

The Lord's Work in the Czech Republic

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Report: September & October 2007

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Dear Brethren,

We hope that this finds all of you doing well. We are doing fine here in the Czech Republic. Samuel decided to take a fall in the yard during September, and ended up wearing a cast for 4 weeks, but beyond that, everything has been pretty much normal with us.

Please excuse the lateness of this report. I was not able to get all the information together that I needed for it until the middle of October, and by then I thought it would just be better to wait and combine September and October together into one report. It has been a busy month here in the work.

THE CHURCH IN LITOMYŠL

Average Sunday Attendance (September): 19

Average Sunday Bible Study Attendance (September): 19

Contribution: \$408 (September)

Average Sunday Attendance (October): 19

Average Sunday Bible Study Attendance (October): 19

Contribution: *unknown as of writing* (October)

Attendance in Litomyšl has remained very constant over the last two months, with very little sickness among the members, and with some visitors to off-set those few who were sick from time to time.

Everything also continues to go well with the church in Litomyšl. Work continues on the road sign that will be placed on the main road going through Litomyšl. The final design has been accepted, the exact light pole chosen, and now the advertising company is making the sign. I will include a photo, probably in the next report, once the sign is in place.

The church has also decided to add a second small room to our rental agreement. The rent will be very reasonable, and this will allow our large group of children to be divided up into two smaller groups for Bible class. We currently have 10 children in the Bible class, and they range in age from 3 to 9. Unfortunately, in teaching this group, a "middle" road has had to be taken, which is too advanced for the younger children, but not advanced for the older children who are already good readers. We hope to have this taken care of in the coming weeks, with the contract signed and the keys in our hands.

WEB SITE

September - **603 visitors**, **5 questions**

October - **580 visitors (to date)**, **21 questions**

October has been very busy from the standpoint of the web page. We have had numerous questions so far in October, almost one per day. I write my replies to these questions, Ivana then translates my reply, and I post them to the page. Even though I can write Czech, anything I write for "publication" starts out in English and then goes into Czech. This assures that my grammatical mistakes (and they are many!) won't hinder understanding.

There have also been some private e-mail discussions during this period.

One contact in particular has been an older woman named **Helena C.** She lives in this area and attends a denomination. She contacted me after sending a couple of questions to the web page. She then took the electronic correspondence course, finishing all 7 lessons in 3 days, which is probably the fastest anyone has finished the course. She has expressed a willingness to meet with me, but "not yet" to talk about her Bible questions. She has also written that she has not found anything significant on our web site with which she doesn't agree.

ENGLISH BIBLE CONVERSATION

The Bible Classes in English have gotten off to a good start in **Horní Jelení** (in our home). **7 people** originally signed up for this course. In **Holice**, however, there were only **3 people** who wanted to come to these classes. Two of them dropped out. The third person, a man named **Josef Z.**, agreed to join our group in Horní Jelení so that he would not be the only one in the course. So, the class in Holice was cancelled, and Josef Z. joined the group that meets in our home, making a total of **8 people** in that group. The study is on the book of Genesis, we'll be starting the life of Abraham this next week. Our plan right now is to have a break in December, and then pick up in January continuing in Genesis.

STUDENTS

In **Rychnov nad Kněžnou**:

Milena L.: various Bible questions

Helena D.: various Bible questions

In **Ustí nad Orlicí**:

Josef and **Běla H.** (Ivana's parents): discussing various questions about the Bible and Christianity, plus continuing in the Old Testament.

Correspondence Course:

Vítězslav T.: this man continues in the course. He lives in the city of **Pardubice**, which is not far from us.

U.S. DOLLAR

The dollar has continued its slide in value. When we left to go to the U.S. in July, it was valued at about 22 CZK (Czech crowns) to 1 USD. Over the course of the last 3 months, that exchange rate has fallen to under 19 CZK to 1 USD, a decrease of about 14% in value. From what I have read, the dollar is expected to continue to fall in value with no recovery expected any time soon.

FINAL WORDS

We close with a special thank you for your support of and interest in the work here in this part of the Czech Republic. If we can answer any questions that you might have, please do not hesitate to write or call.

Yours in Christ,

Steven & Ivana