



# THE NORTON FAMILY

Missionaries to the  
**CZECH REPUBLIC**

December 2011

Dear Pastor Hurst and New Zion Baptist Church,

Thank you for your prayers for our Big Day! Travis and Paula Warwick from Open Door Baptist Church in Des Moines, Washington, were a tremendous asset and blessing leading up to and during our services on November 13. They testified that the Holy Spirit had used my request for short-term missionaries in our December 2010 prayer letter to speak to them both individually about coming over to visit us. They had accepted Christ as their Saviour as young adults, and their personal testimonies and example were very applicable to the Czechs who attend our services. After Paula had given her testimony in Sunday school, Olina, a young lady for whom we have requested prayer in previous letters, and she were in tears. After the Sunday morning service, Paula had the privilege of leading Olina to the Lord!

I marvel at God's plan and grace! Although Olina had heard the Gospel many times from me, from her own brother who accepted Christ several years ago, and from other Czech Christians as well, she did not finally accept His invitation until she heard it in a second language from a stranger from Washington State. How we thank everyone who prayed for Olina and for the Warwicks being willing to follow the Holy Spirit's leading!

Olina's salvation has given us a new surge of hope that the trickle of souls that have been saved here in Děčín will eventually break through an enormous dyke of atheism and unbelief so that we can see a great flood. I look forward to seeing what God will do in 2012!

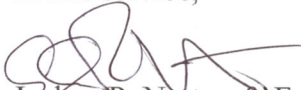
Since October one of the ladies in our church has brought five first-time visitors! Petra and Pavel are two who have come several times. I am so thankful that they attend in spite of my unpolished Czech. Please pray that they, too, will accept Christ.

The preparation for our special Thanksgiving service was much easier for Mae this year, as two of the ladies helped her. Eleven Czechs came, including a first-time visitor whom Olina invited. We also had a young lady show up whom we haven't seen since our last Thanksgiving service. I'm not sure if she came for the preaching or for the pie after the service! We have heard from another missionary that a full turkey dinner is an even better promotion. Perhaps we will try that next year!

Our children are all growing and maturing. Though they still require much direction and instruction from us, they are certainly more helpful this year than last. The older children are looking forward to playing their instruments for our special service on the Wednesday before Christmas. We will be holding services on Christmas Day as well. Thankfully, Czechs celebrate Christmas on the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you so much for your patience, prayers, and support, which have helped us stick it out over this past year. We thank God daily for calling us here and for the incredible privilege of serving Him in the Czech Republic. May you have a wonderful new year with your family and church!

In His service,

  
Joshua P. Norton & Family

**Sending Church:**  
First Baptist Church  
507 State Street  
Hammond, IN 46320  
(219) 932-0711

**Home Address:**  
Obvodová 117/4a  
40502 Děčín 21  
Czech Republic  
(420) 412-545-359

**Email:**  
joshnorton@fbmi.org

**Serving With:**  
F.B.M.I.  
507 State Street  
Hammond, IN 46320  
(219) 228-2850