

February 2021

Dear ED LWML ladies (and gentlemen),

 An update on some of our English District Missionaries:

**Rev. Dale & Suzanne Kaster – Prague – The Czech Republic**

In October, the Czech Republic was the European country with the highest COVID-19 infection rate so Rev. Kaster celebrated the Reformation from the Kaster flat. As of January 2021, several European nations were either closing or planning to close their borders. Right now, the Czech Republic is not one of them. However, travel within the country has been limited to only absolutely necessary trips. The vaccine distribution there has been limited to those who have EU biometric cards, so far. The Kasters are still in the process of receiving their cards, so they will have to wait until they arrive. Just recently, Rev. Kaster was exposed to someone with COVID-19 (and the Czech government has tightened the regulations again) so they are back doing live-streaming church. So far, there has not been any real symptoms. But they are being careful so as not to infect anyone else. You can listen to his online services at:

<https://stmichaellutheranpraguecz.podbean.com/>

Why do they have English-language services in the midst of so many Czechs? Prague is an international city; the languages spoken there are Czech, German, Urdu, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Russian and other Slavic languages, and, of course, English. Therefore, as English is the new *lingua franca* of the world, English is often times the language which people from different language groups hold in common. Recently, they were blessed to bring into membership one new family from India and one new family from Brazil. And what a wonderful day that was! These two families who came to them from sister Lutheran church bodies, remind us of the diversity of the Church, just like it was on Pentecost. In that miraculous event, the apostles’ preaching reached everyone, no matter the language, just as it happens every week among the saints at St. Michael Lutheran in Prague.

Over their Christmas vacation in the United States Rev. Kaster was able to baptize their two new grandchildren, his son’s daughter Rebecca Anne at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Greensboro, NC and his daughter’s son, Jameson David in Southern Florida.

You can follow the Kasters on their open Facebook page (Kasters in Prague) (you don’t have to have a Facebook account to view their page):

<https://www.facebook.com/kastersinprague>

They have also started a new Bible study that takes place online which is also on the church’s Facebook page (St. Michael Lutheran Church in Prague (English**)**: <https://www.facebook.com/>groups/St.Michael.Lutheran.Church.Prague

**Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Deaconess Cheryl Naumann – Latin America**

 The government of the Dominican Republic closed churches at the beginning of January, but thanks be to God, there were so many objections to closing churches that the government has allowed them to be open again, with masks and social distancing.

 Daily devotions for 2021 and a copy of the *Christology* volume of the Confessional Lutheran Dogmatics series have been distributed to all the pastors and seminary students in the Latin America Caribbean Region.

 They are both well, as are their chickens! Their guard dog, Canchita, had a cut on her paw from a brief encounter with a motorcycle while she was chasing a cat – but don’t worry, she still “smiles” and wags her tail and barks at strangers!

Our newest English District Missionaries are:

**The Rev. Andrew and Megan Fedder** will serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as career missionaries in **Odessa, Ukraine**. As a pastor and theological educator, Andrew will work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine in their seminary, pre-seminary, and continuing education programs, and with other partner churches in Eurasia by providing educational opportunities for pastoral formation and support of other church workers in the region. Andrew and Megan will also assist with the development of educational media for congregations and Bible schools in the Eurasia region.

Andrew was born in Kennewick, Wash. He earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Hawaii: West Oahu, and received his Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Before becoming a career missionary, he served as the pastor of First Lutheran Church in El Cajon, Calif. Prior to that, he served as a substitute and summer school teacher for ages Pre-K through 8th grade. Megan was born in Roberts, Mont. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Concordia University, Portland, Ore., and served for over ten years as a Lutheran school teacher.

Andrew and Megan have five children — Wesley, Beatrix, Charlie, Rosalind and John-Paul — who will join them on the mission field but the Fedders have not gone overseas yet. They are still living in El Cajon, CA. We do not know when they will actually be moving. We believe that once they are overseas, they will be supplying monthly newsletters and perhaps social media.

Yours in Christ,

Barbara Taylor

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LWML English District

Vice President of Christian Life/Human Care