

English Family One Minute Update

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11.3.2024

15 years of Fusion, home, and away, family news

15 years of Fusion

15 years ago last week we launched the very first local church Fusion ministry in Havirov, a city near us. (The photo below is from that very first rehearsal!) Although we no longer lead Fusion, it is a blessing to think about the thousands of young people who's lives have been impacted by this ministry, and the hundreds of young people across Europe (including Ukraine) who continue to hear the Gospel message on a weekly basis. Our own church has baptized many young people who first heard the Gospel through this ministry, and we love the fact that this is now an important part of Míša's life... (Sammy can't wait to be

able to join in September!)

THANK YOU SO MUCH for partnering with us to help make this happen. While we no longer lead Fusion directly, we are blessed to be in roles which continue to directly impact so many with the Gospel!



Home...

This past month has been very "home", zoom and long term project focussed with much less travel. It's always a joy to work alongside people in their own countries, but it's also nice not to travel so much sometimes! :>)

Zoom meetings this month included:

- J a leadership workshop for 9 people from J-Life, a missions organisation which equips churches across Africa
- J planning the Youth Ministry Leadership Network for the European Leadership Forum (ELF)
- J walking alongside the new ELF "Soul Care for Leaders" network leader
- J dreaming of (and planning for) the next 3 years for Josiah Venture
- J coaching 2 local church youth ministry leaders from Lithuania

- J sharing staff development best practices with another large missions organisation
- J leading 2 of my staff who live in Slovenia (also met them in person in Vienna!)

I love how varied yet impactful each of these meetings were!

.... and away!

But there was SOME travel - specifically a 2 day retreat for the international "Care and Shepherding" department of Josiah Venture, (responsible for HR admin, care, equipping and shepherding - first picture below) and 4 days in Prague studying at the Wheaton College "Masters in Leadership" program. (2nd and 3rd picture). I spend so much time equipping others, it's fun to be on the receiving end alongside students serving in 5 different countries!

This cohort was special in that one of the guest lecturers was Zuzka, who is Hanka's best friend (bottom picture). I first met Zuzka 23 years ago when she was a non-Christian teenager who joined one of our choir ministries. She came to Christ through this ministry, and has since worked alongside us on many different projects. Today she and her husband work for Josiah Venture, where they lead the Czech Summer Projects and Camps ministry. It was a special blessing to be taught by someone who we have invested in so much in the past - and she did a great job!





Family news

Hanka and Sam have been a little sick this past month, but today both are healthy, which is great because tomorrow we are all heading to **Austria** for a 4 day "Spring Break" ski vacation.

On Sunday Sam's handball team will compete in a national championship. (we get back from Austria at 3am, then Terry will drive him across the country to Plzen in time for his first game!)

Finally, in 2 weeks we will have a new addition to our family - an **Australian Shepherd** called Jamie. Over the past month we have been visiting Jamie and her 7 siblings, even enjoying a visit from them all to our house last week. There's a whole new stage of life starting for our family, one which the kiddos are very much looking forward to (though Hanka and I have a much more realistic view of the responsibility of adopting a puppy has!)



Thank you for your prayers and support!

We continue to be so thankful for your partnering with us on the mission field. Your prayers and support are impacting many, many people across Central and Eastern Europe and your words of encouragement really do give us the strength to continue in the times we may feel overwhelmed. Thank you!!!

Please pray for....

- J Give thanks for more time at home this month
- J Give thanks for 15 years of Fusion!
- J A fun family time together in Austria