and of late has been living with Irena on the weekends. Thus he has been regularly attending our gatherings the past two months. Last week his mom and her boyfriend mocked Tonda for going to church, saying that Christians are idiots. Tonda replied that if all the world were filled with idiots of this kind, it would be a much better world to live in. Please pray for this quiet young man (who is listening and thinking about what he hears), that the Spirit would open his eyes to Christ. Pray for his twin brother Kuba, who came to church for the second time last Sunday. It would be a mighty joy to see the Lord save young men in answer to our prayers!

Ilona.

Ilona is a believing woman from a charismatic background who began attending BSKK because our church is closer to her home than the church she attended in Prague. Our approach to Scripture and the Christian life is antithetical to her previous experience. When she told me I'm too negative and speak too much about sin, I lovingly showed her again about the source from which I teach (the Bible). After our conversation she didn't return for over a month, but now she is attending again and seems to have softened. Ilona has gone through a painful divorce and custody battle and is in much confusion. Please pray that she would grow in her knowledge of Christ and trust in His sovereign goodness.

Radka.

An unbelieving friend of Ilona's, Radka has attended BSKK on and off since May. She is the tallest person in our church (6ft 4in?), heavily saturated with psychology and new age thinking, and not yet born again, but she's a sweet woman who seems to be genuinely seeking the truth. She has also come through a sad and difficult divorce. Please pray for Radka's salvation.

Pipal family.

Martin and Anička are newlywed believers, from different church backgrounds. We're thankful for the small growth we are seeing, but we also see many needs in their lives and need wisdom to love and care for them. Please pray that Martin would lead and shepherd his wife, and that together they would serve their Lord and Savior in the midst of the body here in Kladno.

Monika.

The Lord has providentially opened doors with Monika, who lives in the same village as the Dragoun family (Petr, Jarka, Daniel and Nelli). Monika is a poster child for the modern Czech family—well off, beautiful house, kids, empty life and empty marriage. She has been regularly visiting Jarka, hearing the Gospel and pouring out her heartache. I was in their village a month ago and had a long conversation with her about Christ. Please pray that God would save Monika and continue to equip and use Jarka, who has a tender heart for the lost, a listening ear and a real desire to share Jesus.

Lastly, in our previous newsletter we shared about the church pastored by **Zdeněk Karásek** in Liberec. Since the last update, two women have been baptized there, and recently a few new visitors have attended. A wonderful Christian family from Northern Ireland is praying about coming to minister with Zdeněk and his wife. Please pray for the body of Christ in the dark city of Liberec and for this Irish family.

I could share much more but these are some clear targets. We thank the Lord Jesus so much for your faithfulness to pray, desperate for your prayers because of the great strength God supplies us through them. God's grace to you.

Marcus and Amie